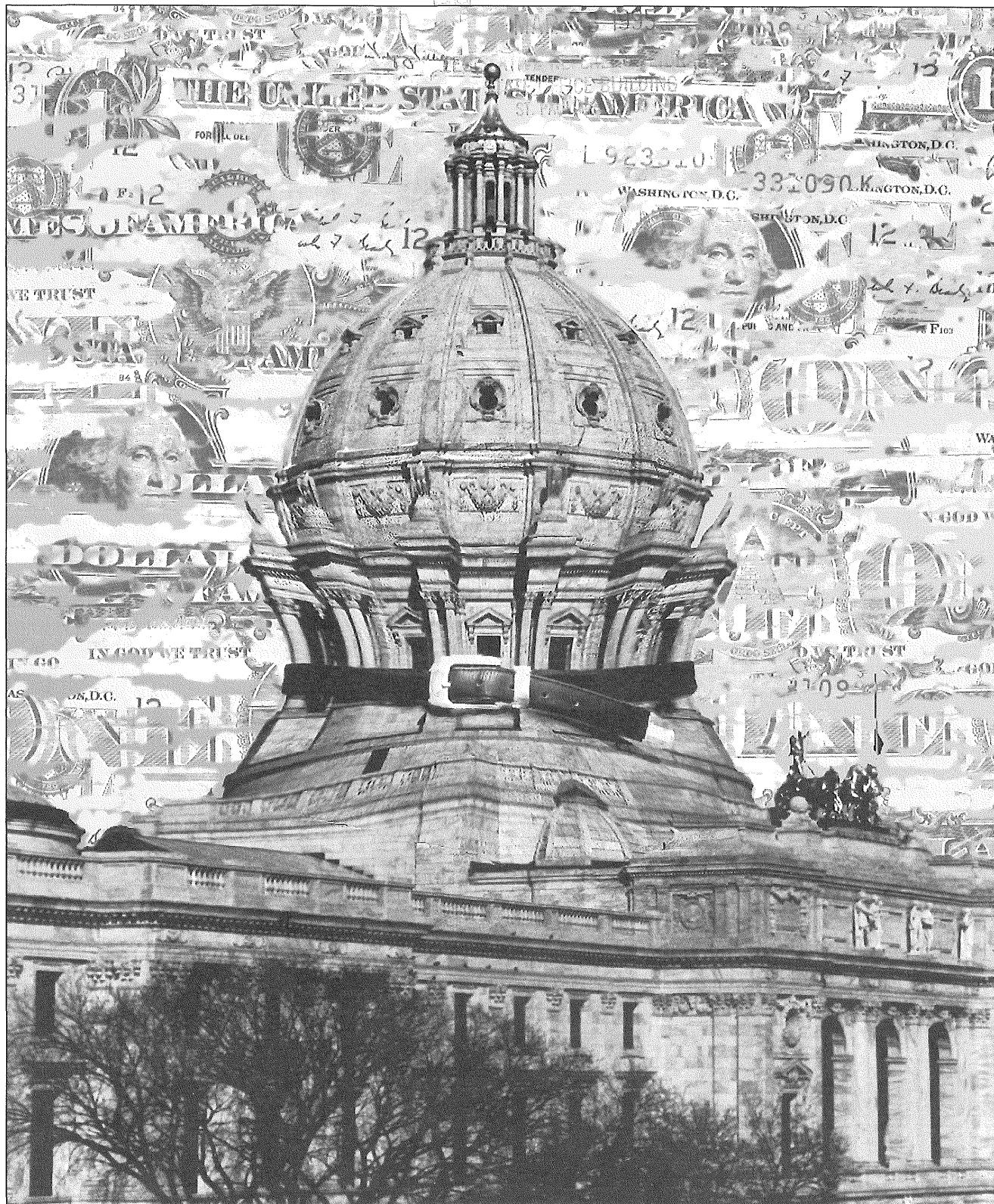


SESSION WEEKLY

A Non-Partisan Publication of the Minnesota House of Representatives ♦ March 3, 1995 ♦ Volume 12, Number 9



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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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Week at a glance

Crop insurance — The state of Minnesota would create a new insurance program to entice more farmers to buy crop insurance, under a measure moving through the House. **Page 4**

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Who's who in the neighborhood — A House committee is debating a bill to notify Minnesotans when a high-risk sex offender released from prison has moved into their neighborhood. **Page 6**

Early bird catches the primary — Voters in the state's primary election would turn out nearly three months earlier — on the third Tuesday in June instead of in September — to cast their votes, under a bill moving through the House. **Page 8**

Auto emissions up in smoke? — The metropolitan auto emissions testing program could be abolished in 1998 if the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency agrees, under a bill moving through the House. **Page 9**

Know when to fold 'em — Rep. Phyllis Kahn is betting lawmakers — many of whom staked their political fortunes to promised cuts in government — will back legislation to merge state gambling agencies. **Page 9**

Test tube screenings — A Stanford University professor told lawmakers he supports a bill that would bar Minnesota insurance companies from requiring applicants for health or life insurance policies to take genetic tests, or from refusing coverage based on information revealed by a voluntary test. **Page 11**

Harder is softer on education — Rep. Elaine Harder supports term limits for legislators, efforts to reduce the size of government, and efforts to hold the line on taxes or make cuts. But she does not want those cuts to hurt the public education system, an area in which she believes the state should provide more funding. **Page 16**

No stranger to welfare — Rep. Lynda Boudreau may be a rookie at the Legislature, but her regular job has taught her a lot about the welfare system and she brings her knowledge to one of the hottest debates of the session. **Page 17**

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On the cover: Gov. Arne Carlson and leaders of both political parties in the House and Senate have called for a tightening of the state budget. With the Feb. 28 release of the Department of Finance's budget forecast, the business of determining state spending for the next biennium will now begin in earnest.

— photo illustration by Andrew VonBank

Highlights



Gov. Arne Carlson presented his Supplemental Budget Address at the World Trade Center Feb. 28. Behind him, *left to right*, are: Morrie Anderson, Carlson's chief of staff; Laura King, commissioner of finance; and Lt. Gov. Joanne Benson.

Revised budget forecast. . .

Revenues bright, but Carlson braces for federal cuts

Cuts to more state programs and a revenue forecast \$129 million brighter than previously thought would help give Minnesota schools an extra \$100 million over the next two years and create a \$220 million rainy day account to brace for federal cuts.

"This is a true rainy day fund, because believe me it is going to rain," said Gov. Arne Carlson Feb. 28 during his supplemental budget address.

He also told the audience gathered at the World Trade Center that he plans to call lawmakers back for a special session in October of this year. At that time, the state should have a better idea how much in federal cuts the state will face in order to help fix the federal deficit.

Current estimates indicate that Minnesota could lose about \$1.8 billion in federal money over the next six years. Combine that with a Minnesota economy that is expected to slow down, and the governor says the state's headed for a big problem.

"Prudent people spend wisely," Carlson said, explaining the need for a \$220 million rainy day account.

An October special session also will fit with the completion of a four-year strategic state finance plan that Carlson has proposed. The governor has asked Vin Weber, a former IR

congressman, and John Brandl, a former DFL legislator, to come up with some budget cutting recommendations and to find ways to hold the line on education, health care, property tax relief, and other spending programs without increasing taxes.

DFL legislators met Carlson's budget proposals with little enthusiasm.

"We might be willing to go along with creating a special reserve fund dedicated to K-12 and higher education funding for 1998-99 that could only be used with legislative approval," said House Speaker Irv Anderson in a prepared statement. "But we are not bailing out the federal government."

Anderson also expressed doubt about the proposed finance plan from Weber and Brandl. "Will this end up like the CORE Commission — spending \$3 million to produce a report [on creating government efficiency that] the governor will ignore?"

Specifically, Carlson's state budget proposal amounts to about \$18 billion for the 1996-1997 budget period, or \$1.2 billion more in spending than the 1994-1995 budget cycle.

His proposal has winners and losers. Education is thought to be a winner with an additional \$100 million, about \$58.5 million of which would go toward reducing class

sizes in grades K-6. Schools also are slated to receive other extra money including \$10 million to improve school technology and \$14 million for school transportation.

The losers with the budget proposal are those people who are poor or disabled and use the state's medical assistance programs. Carlson proposes to cut more than \$39 million from those programs. Specifically, a program that provides personal care attendants for the disabled would be cut by \$11.5 million, dental coverage for the poor would be cut by \$11 million, and chemical dependency treatment by about \$4.6 million.

Another popular program slated for cuts allows families with disabled children the option to pay into the state's Medical Assistance (MA) plan, also known as Medicaid, for their long-term health coverage while still keeping their jobs and homes.

Under current MA guidelines, most people have to impoverish themselves — quit their jobs to meet low-income requirements and sell their homes — before they can qualify for help.

The state bureaucracy and the Legislature also would be cut, under the governor's proposal. The Legislature would lose \$665,000 and state agencies \$10.2 million during the current fiscal year. Agencies would see an-

A few exceptions

Although Gov. Arne Carlson's supplemental budget request cuts millions from state agencies and programs, he does open state coffers for a couple of emergencies and development programs. They include:

- \$245,000 in fiscal year 1995 to help with the recent outbreak of meningitis in Mankato.
- \$14 million in fiscal year 1996 to clean up contaminated sites that have significant redevelopment potential.
- \$3 million to leverage private dollars for a bio-medical research center.
- \$450,000 to repay an outstanding loan to Norwest Bank for the World Trade Center in St. Paul.
- \$140,000 to repair a fire damaged building and equipment at O'Brien State Park near Marine on St. Croix.

other \$14.5 million cut during the 1996-1997 budget period.

In his supplemental budget, the governor also changed how the state would pay a \$320 million court settlement levied against it. The Minnesota Supreme Court ruled that the state had illegally taxed the interest that banks and other corporations paid on federal bonds over a four-year period in the late 1970s and early 1980s.

Originally, the governor had proposed to pay \$160 million in 1996-1997 and another \$160 million in 1998-1999. The dollars would have come from the state's general fund.

Instead, under Carlson's revised budget, the state would make a \$75 million cash payment in fiscal year 1996 and sell state bonds totaling \$275 million to pay off the rest.

— K. Darcy Hanzlik



AGRICULTURE

A horse is a horse, of course

We all may have thought a horse is a horse, of course, of course. But nothing is ever that simple.

The House Agriculture Committee approved a measure Feb. 27 that would exempt from the state's sales tax most types of feed and bedding for horses that are a little like Mr. Ed of TV fame.

The bill, if approved, would essentially

nullify a Department of Revenue ruling that makes a distinction over how a horse is used when determining whether a sales tax is due.

Under current Minnesota law and rules, farmers don't have to pay the sales tax for such feed and bedding when it is clear that the horse is raised for sale, kept for agricultural production, or used for farm work.

"In order to qualify for this exemption, the person must sell horses in the normal course of their business and must hold themselves out to the public as being engaged in [the] business of selling horses," according to a Sept. 14, 1994, department memo.

But bill sponsor Rep. Ted Winter (DFL-Fulda) and others said it doesn't make sense to determine a horse's purpose in life in order to assess a tax. In other words, a horse is a horse.

"They [the Department of Revenue] classify a horse as a pet . . . but you can't keep it in the house," testified Dan Ramberg, who operates Woodloch Stables in Hugo, Minn. "It's just mind-boggling."

Winter's bill would clear up the issue by adding a specific exemption from the sales tax for non-processed horse feed and bedding such as hay, oats, corn, and grass. The exemption doesn't apply to commercially processed horse feed and makes no distinction over how the horse is used.

The current law specifies that such exemptions apply only if the material is used in "agricultural or industrial production of personal property intended to be sold ultimately at retail."

The laws and rules in question are *Minnesota Statutes* 297A.25, subd. 9, and *Minnesota Rules* 8130.5500, subpart 11.

HF440 now moves to the Taxes Committee for further consideration.

State crop insurance

The state of Minnesota would create a new insurance program to entice more farmers to buy crop insurance, under a measure that was narrowly approved by the House Agriculture Committee Feb. 27.

The proposal (**HF410**) would appropriate \$250,000 in the current fiscal year to the Department of Agriculture to set up a broad outline of how the program should operate.

But the measure would leave it up to private insurance companies — under the state's "captive" non-profit insurance umbrella — to sell the policies to farmers and to administer much of the program on a day-to-day basis.

The bill, sponsored by Rep. Ted Winter (DFL-Fulda), grew out of three major con-

cerns: the reticence of farmers to buy crop insurance in the first place, inconsistencies in which insurance payments were made when there was a crop disaster and insurance was purchased, and expected cutbacks in the federal crop insurance program.

Under the proposal, private insurance companies would assume at least 80 percent of the total insurance risk, but the state would be liable for the balance. That is designed to make premiums more attractive to farmers.

The state program is designed to supplement — not replace — federal crop insurance. But it would also be set up to cover losses not covered by federal insurance programs, such as when a farmer is unable to plant.

Any profits the state realizes would be plowed back into the program to further subsidize insurance premiums.

The proposal, however, proved controversial with House members.

"Sanity and a state-run insurance company don't go together at all," said Rep. Greg Davids (IR-Preston), who owns an insurance agency. "I'm concerned about the 20 percent [state liability] . . . why the state would take that risk."

And Rep. Gene Hugoson (IR-Granada) questioned why the state should invest \$250,000 to get the program started when it is private insurance companies that stand to gain financially.

A key concern for several members was a provision in the bill that would allow private insurance companies to invest a portion of their portfolios in grain futures and commodities options — investments that some argue are very risky.

"This is something for the private sector," said Davids.

But Rep. Winter said that with recent changes in the Chicago Board of Trade, the program will be more advantageous and workable for farmers in Minnesota.

Winter argued that something needs to be done to provide better insurance for farmers — particularly in cases similar to ones created by the flood of 1993 and the drought of 1988.

Although disaster relief bills were approved following both of those natural disasters, it wasn't enough. And the funds that were approved were difficult to administer, said bill proponents, adding that such one-time appropriations will be less likely in the future.

A similar state-run insurance proposal was included in the 1994 farm relief bill but was deleted on the House floor. This proposal has a long legislative journey to get that far.

The bill must travel through the Financial Institutions and Insurance Committee, Commerce, Tourism and Consumer Affairs Committee, Environment and Natural Resources Finance Committee, and the Ways and Means Committee before reaching the floor.

Officials from both Crabtree Risk Engineers of Northbrook, Ill., and Jardine Insurance Brokers of Chicago, Ill., were at the meeting to outline the proposal.

HF410 now moves to the House Financial Institutions and Insurance Committee for further consideration.



CRIME

Diverting lawbreakers

A 1994 law that requires Minnesota county attorneys to establish pre-trial diversion programs for juveniles should be scrapped, according to the group representing the state's county attorneys.

The law requires that a report be filed with the Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension (BCA) on every person who is diverted to a community corrections program prior to trial.

But these reports are "going into a box on the floor" at the BCA, according to Bill Jeronimus, staff attorney for the Minnesota County Attorneys Association. He testified before the House Judiciary Finance Committee March 2.

In a letter distributed to lawmakers, Winona County Attorney Julius Gernes explained that the BCA does not store data on individuals unless it has fingerprints to positively connect the information to a person.

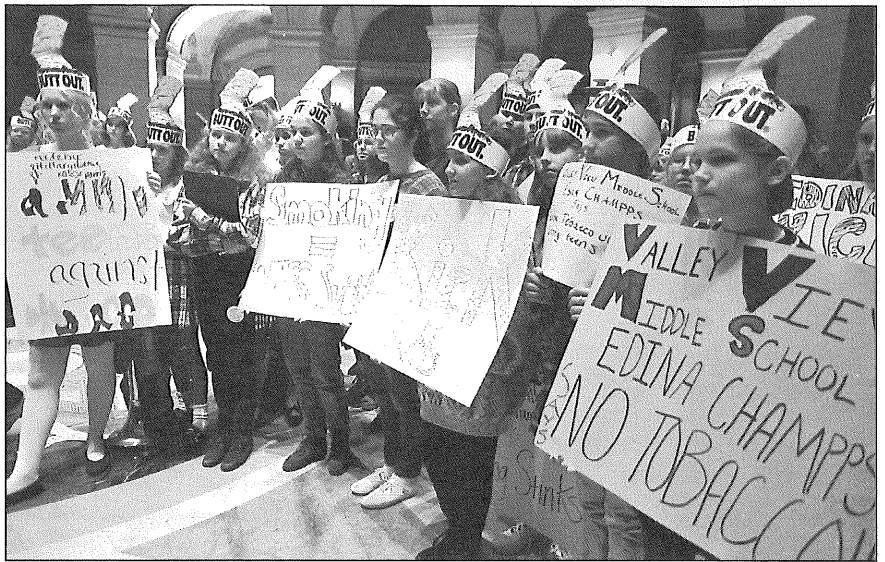
Gernes also questioned who would use the collected data or if it would be useful for making future policy. He said the law creates "significant additional work" both for county attorneys and the BCA.

"There may be good reasons for this legislation, but none come to mind," Gernes said.

The overburdened criminal justice system gets some relief through diversion programs, which are usually used for first-time, non-violent offenders who are offered the chance to participate in a community-based corrections program instead of going to court.

Diversion programs have been created in 21 counties, according to Jeronimus.

Hennepin County Attorney Mike Freeman told committee members that offering diversion to someone is the decision of the county attorney, who determines what charges will be filed against a person who has been arrested.



Sixth graders from Valley View Middle School in Edina wore "Butt Out" head bands during a rally in the Capitol rotunda Feb. 27. The students heard high schoolers speak in favor of a substantial increase in the tobacco tax, and on the importance of reducing youth access to tobacco products.

Diversion programs look at the offender's need for chemical dependency treatment or other behavioral therapy that might be needed.

"The goal is to fashion an individualized plan for each case," said Patty Moses, who directs Hennepin County's juvenile diversion program.

Probation caseloads rising

Minnesota needs an additional 564 probation officers to handle the 90,000 adults and juveniles currently on probation, according to the Probation Standards Task Force's recently published report, *Probation in Minnesota: Putting the Pieces Together*.

The task force's findings were discussed during an interactive television hearing that brought probation officers in Hibbing, St. Peter, and St. Paul together with the House Judiciary Finance Committee.

Members were told that the proposed hirings would cost \$41 million over the next two-year spending cycle. But county corrections officials pointed out that even "intensive" probation supervision — at \$13 per day per offender — is a bargain compared to the \$72 per day cost of keeping someone locked up.

The governor has recommended \$15 million for probation caseload reduction in the 1996-97 budget.

"Probation is the brightest hope for corrections. It is far more economical to fund probation than to fund prisons," said Steve Holmquist, director of community corrections for Stearns County.

Speaking from the courthouse in Hibbing,

Jackie Frost, a probation officer in Virginia, said she has 140 clients who have been convicted of misdemeanors and gross misdemeanors.

"We're just not meeting the probationers needs" due to the large caseload, Frost said. "We're not supervising like we should."

Probation officers explained that they meet one-on-one or in groups with clients, appear in court, conduct pre-sentence investigation interviews, track clients' compliance with court-ordered restitution and treatment, and spend almost half of their time completing paperwork.

"Our primary job is to protect the public," explained Stu Von Wald, a probation officer in Rice County, who spoke to the committee from the St. Peter Regional Treatment Center.

But such a task is increasingly difficult with expanding caseloads.

Lana Bjorgum, an Itasca County probation officer speaking from Hibbing, said her large caseload prevents her "from doing essential field work," including meeting with clients in their homes.

She begged lawmakers not "to pass a whole lot of new laws. We're just getting caught up."

An automated probation reporting system was touted as offering some relief from heavy caseloads. Mike Tate, a Duluth probation officer speaking from Hibbing, said that the pilot program, which verifies the identities of clients who check in from a computerized kiosk, has increased his efficiency "by 30 or 40 percent."

The 1993 Legislature appropriated \$100,000 to St. Louis County to demonstrate

the feasibility of the automated probation reporting system.

Decisions about funding county corrections officers will be made later this session.

Fighting sex crimes

Patterned sex offenders could face up to 40 years in prison, under a bill heard by the House Judiciary Committee March 1.

Under Minnesota law, a patterned sex offender is a repeat offender or someone who has been determined likely to re-offend in the future.

Current law mandates that a judge sentence a patterned sex offender to twice the penalty called for under the state's sentencing guidelines for the crime they were convicted of.

This measure would allow judges to impose a prison term of up to 40 years — regardless of the penalty called for under the state's sentencing guidelines.

The 40-year maximum prison term would also apply to a first-time offender who planned the crime in advance.

And for the first time, crimes committed in other states would apply to the state's patterned sex offender law. Currently, only prior sex offenses in Minnesota can be considered.

The bill (HF177) was one of two proposals heard that were drafted by the 1994 Sexual Predators Task Force.

The second, HF178, would require those convicted of sex offenses in other states to register in Minnesota upon arrival. Such offenders would need to register for 10 years after they enter Minnesota.

Minnesota now requires all felony-level sex offenders to register their address with a probation officer for at least 10 years following release from a Minnesota prison.

Failure to register is now a gross misdemeanor. Under the bill, a second conviction for failure to report would be a felony offense. Other bills discussed by the committee were:

- HF176, which would extend the statute of limitations for criminal sexual conduct crimes from seven to nine years;
 - HF633, which would increase, to a gross misdemeanor from a misdemeanor, the penalty for the crime of indecent exposure in the presence of a minor under age 16; and
 - HF911, which would "stop time" on any statute of limitations while DNA testing is being conducted. A man was actually cleared of a possible rape charge because the limitation period expired while authorities waited for DNA test results, Rep. Wes Skoglund (DFL-Mpls) told members.
- Skoglund, chief sponsor of all five proposals, said the bills would resurface at a later

date, possibly as a single piece of legislation. He welcomed the suggestions of committee members.

Rep. Tom Van Engen (IR-Willmar) suggested the state get a mandatory DNA sample from any sex offender convicted in another state who wishes to relocate in Minnesota. Currently, all sex offenders convicted of crimes in Minnesota must submit a DNA sample.

Rep. Tom Pugh (DFL-South St. Paul) suggested making sex offender registration data available to apartment building owners who must conduct a background check on prospective landlords should HF72 become law. (Such data is now private).

(See Feb. 24, 1995, *Session Weekly*, page 9; Feb. 3, 1995, *Session Weekly*, page 9; Jan. 27, 1995, *Session Weekly*, page 9).

Skoglund also will seek to have those convicted of federal offenses brought under the state's sex offender registration program. Currently, such offenders are not required to register.

Community notification

A bill that would require that neighbors be notified when a high-risk sex offender is released from prison was heard Feb. 27 by the House Judiciary Committee.

"We can make the community safer while balancing the rights of the released offender," said Ernest Allen, president of the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children.

The measure would mandate that law enforcement officials disclose information about the high-risk offender "to those community

members and establishments to whom, in the agency's judgment, the offender may pose a direct or potential threat."

Offenders considered to be high risk would include those who refused or failed treatment and have been determined "highly likely to re-offend." Violent, repeat offenders who abuse children would also trigger a community notification.

Communities may also be notified of the release of other sex offenders at the discretion of the local law enforcement agency.

Patty Wetterling, whose son, Jacob, was abducted in 1989 and is still missing, said the bill is needed to protect kids from unknown dangers in the neighborhood.

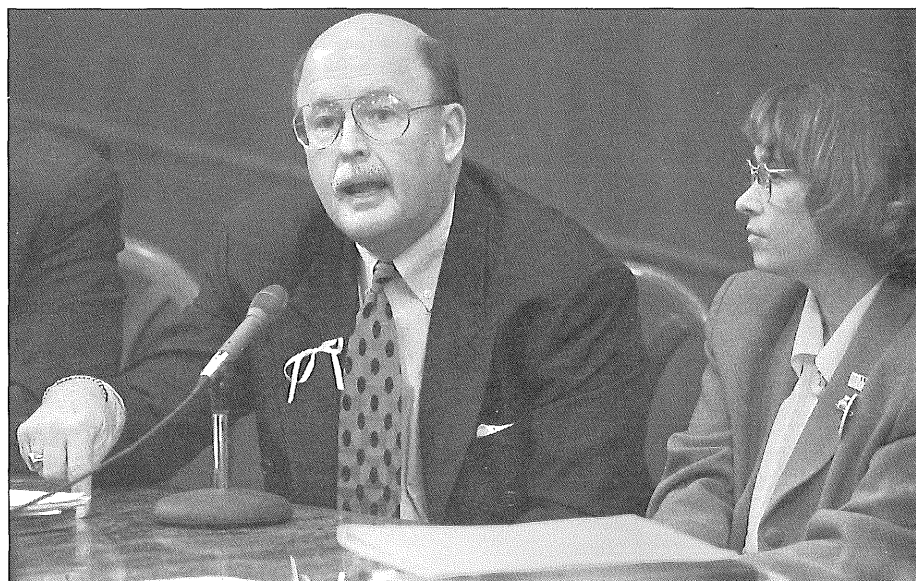
And Clark Hussey, whose son, Grant, was abducted and later killed by a neighbor in 1993, told members the man who killed his son "was a trusted person in the neighborhood. . . . We had no idea he was a child molester."

HF181 is patterned after a Washington state law that has been in effect for five years. Fourteen states have similar notification laws.

"It [the bill] is designed to protect kids, not punish the offenders," bill sponsor Rep. Dave Bishop (IR-Rochester) said.

Only a small percentage of released offenders would trigger the notification. Bishop said he is targeting those with the most predatory and dangerous backgrounds.

The state of Washington has released thousands of sex offenders in the five years that the law has been in effect. In most cases, law enforcement officials are the only ones who have been notified. According to a December 1993 Washington study, members of the



Clark Hussey, left, whose son, Grant, was abducted and later killed by a neighbor, and Patty Wetterling, right, whose son, Jacob, was kidnapped and is still missing, testified before the Judiciary Committee Feb. 27 in favor of a bill that would require neighbors to be notified upon the prison release of a high-risk sex offender.

community were notified in just 176 cases. There were 14 cases involving harassment of the released offender after the community notification.

The notification would be an extension of the state's existing sex offender registration program. Currently, all felony-level sex offenders must register their address with the state for at least 10 years after being released from prison. Failure to register is a gross misdemeanor.

Offenders now register with their probation officers. Bishop's bill would require offenders to register with the local police or sheriff.

Although a federal judge Feb. 28 ruled unconstitutional a similar New Jersey law, Bishop said "Megan's Law" — as it is known in New Jersey — is much more broad than his proposal.

Bishop presented the bill "for discussion purposes" and made clear his intentions to amend the bill before it is considered further.

Since 1980, the number of sex offenders in Minnesota prisons has increased 230 percent. Today, 1 in 5 prisoners is incarcerated for a sex offense.



EDUCATION

School safety

At least one Minnesota parent thinks a bill designed to crack down on truancy and shore up school safety goes too far.

"The gist of this is too punitive," said Steve McKeown of Richfield, a single father of 12- and 16-year-old boys.

The House Education Committee heard continued testimony Feb. 28 and March 2 on a broad bill that includes stiffer penalties for truants and their parents, and safety measures ranging from criminal background checks on teachers and other school employees to penalties for parents who fail to control their children.

McKeown criticized what he called "very reactionary" anti-truancy ingredients of the bill, which would hit parents with up to \$700 in fines and 90 days in jail if they do not make sure their children comply with compulsory attendance laws.

"We need your support," McKeown said. "We don't need to have this sort of coming down on us where we're going to be called criminals."

Another provision of the bill would make parents who do not exercise "reasonable care, supervision, protection, and control" over their children "guilty of a misdemeanor."

Tom Pritchard, executive director of the

Minnesota Family Council, said that sending parents to jail will do little to help their children.

"I don't believe criminal sanctions are the way to go," Pritchard said.

Bill sponsor Rep. Jim Farrell (DFL-St. Paul) said few parents likely will end up doing time but that the bill will give prosecutors and school officials another option to pursue.

"Many times when you're in juvenile court you get frustrated that it's the child [in court] and not the parent," Farrell said.

Farrell's bill also includes a locker check policy to allow searches of public school lockers at any time without notice (the same language is contained in an entirely separate bill, **HF107**, that is also pending before the Education Committee).

HF610 also contains a measure that would allow the courts to deny driving privileges to habitual truants until they turn 18.

The committee heard support for the bill from the Minnesota Education Association (MEA) and the state Board of Teaching.

Judy Wain, executive secretary of the Board of Teaching, spoke in favor of criminal background checks for teachers and other school employees and said the checks should be conducted in a way to uncover criminal convictions in other states as well as in Minnesota.

Cheryl Furrer of the MEA called background checks "one way to protect the safety of the students" but she expressed concerns about the cost of the checks.

The bill would require applicants for school jobs to pay for the background checks.

The committee has yet to vote on **HF610**. Testimony is expected to continue next week.

School buses for sale

A bill that would allow advertising on school buses is headed to the House Transportation Committee after an amendment was added to allow ads on the outside as well as the inside.

When the bill reached the floor Feb. 27, it would have only allowed advertisements on the inside of school buses. But after the amendment allowing advertising on the outside was added, the chair of Transportation and Transit Committee — Rep. Jim Tunheim (DFL-Kennedy) — asked that the bill be referred to his committee for further review.

So in a relatively unusual move, the bill was re-routed there before members got a chance to vote on the entire bill. The amendment offered by Rep. Bob Milbert (DFL-South St. Paul) to allow ads outside the bus passed on a voice vote.

Supporters of the measure say outside advertising is where the real money will come from because the high-visibility ads would bring higher ad rates.

Bill sponsor Rep. David Tomassoni (DFL-Chisholm) has said advertising would provide money for schools at no cost to the state and makes sense in an era of impending budget cuts.

"If you have to go out and pay \$100 for a pair of Nikes, you might as well get a little bit back into your school district," said Tomassoni when the bill (**HF326**) was before the House Education Committee Feb. 9.

Under the bill, school districts would be allowed to set their own standards for ads to be placed on buses and to reach their own deals with private bus companies.

The bill would require that all advertising proceeds to districts be deposited in their transportation accounts. When it comes to ad content, the bill only requires that districts devise policies and that ads comply with those policies. (See Feb. 10, 1995, *Session Weekly*, page 5).



ELECTIONS

Voters' guide

Minnesota's eligible voters would receive booklets in the mail before caucuses and elections that would provide short biographies on candidates and other voter information, under a bill sponsored by Rep. Bernie Lieder (DFL-Crookston).

The bill stems from a recommendation of The Grove Commission on Electoral Reforms. The commission has proposed moving the primary to August and the precinct caucuses to April. It also recommends producing a voters' guide for the public, with information on where and how to vote, the candidates running for office, and constitutional amendments up for public vote.

The Elections Division of the House General Legislation, Veterans Affairs and Elections Committee approved **HF621** Feb. 27.

It calls for the guides to be mailed to voters at least 21 days before each election. Each candidate may submit a 50-word biographical sketch to be included in the guide in addition to their name, address, and telephone number.

The guides also would explain any proposed constitutional amendment and detail the effect it would have, if passed. It would inform residents on how to register to vote, how to vote by absentee ballot, and provide a map of

election districts and telephone numbers of state and county election officials.

A similar bill was considered during the 1993 Legislative Session.

Such guides are distributed in California, Oregon, and Washington, Secretary of State Joan Growe told committee members.

Election turnout has been declining in recent years, partly because voters don't know where to vote and don't know who the candidates are, Growe added.

"We always get questions at the secretary of state's office. But this year more than ever we've gotten questions about the candidates — on who they are. The newspapers do voters' guides, but it's sometimes around one issue or not exactly what the people want," Growe said.

The bill does not yet include an appropriation.

But distributing three separate guides could cost about \$1.8 million in election years — \$650,000 each for the primary and general election guides, and \$525,000 for the caucus guide, Growe said. The money would come from the general fund.

To help offset costs, candidates could pay a mandatory fee to have information included in the guide. That money would help offset the price of the guide, she said. The bill does not, at present, include such a provision.

HF621 next will be heard in the full General Legislation, Veterans Affairs and Elections Committee.

June state primary election

Voters in the state's primary election would turn out nearly three months earlier — on the third Tuesday in June instead of in September — to cast their votes, under a bill approved March 2 by the House Elections Division of the General Legislation, Veterans Affairs and Elections Committee.

The precinct party caucuses would still be held the second Tuesday in March.

Bill sponsor Rep. Bernie Lieder (DFL-Crookston) said the measure incorporates many suggestions of Secretary of State Joan Growe's Commission on Electoral Reform, an 18-member commission that focused on increasing voter turnout by making changes to state election law.

The commission originally called for the primary to be held in August and the caucus on an April weekend, but those dates were altered by the division members.

Moving up the primary elections — where members of the same political party face off to determine who advances to meet candidates

from the opposing party or parties in November — would give candidates more time to debate and the press more time to examine the issues, Growe told committee members.

A lengthened campaign season would mean less negative campaigning or "campaigning by sound bite" because candidates would have more time to explain their stances on issues, she said.

Rep. Tim Commers (IR-Eagan), who offered the amendment to change the primary date to June, said many people will be on vacation in August.

Also, the June primary reduces the amount of time from the March precinct caucuses, which lessens the time for candidates seeking their parties' nomination to engage in political infighting, Commers said.

The bill also calls for the elimination of the presidential primary election, which is now held in April. Commers also offered the amendment supporting that change, stating that Minnesota would save \$3 million by not holding the presidential primary.

Another provision in the bill calls for the Secretary of State to send a voters' guide to each Minnesota household with information on where and how to vote, the candidates running for office, and constitutional amendments up for public vote. A separate bill sponsored by Lieder outlines the voters' guide proposal. (See related article page 7).

Also under **HF142**, major party candidates for congressional or state constitutional offices must receive at least 20 percent of the vote on any ballot for that office at the party endorsing convention before their name could be placed on a state primary election ballot.

If such a candidate didn't receive the 20 percent, he or she could still make the ballot by submitting a petition signed by the number of eligible voters equal to 10 percent of

persons voting on the nomination for that office at the last state primary.

The 20 percent proposal would not apply to state legislative candidates.

The bill will next be heard by the House General Legislation, Veterans Affairs and Elections Committee.



ENVIRONMENT

State park boundaries

Several state parks would have their legal boundaries expanded, under a bill approved by the House Environment and Natural Resources Committee Feb. 24.

The measure would allow parcels of land to be added to Forestville, Gooseberry Falls, and William O'Brien state parks.

In addition, John A. Latsch State Park would be created. The land was once a state park; then, for reasons unknown, it became a state wayside area.

"I think it was simply a mistake in 1969," explained Bill Morrissey, director of state parks for the Department of Natural Resources (DNR).

Morrissey said that usually a bill is introduced each legislative session to modify state park boundaries. In some cases, landowners express a desire that their land become part of a park, or state forest land is added to a park.

Although the proposal would expand the legal boundaries of the state parks, future legislation would need to be approved to authorize the sale of state bonds to pay for acquiring private land to add to the parks, according to Morrissey.

The bill, which is sponsored by Rep. Thomas Bakk (DFL-Cook), would also allow vehicles without state park permits to enter Gooseberry Falls State Park and park in a new highway rest area that lies within the park. Parking would no longer be allowed along the highway.

Morrissey said that parked cars on U.S. Route 61 by a two-lane bridge near the park's visitors center pose a safety hazard. The DNR and the Minnesota Department of Transportation have begun work on a walkway underneath the bridge that will also be handicapped accessible.

"We're making the view of the falls handicapped accessible, too," he said.

It is hoped the project will be completed in a "year or two," said Morrissey.

HF479 now moves to the House floor.



Johan Mikkel Sava, left, a member of the Norwegian Sami Parliament, and his cousin Per Sara, a reindeer herder, were recognized by members of the House Feb. 27.

Emissions test eliminated

The metropolitan auto emissions testing program could be abolished in 1998, under a bill approved by the House Local Government and Metropolitan Affairs Committee Feb. 28.

Sponsored by Rep. Alice Johnson (DFL-Spring Lake Park), the bill would exempt cars under six years old from emissions testing.

(See Feb. 24, 1995, *Session Weekly*, page 6; Feb. 17, 1995, *Session Weekly*, page 6; and Jan. 27, 1995 *Session Weekly*, page 7.)

The amendment calling for the testing program to end in July 1998 was sponsored by Rep. Eileen Tompkins (IR-Apple Valley).

Tompkins said a University of Minnesota study shows the testing program is of dubious help in cleaning up metropolitan air.

"Why shouldn't we do away with it? We're just putting money down a rat hole," Tompkins said.

Under the amendment, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) would have to approve the program's intended closure. The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) also must show that the seven-county metropolitan area is meeting federal clean air requirements and will continue to do so, said David Thornton, MPCA manager of air analysis.

He said the emissions program may need to continue to show that the MPCA plans to meet federal clean air requirements in the future.

If Minnesota falls below standards set in the 1990 federal Clean Air Act, the EPA may withhold federal highway funds — potentially \$100 million annually — from the state, Thornton added.

Committee members also voted to remove a provision added to **HF2** Feb. 17 by the House Environment and Natural Resources Committee.

That amendment, sponsored by Rep. Bill Haas (IR-Champlin), would have required an emissions test be performed on a vehicle within 30 days of the date when its title is transferred.

Haas said the provision would protect a consumer who could buy a used vehicle and then possibly have to make expensive repairs in order to pass an emissions test.

"It's just one of those things that seemed like a good idea at the time, but nobody wants it now," Rep. Dee Long (DFL-Mpls) said.

The bill next moves to the House Environment and Natural Resources Finance Committee.



GAMBLING

Gambling department — again?

Rep. Phyllis Kahn (DFL-Mpls) is betting lawmakers — many of whom staked their political fortunes to promised cuts in government — will back legislation to merge state gambling agencies.

Kahn is the sponsor of **HF138**, a bill that would abolish several existing entities and create a state department to oversee gambling.

In a Feb. 24 hearing before the Gambling Division of the House Governmental Operations Committee, Kahn had a simple message for legislators who campaigned on vows to streamline government.

"This is the easiest vote you're ever going to make on that subject," Kahn said. Members of the division approved the bill.

Under Kahn's bill, the nine-member Minnesota Racing Commission, seven-member Gambling Control Board and seven-member Lottery Board would be abolished.

Currently, the boards function independently of each other. The racing commission oversees pari-mutuel horse racing. The Gambling Control Board regulates lawful gambling activities, such as bingo and pull-tabs. The Lottery Board advises the lottery director on games and rules.

A new gambling department, led by an appointee of the governor, would include divisions to oversee lawful gambling and pari-mutuel racing and to assume the gambling enforcement responsibilities of the Department of Public Safety.

The state lottery and its director would remain independent, but the gambling department would assume the advisory role of the current Lottery Board.

The consolidation of the gambling agencies, according to Kahn, would provide the state a more comprehensive approach to gambling issues. And the state would enjoy the savings of an unspecified amount, she said.

But some involved with gambling, especially those in the horse racing business, opposed the bill.

The "lean and knowledgeable staff" of the Racing Commission enforces complicated regulations to ensure "confidence in the integrity of racing," said Jim Olson, president of the Minnesota Quarter Horse Racing Association.

And Gerry Herringer, of the Minnesota Horsemen's Benevolent Protection Association, said horse racing is in a "very fragile" condition in the state and needs the "nurturing" of the commission.

A proposal similar to **HF138** passed the House as part of a 1994 omnibus gambling bill but was eliminated in conference committee. Kahn said she expects the current bill to find less Senate opposition.

If it's approved, it would not be the first time the state has used a consolidated gambling agency. In 1989, lawmakers created the Department of Gaming, but it was abolished two years later when former commissioner Tony Bouza recommended that the Lottery Board, Gambling Control Board, and Racing Commission become independent entities.

HF138 now moves to the full Governmental Operations Committee.



HEALTH

Strengthening bones

A bill to start up a statewide osteoporosis prevention and treatment program won approval from the House Health and Human Services Committee March 2.

Bill sponsor Rep. Sharon Marko (DFL-Newport) estimated the program would cost \$200,000 but said it would be a good investment.

If people learn how to prevent the disease early, fewer will need to use hospitals and nursing homes for fractures and other osteoporosis problems. Many women entering nursing homes now do so because of osteoporosis, Marko said.

"The financial impact of osteoporosis is vast, let alone the human impact," said Dr. David Brown, who testified in favor of the bill.

HF481 would require the Department of Health to assess how many Minnesotans have the disease which strikes mostly women but also has been found in men. The condition is characterized by a decrease in bone mass leading to fragile bones that can fracture easily.

The measure also calls on the state Department of Health to design a statewide educational program about the disease.

The program would implement strategies for raising public awareness on the causes and personal risk factors for the disease, as well as how to prevent, detect, and treat osteoporosis.

The Department of Health would be required to report to the Legislature by Jan. 31, 1997, on the program's accomplishments.

Rep. Betty McCollum (DFL-North St. Paul) called the bill "a great bargain" and reminded committee members that very few dollars are spent on women's health issues.

But Rep. Barb Vickerman (IR-Redwood Falls) opposed the bill, stating that a bill for a women's health center was in the works and that the committee should wait to see if osteoporosis is taken care of in that bill.

HF481 now goes to the House Health and Human Services Finance Division.

UMD medical school

The University of Minnesota-Duluth School of Medicine is pitching an idea to expand its two-year program to a four-year program that includes placing students in rural clinics to learn from licensed doctors.

The MinnesotaCare Division of the House Health and Human Services Committee heard the bill (HF690) but as yet has made no recommendation.

The medical school is nationally recognized for producing rural doctors, an important key to improving health care access in rural Minnesota. Currently, the school offers the first two years of medical education. Students then transfer to the University of Minnesota's Twin Cities campus.

The goal is to increase the number of physicians in rural Minnesota and to further understand the health problems in rural areas. The bill, however, contains no provision requiring students in the program to set up or join a practice in a rural community after graduation, said bill sponsor Rep. Roger Cooper (DFL-Bird Island).

Because the UMD medical school places so many doctors in rural areas, Cooper said he believes they deserve state money to help with the program. "I'm going to fight like heck to keep this going."

Although the bill has no price tag on it yet, figures from the medical school show the

program would be phased in, costing about \$1.6 million during the upcoming two-year budget period, said Dr. Ronald Franks, dean of the medical school. Beginning in 1999, the program would be fully operational with 100 students and cost about \$6.5 million a year.

Franks said he would like the state to pick up the \$1.6 million during the upcoming biennium and eventually the yearly recurring costs of \$6.5 million. It is not clear, however, how much of the cost the bill would finance. The dollar figure is expected to be filled in when the MinnesotaCare Division takes up the bill again.

Another facet of the bill is a substitute doctor program to help out in rural areas when a community's regular doctor becomes ill or leaves for a vacation or for additional training. The program would start out in four pilot rural communities.

Sometimes the lack of substitutes in a rural area can cause a community's doctor to leave permanently because he or she is on call 24-hours a day, seven-days a week, all year long, said Rep. Becky Lourey (DFL-Kerrick), who is sponsoring this portion of HF690.

The program could use doctors in their residency and those who have completed their residency but have yet to establish a practice. The clinics where they serve as substitutes would pay their wages, Lourey said.

The Department of Health would evaluate the program and report back to the Legislature by Jan. 15, 1996.

A dollar figure for the substitute program's startup costs has not yet been calculated. A similar provision in a 1994 bill, however, totaled \$137,000, Lourey said.

In 1994 the Legislature appropriated \$4 million from the sale of bonds to UMD's medical school to build additional laboratories and offices.



HOUSING

Homelessness in Willmar

Come Aug. 1, 1995, Willmar, Minn., may have hundreds of homeless on its streets, many of whom will be children.

That's what a group of citizens facing eviction from a Willmar mobile home park told the Housing Committee Feb. 28.

Elm Lane Trailer Court is scheduled to close July 31 leaving many of its residents, most of whom are Hispanic, without homes in a city that doesn't have enough affordable housing or vacant trailer sites to meet the new demand.

Even if they can find affordable housing, they may face discrimination, said Eileen Wallace, executive director of the Heartland Community Action Agency in Willmar.

"If you call up with a Spanish accent and a Spanish surname, the housing is not available. But if you call without an accent and have an Anglo surname, then it's available."

About 95 families currently live in Elm Lane, or about 500 people. There used to be about 120 families but some 25 already have moved out. Of those remaining, about 20 will be able to move their mobile homes to another trailer park in Willmar. But after that, there's no room left.

The group is asking the Legislature for help. Some would like emergency money to help people fix up their mobile homes so they meet housing codes and can be relocated. Some trailers just need the relocation money. Some residents also would like the state to step in and help more families afford to buy small, first-time homes.

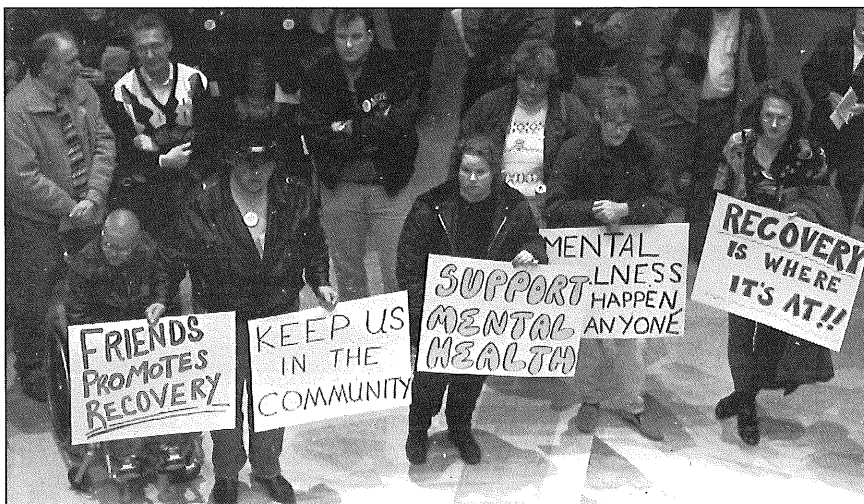
Housing Committee members listened to testimony both from the State Office Building in St. Paul and via interactive television from a site in Willmar.

Wallace told lawmakers that the people who live in Elm Lane hold down jobs but that Willmar offers them little affordable housing. Developers, she said, maintain there isn't enough return on their investment to build housing for workers who earn \$6 or \$7 an hour.

Rep. Andy Dawkins (DFL-St. Paul) asked how many homes in Willmar could be fixed up and resold with low interest rates and minimal down payments.

Testifiers thought there were about 20 to 30 homes that could be fixed up.

Dawkins said that compared to the state's buyout of the Target Center basketball arena in Minneapolis and the state's financial breaks granted to Fingerhut Co. to expand in St.



A March 2 rally in the Capitol rotunda brought attention to the needs of those with mental illness.

Cloud, fixing up and reselling those homes "seems like peanuts and small potatoes."

The mobile home park announced it would close in October 1994 after it could not meet city ordinances to clean up the park which had become known for fights and shootings. The living conditions of the park have been described as crowded, poor, and unruly.

The owner, William Begin, has said he gave up trying to run the place and wants to sell it. Begin, who illegally sold many of the mobile homes to the residents without a license and sometimes without giving them a title, was fined \$15,000 by the Office of the Attorney General, said Russ Adams of the All Parks Alliance for Change mobile home park advocacy group. The \$15,000 will be used to help families relocate.

The Willmar City Council did reach an agreement with Begin to pay \$150 for each family to relocate and an additional \$300 if they could relocate their trailer to another mobile home park, but, Adams said, not too many people are counting on that money.

Martina Diaz was an Elm Lane resident until about a week ago, when she moved into a Willmar house.

"I am worried about my people who are still residents of Elm Lane. July is just around the corner," Diaz said.

"They're tired of meetings. They're tired of waiting and still don't have an answer. . . . There has to be a way out."

It is unclear what action, if any, lawmakers will take.



HUMAN SERVICES

Welfare reform passes

The House gave final approval to a welfare reform bill March 2 after another attempt to attach a controversial abortion waiting-period proposal was thwarted. The vote was 125-8.

Under the threat of a veto by Gov. Arne Carlson, language that would require a 24-hour waiting period for abortions was removed from the bill Feb. 23 by the House Ways and Means Committee.

But when the bill came up for debate on the floor, Rep. Tony Onnen (IR-Cokato) renewed the effort to include the waiting period. His proposed amendment touched off an emotional debate.

Rep. Steve Wenzel (DFL-Little Falls) said the "informed consent" abortion proposal has the support of Minnesotans and he urged members not to let the threat of a veto affect their vote.

"Let the legislative process take its course,"

Wenzel said. "We have our job to do, and the governor has his rights by the constitution."

Rep. Charlie Weaver (IR-Anoka) said he supports a mandatory abortion waiting period, but he urged members to vote against the amendment.

"In my view, this amendment guarantees the death of the right to know as well as welfare reform," he said. The amendment failed by a vote of 58-75.

The abortion waiting period was only one of a long string of proposed amendments to the reform bill.

An amendment was adopted that would require welfare applicants without children to live in the state for 60 days before they can receive General Assistance benefits. The measure, sponsored by Rep. Jim Knobloch (IR-St. Cloud), makes several exceptions, including allowing benefits for people who were born in the state and people who have, in the past, lived in the state for a year.

House members also approved an amendment that would cut off Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) benefits after two years. Families would be allowed no more than two years of benefits within a four-year period, but their eligibility for medical benefits would continue after their AFDC benefits expire.

The amendment, proposed by Rep. Todd Van Dellen (IR-Plymouth), makes exceptions in some cases, including those involving parents who are minors and people needed in the home to care for children under 3 years old.

The House rejected several proposed amendments, including a measure offered by Rep. Erik Paulsen (IR-Eden Prairie) that would have denied increases in AFDC benefits to parents who have additional children.



A coalition of welfare rights groups picketed in front of the House chamber March 2 as members debated a welfare reform bill. HF5 was later passed 125-8.

In all, HF5 totals about \$52 million but with cuts in public assistance benefits and the elimination of a \$24 million state jobs program, the net price tag falls to \$23.7 million for fiscal years 1996-1997.

The bill would require teenaged mothers to live at home or with a supervising adult, and it requests the elimination of federal rules that some argue discourage welfare recipients from seeking employment.

And the bill would establish a Work First pilot program, which would set out tough penalties, such as losing benefits, if participants do not stick to a contract to search for a job and accept work. The program would be tested in Clay and Itasca counties.

To remove a barrier keeping people from returning to work, the bill, sponsored by Rep. Bob Anderson (DFL-Ottertail), includes \$18 million for child care for low- and moderate-income families.

The Senate's welfare reform measure is pending in the Senate Finance Committee.

(See Jan. 13, 1995, *Session Weekly*, page 6; Jan. 20, 1995, *Session Weekly*, pages 6-7; Feb. 3, 1995, *Session Weekly*, page 10; and Feb. 17, 1995, *Session Weekly*, pages 8-9; Feb. 24, 1995, *Session Weekly*, page 9.)



INSURANCE

Coverage for good genes

Insurance companies should not be allowed to use genetic information to decide who will receive insurance coverage, said Dr. Paul Billings, an associate professor of medicine at Stanford University.

Speaking to the House Financial Institu-

tions and Insurance Committee March 1, Billings said the current "genetic revolution" is providing information people should be able to use to protect themselves.

"I would not like to see third parties use that information to exclude people," he said.

Billings is director of the Council for Responsible Genetics and a member of the Genetic Screening Study Group, two non-profit groups devoted to investigating the use of genetic information. He has spent 15 years researching genetics and its social impact.

He supports **HF278**, a bill that would bar Minnesota insurance companies from requiring applicants for health or life insurance policies to take genetic tests, or from refusing coverage based on information revealed by a voluntary test.

No date has been set for a hearing on the bill, which is sponsored by Rep. Charlie Weaver (IR-Anoka).

Scientists in the rapidly developing field of genetics can identify at least 4,000 human genes and the indicators of 500 to 1,000 medical disorders, according to Billings. A complete map of all 100,000 human genes should be finished soon.

Recently, genes have been identified for such maladies as Huntington's Disease, colon cancer, and breast cancer. But the presence of a genetic indicator for a disease does not necessarily mean a person will contract the illness and does not provide any information about its onset or severity, Billings said.

The problem, according to Billings, is that insurance companies already have refused coverage to people on grounds of their genetic makeup and the future could bring

more such "genetic discrimination."

Billings also said the full potential of genetic research cannot be realized if people avoid testing out of fear they'll lose their insurance.

Donald Chambers, an official for the American Council of Life Insurance, told the committee life insurance providers must have access to genetic information to fairly decide who to cover and how to set rates.

"Insurers cannot afford to be denied the right to access existing medical information," he said, disputing claims that genetic testing leads to "cherry picking" clients, or granting coverage only to low-risk applicants.

He said people with "genetic disadvantages" could conceal their condition and buy costly policies if insurance companies are denied access to genetic information. And that could serve a costly blow to companies and other customers.

"Testing serves as a truth serum, if you will," Chambers said.



LAW

Prisoner name changes

The House gave final approval to a bill March 2 to limit the number of taxpayer-financed name changes by inmates in the state prison system. The vote was 132-0.

The bill (**HF125**) would limit prisoners to one name change during their confinement. And it would be paid for at public expense only when "failure to allow the name change

would infringe on the constitutional rights of an inmate." Religious reasons would qualify as such a case.

Rep. Dave Bishop (IR-Rochester) said the bill he sponsored would eliminate the cost to the public of "clearly frivolous" name changes.

Between 1990 and February 1995, 305 name changes were made by inmates. There currently is no limit on the number of changes a prisoner may request, and some have changed their name as many as three times.

Each change costs between \$400 and \$500, according to the Department of Corrections. (See Feb. 24, 1995, *Session Weekly*, page 11)

Similar legislation is pending in the Senate.



METRO AFFAIRS

Calling all cars

All Metro area public safety personnel eventually would be linked by a digital radio communications system, under a bill approved by the Local Government and Metropolitan Affairs Committee March 2.

The bill, sponsored by Rep. Steve Kelley (DFL-Hopkins), would call for the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to make available a block of radio channels in the 800 megahertz range, Kelley said. The channels would then be "trunked," or connected, so that several police, ambulance, or fire personnel could talk simultaneously across a number of channels.

"Right now, it's possible to connect all the agencies on the radio, but it's cumbersome," Kelley said.

Currently, individual police departments, for example, communicate on separate radio bands, which sometimes creates problems when different departments need to talk back and forth.

Such a problem occurred last summer during a massive search — involving several law enforcement departments — for the man who fatally shot two St. Paul police officers.

The bill would create what Kelley called the "backbone network" for the communications system. It would authorize about \$30 million in state bonds to build the radio towers and computer system necessary to link the public safety communications systems of local governments. Each local government could then determine whether they would use the trunked channels or rely on their current method of radio communication.

"So we're not creating a monolith all at once," Kelley said.

Of the \$30 million in bonds, half would be



Rep. Mike Delmont examined a chart showing the link between certain genes and the illnesses caused by them during a Financial Institutions and Insurance Committee hearing March 1. A bill (HF278) has been introduced to bar insurance companies from requiring applicants to submit to the tests.

let by the Metropolitan Council. Those Metropolitan Council bonds would be repaid by an unspecified increase in the four-cent 911-emergency surcharge that each Minnesota phone customer now pays.

Since the Department of Administration has already proposed raising the fee, legislative approval for the hike is not needed, Kelley said.

Rep. Mike Osskopp (R-Lake City) said the additional 911-surcharge forces non-metropolitan area residents to fund a service which benefits only the Twin Cities area. And some other lawmakers agreed.

Mancel Mitchell, St. Louis Park chief of police, said the metropolitan area faces a "critical need" for such a new system. He served on the board that spent four years planning the radio system proposal.

"We're now building and laying communication systems one on top of another. Trunking increases capacity five or six times and insures access on a frequency," Mitchell said.

Paul Malone, a city council member from Arden Hills, Minn., spoke against the bill.

"The notion that the area's existing public safety frequencies are hopelessly jammed is untrue. Although a few become busy from time to time, most are quite quiet," he said.

In addition, most local agencies now use

cellular phones to augment their communications systems, which are cheap and effective, he added.

The bill now moves to the House Governmental Operations Committee.



TRANSPORTATION

Commuter bus project

Commuters who live in Minneapolis or St. Paul but work in the suburbs could one day hop a bus to work with the help of a bill sponsored by Rep. Edwina Garcia (DFL-Richfield).

The House Transportation and Transit Committee approved the bill March 1.

HF342 would establish a 13-member advisory committee which would work with the Metropolitan Council in implementing a council pilot project. The project — now being carried out by the Metropolitan Council — sets up several express bus routes between eight southern Twin Cities suburbs and from downtown Minneapolis and St. Paul to those suburbs during morning and evening rush hours.

Garcia said residents who live in suburbs

such as Burnsville, Richfield, Apple Valley, and Edina find bus routes run mainly to Minneapolis and St. Paul. Few buses — especially "express" buses that travel on highways and interstates — operate between suburbs. Also, during morning and evening commuting hours, buses mainly shuttle commuters from the suburbs to downtown Minneapolis and St. Paul. Those who wish to take mass transportation the opposite way during those hours find few routes available, Garcia said.

The Metropolitan Council expects its pilot project to cost around \$3 million. A federal grant takes care of \$2.5 million of that, said Nacho Diaz, manager of the Metropolitan Council's Office of Transportation and Transit Development. The council also has asked for a \$622,000 state appropriation to fund the remaining project costs. That request comes as part of the council's \$93.3 million transportation funding request for the 1996-97 biennium, Diaz said.

The Metropolitan Council's transportation program will work with independent busing systems, such as Southwest Metro Transit and Minnesota Valley Transit, in carrying out the project, Garcia said.

The Economic Development, Infrastructure and Regulation Committee will hear the bill next.

Preliminary dates and deadlines

March 31 First committee deadline. For continued consideration, a bill must clear all policy committees in its house of origin by this date.

April 7 Second committee deadline. For continued consideration, a bill must clear all policy committees in the other legislative body by 5 p.m. on this date.

April 14 Good Friday. No committee meetings. No session.

April 16 Easter

April 17 No House and Senate committee meetings. House and Senate floor sessions.

April 18 Regular schedule of committee meetings and 2:30 p.m. House floor session.

April 21 Third committee deadline. For continued consideration in the House, all bills with a fiscal

impact and omnibus appropriation bills must clear their policy committees. For continued consideration in the Senate, all omnibus appropriations bills must clear their policy committees.

May 22 This is the latest date the Legislature could meet in regular session. The Minnesota Constitution prescribes that the Legislature shall not meet after the first Monday following the third Saturday in May.

1995 Minnesota House Members/Legislative Assistants

Member Legislative Assistant	Room*	Phone 296-
Abrams, Ron (IR)	209	9934
Kathleen M. Kieffer	209A	5991
Anderson, Bob (DFL)	437	4946
Barbara A. Klossner	437A	9463
Anderson, Bruce (IR)	281	5063
Marlys C. Pearson-Purdy	289A	5992
Anderson, Irv (DFL)	463	4936
Joan I. Harrison	463A	7881
Bakk, Thomas (DFL)	429	2190
Laura M. DeRose	485A	2955
Bertram, Jeff (DFL)	571	4373
Cassie Sweeney-Truitt	571A	2959
Bettermann, Hilda (IR)	243	4317
Cheryl A. Burke	243A	4375
Bishop, Dave (IR)	343	0573
Joyce G. Rogers	343A	9710
Boudreau, Lynda (IR)	327	8237
Doris Ocel	327A	5355
Bradley, Fran (IR)	241	9249
Cheryl A. Burke	243A	4375
Broecker, Sherry (IR)	321	7153
Mary Lee	317A	5994
Brown, Chuck (DFL)	597	4929
Teri T. Edison	597A	7171
Carlson, Lyndon R. (DFL)	379	4255
Dori Vaughan	379A	3367
Carruthers, Phil (DFL)	459	3709
Mary Ellen Langenberger	459A	5356
Clark, Karen (DFL)	503	0294
Kevin J. Morgel	503A	6586
Commers, Tim (IR)	217	3533
Gregory Marcus	217A	5360
Cooper, Roger (DFL)	549	4346
Shirley M. Covert	545A	5322
Daggett, Roxann (IR)	225	4293
Cathy Powell	229A	4295
Dauner, Marvin (DFL)	581	6829
Marree A. Boland	581A	4388
Davids, Gregory M. (IR)	371	9278
Cristina A. Lachman	357A	7-8139
Dawkins, Andy (DFL)	409	5158
Elizabeth L. Flentje	423A	4992
Dehler, Steve (IR)	203	7808
Betty L. McConnell	207A	5394
Delmont, Mike (DFL)	575	4226
Robert Humphrey	575A	6937
Dempsey, Jerry (IR)	251	8635
Patricia H. Parkhurst	247A	3316
Dorn, John (DFL)	533	3248
Kathleen K. Bruss	543A	4271
Entenza, Matt (DFL)	531	8799
Nancy K. Anderson	547A	1544
Erhardt, Ron (IR)	237	4363
Georgianne Hilker	237A	9183
Farrell, Jim (DFL)	423	4277
Laurie M. Nistl	477A	5497
Finseth, Tim (IR)	253	9918
Dolores B. Meyer	259A	5999
Frerichs, Don (IR)	247	4378
Patricia H. Parkhurst	247A	3316
Garcia, Edwina (DFL)	411	5375
Yvonne S. Amey	415A	7168
Girard, Jim (IR)	213	5374
Kathleen M. Kieffer	209A	5991
Goodno, Kevin (IR)	369	5515
Doris Ocel	327A	5355

Member Legislative Assistant	Room*	Phone 296-
Greenfield, Lee (DFL)	375	0173
Marguerite Maloney	375A	7189
Greiling, Mindy (DFL)	553	5387
Mary Ann Goschy	557A	7191
Haas, Bill (IR)	201	5513
Patricia L. Carter	291A	5399
Hackbarth, Tom (IR)	313	2439
Judd Schetnan	309A	5336
Harder, Elaine (IR)	277	5373
Sally A. Burmeister	273A	9471
Hasskamp, Kris (DFL)	451	4333
Jan Horner	453A	5496
Hausman, Alice (DFL)	449	3824
Bernadine A. Hyser	449A	5489
Holsten, Mark (IR)	345	3018
Kathleen S. Anderson	349A	8871
Hugoson, Gene (IR)	289	3240
Marlys C. Pearson-Purdy	289A	5992
Huntley, Thomas (DFL)	569	2228
Robert Humphrey	575A	6937
Jacobs, Joel (DFL)	485	4231
Laura M. DeRose	485A	2955
Jaros, Mike (DFL)	559	4246
Susan J. Maher	559A	4180
Jefferson, Richard H. (DFL)	577	8659
Susan J. Maher	559A	4180
Jennings, Loren (DFL)	537	0518
Joan M. Sweeney	537A	1340
Johnson, Alice M. (DFL)	539	5510
Joan M. Sweeney	537A	1340
Johnson, Bob (DFL)	551	5516
Nancy K. Anderson	547A	1544
Johnson, Virgil J. (IR)	207	1069
Betty L. McConnell	207A	5394
Kahn, Phyllis (DFL)	367	4257
Judith Richardson	367A	7173
Kalis, Henry J. (DFL)	543	4240
Kathleen K. Bruss	543A	4271
Kelley, Steve (DFL)	417	3964
Urszula M. Gryska	417A	5492
Kelso, Becky (DFL)	415	1072
Urszula M. Gryska	417A	5492
Kinkel, Anthony G. "Tony" (DFL)	453	2451
Jan Horner	453A	5496
Knight, Kevin (IR)	307	4218
Catherine E. (Kathy) Ryan	307A	5998
Knoblach, Jim (IR)	215	6316
Betty L. McConnell	207A	5394
Koppendrayner, LeRoy (IR)	389	6746
Lola J. Popken	389A	0526
Kraus, Ron (IR)	279	8216
Sally A. Burmeister	273A	9471
Krinkie, Phil (IR)	303	2907
Catherine E. (Kathy) Ryan	307A	5998
Larsen, Peg (IR)	311	4244
Judd Schetnan	309A	5336
Leighton, Robert (DFL)	527	4193
Judith A. Bernet	539A	5491
Leppik, Peggy (IR)	393	7026
Lola J. Popken	389A	0526
Lieder, Bernie (DFL)	515	5091
Kathy L. Anderson	515A	3806
Lindner, Arlon (IR)	227	7806
Cathy Powell	229A	4295
Long, Dee (DFL)	591	0171
Elizabeth L. Murphey	591A	5402

*All rooms are in the State Office Building unless otherwise noted.

As of February 28, 1995

Member Legislative Assistant	Room*	Phone 296-
Lourey, Becky (DFL)	421	4308
Yvonne S. Amey	415A	7168
Luther, Darlene (DFL)	525	3751
Paula K. Thompson	525A	7-8130
Lynch, Teresa (IR)	295	5369
Patricia L. Carter	291A	5399
Macklin, Bill (IR)	349	6926
Kathleen S. Anderson	349A	8871
Mahon, Mark P. (DFL)	401	7158
Audrey M. Engebretson	407A	5488
Mares, Harry (IR)	239	5363
Georgianne Hilker	237A	9183
Mariani, Carlos (DFL)	403	9714
Mabel S. Canty	491A	5372
Marko, Sharon (DFL)	507	3135
Barbara Moehrle	509A	4171
McCollum, Betty (DFL)	501	1188
Kevin Morge	503A	6586
McElroy, Dan (IR)	259	4212
Dolores B. Meyer	259A	5999
McGuire, Mary Jo (DFL)	567	4342
Cassie Sweeney-Truitt	571A	2959
Milbert, Bob (DFL)	579	4192
Marree A. Boland	581A	4388
Molnau, Carol (IR)	287	8872
Marlys C. Pearson-Purdy	289A	5992
Mulder, Richard (IR)	387	4336
Lola J. Popken	389A	0526
Munger, Willard (DFL)	479	4282
Norma S. Christensen	479A	7175
Murphy, Mary (DFL)	557	2676
Mary Ann Goschy	557A	7191
Ness, Robert "Bob" (IR)	335	4344
Karen Meyer	343B	3244
Olson, Edgar (DFL)	565	4265
Dorothy Sawyer	565A	7427
Olson, Mark (IR)	223	4237
Gregory Marcus	217A	5360
Onnen, Tony (IR)	273	1534
Sally A. Burmeister	273A	9471
Opatz, Joe (DFL)	377	6612
Paula J. Hoover	365A	9194
Orenstein, Howard (DFL)	529	4199
Judith A. Bernet	539A	5491
Orfield, Myron (DFL)	521	9281
Angie D. Bernhard	517A	3641
Osskopp, Mike (IR)	329	9236
Joyce G. Rogers	343A	9710
Osthoff, Tom (DFL)	585	4224
Kristine M. Henry	585A	5342
Ostrom, Don (DFL)	433	7065
Elizabeth L. Flentje	423A	4992
Otremba, Ken (DFL)	545	3201
Shirley M. Covert	545A	5322
Ozment, Dennis (IR)	283	4306
Lois J. Klostreich	283A	5413
Paulsen, Erik (IR)	221	7449
Gregory Marcus	217A	5360
Pawlenty, Tim (IR)	231	4128
Georgianne Hilker	237A	9183
Pellow, Richard (IR)	233	0141
Patricia H. Parkhurst	247A	3316
Pelowski Jr., Gene (DFL)	517	8637
Kathy L. Anderson	515A	3806
Perlt, Walter E. (DFL)	473	7807
Debra M. Fastner	469A	8857
Peterson, Doug (DFL)	523	4228
Paula K. Thompson	525A	7-8130

Member Legislative Assistant	Room*	Phone 296-
Pugh, Thomas (DFL)	583	6828
Elizabeth L. Murphey	591A	5402
Rest, Ann H. (DFL)	443	4176
Lillian A. Pohkamp	443A	9552
Rhodes, Jim (IR)	309	9889
Judd Scheinan	309A	5336
Rice, James I. (DFL)	381	4262
Mary Pat Speltz	381A	4178
Rostberg, Jim (IR)	323	5364
Doris Ocel	327A	5355
Rukavina, Tom (DFL)	471	0170
Debra M. Fastner	469A	8857
Sarna, John J. (DFL)	563	4219
Dianne Ruppert	565	4279
Schumacher, Leslie (DFL)	413	5377
Norma S. Christensen	479A	7175
Seagren, Alice (IR)	315	7803
Mary Lee	317A	5994
Simoneau, Wayne (DFL)	365	4331
Paula J. Hoover	365A	9194
Skoglund, Wesley J. "Wes" (DFL)	477	4330
Laurie M. Nisl	477A	5497
Smith, Steve (IR)	353	9188
Joyce G. Rogers	343A	9710
Solberg, Loren (DFL)	445	2365
Maxine J. Wiech	445A	4371
Sviggum, Steven A. (IR)	267	2273
Janna Dick	263A	8827
Swenson, Doug (IR)	255	4124
Dolores B. Meyer	259A	5999
Swenson, Howard (IR)	331	8634
Karen Meyer	343B	3244
Sykora, Barbara (IR)	357	4315
Cristina A. Lachman	357A	7-8139
Tomassoni, David (DFL)	593	0172
Teri T. Edison	597A	7171
Tompkins, Eileen (IR)	245	5506
Cheryl A. Burke	243A	4375
Trimble, Steve (DFL)	491	4201
Mabel S. Canty	491A	5372
Tuma, John (IR)	301	4229
Catherine E. (Kathy) Ryan	307A	5998
Tunheim, Jim (DFL)	509	9635
Barbara Moehrle	509A	4171
Van Dellen, H. Todd (IR)	291	5511
Patricia L. Carter	291A	5399
Van Engen, Tom (IR)	359	6206
Cristina A. Lachman	357A	7-8139
Vickerman, Barb (IR)	211	9303
Kathleen M. Kieffer	209A	5991
Wagenius, Jean (DFL)	439	4200
Mary M. Larson	439A	5486
Weaver, Charlie (IR)	261	1729
Julie Day	261A	5408
Wejcman, Linda (DFL)	431	7152
Barbara A. Klossner	437A	9463
Wenzel, Stephen G. (DFL)	487	4247
Mary J. Hollenbeck	487A	6860
Winter, Ted (DFL)	407	5505
Audrey M. Engebretson	407A	5488
Wolf, Ken (IR)	317	5185
Mary Lee	317A	5994
Worke, Gary D. (IR)	229	5368
Cathy Powell	229A	4295
Workman, Tom (IR)	337	5066
Karen Meyer	343B	3244

*All rooms are in the State Office Building unless otherwise noted.

As of February 28, 1995

New members . . .

House tries Harder to make government efficient

Rep. Elaine Harder took on a challenging task in her first run for public office.

Harder (IR-Jackson) entered the race for the District 22B seat prepared to face a powerful four-term DFL incumbent, former Assistant Majority Leader Katy Olson.



Rep. Elaine Harder

Harder's battle plans changed when Olson announced her retirement at the end of the 1994 session. Instead of running against her opponent's record, Harder focused on putting forth a clear agenda to voters in her conservative-leaning southwestern Minnesota district.

She engineered a campaign that included six county fairs and 18 parades to win the three-way race. "The timing was excellent," Harder said. "People were ready for the kind of message I was bringing to them."

Harder supports term limits for legislators and efforts to reduce the size of government and to hold the line on taxes or make cuts. But she does not want those cuts to hurt the public education system, an area in which she believes the state should provide more funding.

Harder said she learned many of her political values while growing up on a Westbrook farm, which sits just outside the district she represents.

She left the farm to attend Mankato State University and has built a diverse resumé

since graduating with a bachelor's degree in secondary education.

Harder has worked as a home economics teacher, a sales representative for a printing and office supplies company, a sales and marketing agent for her family's purebred and feeder cattle company, and, most recently, as a 4-H youth development agent with the University of Minnesota Extension Service in Cottonwood County.

Her involvement in 4-H in Cottonwood County stretches back to her youth. In fact, that's how she met her husband, Ron.

The couple experienced life on the campaign trail when Ron ran unsuccessfully for the state Senate in 1990.

That campaign ignited political fires in Harder that eventually led her into a run for the House.

Running for office was another step in a new direction in a life of community involvement. In the past, Harder had served as Jackson County Fair Board secretary, working with farm and 4-H families and youth. In connection with the fair, she was one of the original volunteers in establishing the Pioneer Village, a project that developed over nearly two decades. Harder's work involved collecting items of historical significance, which are now on display in the village.

She and her husband, who have two children, own and operate an insurance agency in Jackson, and, in what free time there is, she enjoys photography and singing in her church choir.

During her early days in office, Harder is concerned about some of the demands placed on state government.

Sitting on House committees, Harder has found herself "frustrated with the concept that for every problem, government is expected to have a financial answer," she said.

Harder said she would like to focus on making government more efficient by eliminating duplications, such as having some 20 agencies dealing with some aspect of violence prevention.

"I know it will be painful when we cut," Harder said. "We're talking about people's jobs. We're talking about people's services. People realize it's necessary, but it's going to be difficult."

— Nick Healy

District 22B

Population: 32,898

Distribution: 23.84 percent urban, 76.16 percent rural

Counties: Brown, Cottonwood, Jackson, Martin, Redwood, Watonwan

Largest city: Windom

Location: southwestern Minnesota

Unemployment rate: 4.32 percent

Residents living below poverty level: 13.21 percent

1992 presidential election results:

Bush/Quayle 34.09 percent

Clinton/Gore 36.79 percent

Perot/Stockdale 27.78 percent

Other: 1.34 percent

Gov. Arne Carlson has proposed that the state pay \$183.7 million in the next fiscal year for the state's correctional institutions.

That's a far cry from the \$3.3 million the state paid in fiscal year 1955.

Back then the state had only five correctional institutions — about half the number that exist today — to support, and they were dramatically different.

Further, there were only about 1,200 inmates in 1955 — about a quarter of the 4,765 adult and juvenile inmates that are incarcerated today.

Delinquent boys were then sent to the "training school at Red Wing," which had a dairy farm, elementary school, and a few high school courses. Training was offered in blacksmithing, meatcutting, and

It's a fact!

pipefitting, among other skills.

When the boys are discharged from the school, "most of them are prepared to live a normal life in society," wrote Joseph Kise in his 1959 book, *Minnesota's Government*.

Today, only the state's toughest youthful offenders are sent to the Red Wing facility. Before they arrive, each juvenile has committed an average of 13 prior offenses. According to a recent Legislative Auditor's report, up to 75 percent will reoffend upon release.

In the 1950s, the Home School for Girls at Sauk Centre offered opportunities in "gardening, beauty culture, sewing, business relations and other vocations."

There were 196 girls at the school in August 1957. "Only a few of the girls have been sent back after they are released. The officers and employees try to make the place congenial and homelike."

And while the crime problem facing the state was not as severe as it is today, the 34-year-old opinion of Kise is echoed today: "These institutions cost the State of Minnesota millions and millions of dollars each year. In addition, much money is spent in local communities for the upkeep of county and city jails. From a strictly economic viewpoint, these facts show that it pays to spend money for preventive measures. The public is learning that an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure."

New members . . .

Boudreau brings inside experience to welfare debate

Rep. Lynda Boudreau may be a rookie at the Legislature, but she's no stranger to the welfare system, the center of one of this session's most pressing issues.



Rep. Lynda Boudreau

Boudreau (IR-Faribault) has an up-close view of welfare in her job as a family health aide with the Rice County Public Health Nursing Services and the Women, Infants and

Children programs.

The decade-long experience helped shape her stance on welfare reform and her overall political ideology.

"My philosophy is [that] if you are provided the tools, you can learn to use them to get a job done," she said. "We are all capable of doing many things. We just need some direction and encouragement."

Her involvement in Independent-Republican politics started, oddly enough, after she attended a DFL caucus in the late 1980s. As a member of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters union and a county employee, Boudreau doesn't seem a natural for the conservative movement, but she found things more comfortable on the right.

"It seemed natural to adopt the philosophy of personal responsibility and fiscal conservatism," she said. "I don't believe in being wasteful, lazy, or apathetic."

Boudreau quickly became active with her local IRs. She was soon selected to sit on the board of the county IR committee, and while still "very green," found herself running caucuses in her district.

But the thrill of a political victory is what thrust Boudreau headlong into IR politics.

The thrill came when she helped in the campaign to get Sen. Thomas Neuville (IR-Northfield) elected in 1990.

"It was amazing to see that the process can be so rewarding," Boudreau said.

At the prodding of fellow party members, Boudreau decided to make her first run for public office in 1994 to fill an open seat. (DFLer Peter Rodosovich decided not to seek a seventh term.)

"It was not something I'd really considered doing, but I was somewhat intrigued and challenged to organize my own campaign," she said.

A lifelong resident of Faribault, she grew up in the same neighborhood as her husband, Jim, a professional tree trimmer. The couple, married for 24 years, has three children: an 18-year-old son and daughters, 20 and 23 years old.

Boudreau's involvement in her community made her a familiar face to many voters.

Stints as a volunteer Girl Scout leader and 4-H Club leader and Crisis Pregnancy Center counselor are included on her list. She also was a religious education teacher, a softball coach, a church cantor and choir member, a Faribault Senior High School parent adviser and a Booster Club parent.

Boudreau's personal endeavors further enhanced her visibility in the community. Among other things, she is a reserve officer for the Faribault police department and a bow hunting education instructor for the Department of Natural Resources. She continues to play on a women's softball team — her 25th year, and in the fall, she enjoys archery hunting.

Her political beliefs, including support of term limits for legislators, often fall in line with many basic conservative tenets.

Boudreau is an avid supporter of welfare reform, but she does so with the passionate and informed opinions of an insider. "I work in the system. I can tell you it needs to be reformed to provide incentives to work," she said.

"I often see a lack of motivation and feelings of hopelessness."

Part of her job for Rice County calls on Boudreau to teach single parents — some on welfare and some self-supporting — how to be good parents.

She supports measures in a reform bill (HF5) that would require welfare mothers who are minors to live with their parents and set work requirements for welfare recipients.

She offered an amendment to the bill that would remove fertility drugs from medical benefits for welfare recipients and successfully offered another amendment that would remove sex change surgery benefits from General Assistance Medical Care.

"We're giving people tools, and they should be utilizing them," Boudreau said. "If they choose not to, we're going to give them that little extra nudge."

— Nick Healy

District 25B

Population: 32,664

Distribution: 52.31 percent urban; 47.69 percent rural

Counties: Le Sueur, Rice, Waseca

Largest city: Faribault

Location: southeastern Minnesota

Unemployment rate: 4.64 percent

Residents living below poverty level: 9.13 percent

1992 presidential election results:

Bush/Quayle 31.16 percent

Clinton/Gore 39.72 percent

Perot/Stockdale 27.15 percent

Other: 1.97 percent

Bill Introductions

HF894-HF1077

Monday, Feb. 27

HF894—Clark (DFL)

Health & Human Services

Aging Board appropriated money for Indian Elderly Access Program.

HF895—Vickerman (IR)

Agriculture

Agricultural processing facility tax increment financing districts provided aid reduction exemption.

HF896—Brown (DFL)

Governmental Operations

Government Innovation and Cooperation Board authority and procedures clarified, cooperation planning grant application procedures established, and money appropriated.

HF897—Pugh (DFL)

Governmental Operations

Rule of 85 reinstated, Public Employees Retirement Association member early retirement provisions modified, and reporting requirements eliminated.

HF898—Carruthers (DFL)

Judiciary

Soft body armor peace officer reimbursement provisions modified, and public safety officer's death benefit modified.

HF899—Kinkel (DFL)

Education

Semester system established by Higher Education Board, undergraduate state funding expenditures restricted, Akita Program efficiency increased, and campus efficiency increased.

HF900—Broecker (IR)

Judiciary

Disabled parking certificate holders allowed to make names and addresses private.

HF901—Swenson, D. (IR)

Transportation & Transit

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

HF902—Swenson, D. (IR)

Judiciary

DWI related offenses and driving without a license offenses provided license plate impoundment and vehicle forfeiture penalties after second violation.

HF903—Rest (DFL)

Commerce, Tourism & Consumer Affairs

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

HF904—Tomassoni (DFL)

Judiciary

Sport shooting ranges in compliance with accepted operating practices provided liability protection, and rulemaking required.

HF905—Pelowski (DFL)

Education

Kindergarten student transportation aid provisions modified.

HF906—Onnen (IR)

Labor-Management Relations

Workers' compensation benefit claim dispute review board established.

HF907—Bertram (DFL)

Health & Human Services

Nursing facility resident classification error correction provided.

HF908—Lourey (DFL)

Economic Development, Infrastructure & Regulation Finance

Foodshelf Program appropriated money.

HF909—Olson, E. (DFL)

Environment & Natural Resources

Wetland management and protection provisions modified.

HF910—Lourey (DFL)

Health & Human Services

Children and education services department established, and money appropriated.

HF911—Skoglund (DFL)

Judiciary

DNA crime evidence analysis statute of limitations provisions modified.

HF912—Osskopp (IR)

Local Government & Metropolitan Affairs

Lake City tax increment financing district duration extended.

HF913—Davids (IR)

Environment & Natural Resources

Preston tax-forfeited land sale authorized.

HF914—Peterson (DFL)

Education

Independent School District No. 128, Milan, provided an operating debt reduction grant, and money appropriated.

HF915—Rukavina (DFL)

Health & Human Services

Prescription drug price negotiation authority granted to Department of Administration commissioner, statewide drug formulary established, and pharmacists required to post signs relating to generic drug substitution.

HF916—Murphy (DFL)

Taxes

Local government aid distribution increase provided to certain cities.

HF917—Hugoson (IR)

Agriculture

Wholesale food processor, manufacturer, packager, and salvage food processor permits, certification and training required.

HF918—Winter (DFL)

Agriculture

Agricultural commodity supply management, orderly marketing, administration, and enforcement provided, minimum prices established for dairy and grain products, and money appropriated.

HF919—Swenson, D. (IR)

Governmental Operations

Lottery advertising restricted.

HF920—Mariani (DFL)

Education

American Indian tribal history, government, and culture included in staff development and teacher preparation curriculum, and graduation rule to include an understanding of American Indians.

HF921—Goodno (IR)

Labor-Management Relations

Workers' compensation benefits and procedures modified, and penalties provided.

HF922—Wejman (DFL)

Health & Human Services

WIC; Women, Infants, and Children Program appropriated money for modernization, outreach, and education.

HF923—Johnson, R. (DFL)

Governmental Operations

Correctional employees contribution rates and annuity formulas modified.

HF924—Winter (DFL)

Environment & Natural Resources

Groundwater exploration matching grant program established and money appropriated.

HF925—Johnson, R. (DFL)

Governmental Operations

Teacher retirement association members permitted to terminate membership in association.

HF926—Davids (IR)

Education

Independent School District No. 238, Mabel-Canton, debt service aid eligibility provided.

HF927—Bishop (IR)

Judiciary

Domestic abuse hearing requirement eliminated in certain cases, and notices provided.

HF928—Harder (IR)**Local Government & Metropolitan Affairs**

Lakefield tax increment financing districts established, state aid offset exemption provided, and regional tax capacity defined.

HF929—Boudreau (IR)**Judiciary**

Law enforcement agency forfeited firearms use restricted and sale authorized.

HF930—Kelley (DFL)**Regulated Industries & Energy**

Independent public pay telephone service providers granted access to telephone lines, and flat access rate provided.

HF931—Wagenius (DFL)**Transportation & Transit**

Highway user tax distribution fund used for public highways, bicycle and pedestrian paths, and public transit, fund apportionment provided, and constitutional amendment proposed.

HF932—Jaros (DFL)**Governmental Operations**

Duluth fire and police joint consolidation account benefit recomputations and adjustments provided for certain eligible retirees.

HF933—Farrell (DFL)**Health & Human Services**

Prescription drug price negotiation authority granted to administration commissioner, statewide drug formulary established, and pharmacists required to post signs relating to generic drug substitution.

HF934—Delmont (DFL)**Regulated Industries & Energy**

Liquor sale practices restricted between 9 p.m. and 1 a.m. to prohibit discounted prices, multiple drinks, and increased alcohol volume or percentage.

HF935—Farrell (DFL)**Judiciary**

Child support and enforcement provisions modified.

HF936—Swenson, D. (IR)**Judiciary**

Dram Shop Act extended imposing civil third-party liability for damages caused by intoxication of persons under 21, subrogation claims prohibited, and certain insurance exclusions prohibited.

HF937—Swenson, D. (IR)**Judiciary**

Failure to stop and give notification at the site of a traffic accident crime sentencing guidelines severity level increased.

HF938—Swenson, D. (IR)**Judiciary**

DWI; maximum allowable blood alcohol level lowered for operation of motor vehicles, snowmobiles, and motorboats.

HF939—Swenson, H. (IR)**Health & Human Services**

County welfare agency barred from court action to obtain child support in certain circumstances.

HF940—Macklin (IR)**Health & Human Services**

Welfare fraud provisions extended to family investment plan, AFDC lien enforcement method provided, and AFDC voluntary vendor payments authorized.

HF941—Osskopp (IR)**Environment & Natural Resources**

NSP; Radioactive waste management facility dry cask storage alternative site requirement eliminated.

HF942—Swenson, D. (IR)**Judiciary**

Teacher, coach, and other professional school staff criminal background checks required prior to employment.

HF943—Winter (DFL)**Local Government & Metropolitan Affairs**

Metropolitan Council diesel-powered transit buses to be installed with ethanol additive systems.

HF944—Tomassoni (DFL)**Governmental Operations**

Workers' compensation premium collection, employment classification, and procedure and benefit data classified, and penalties provided.

HF945—Swenson, D. (IR)**Judiciary**

Driving without a valid license and failure to provide or show proof of insurance crimes provided vehicle license plate impoundment penalty.

HF946—Rest (DFL)**Commerce, Tourism & Consumer Affairs**

Certified public accountant certification and licensure education requirements modified.

HF947—Johnson, R. (DFL)**Governmental Operations**

Department of Corrections and Department of Human Services security unit employees provided correctional employees retirement plan coverage.

HF948—Leppik (IR)**Health & Human Services**

Women's health institute established, and money appropriated.

HF949—Wagenius (DFL)**Environment & Natural Resources**

Carbon dioxide emission analysis included in the environmental review of proposed state projects.

HF950—Wejcman (DFL)**Health & Human Services**

U.S. Army zinc cadmium sulfide aerial spraying report required and attorney general review required.

HF951—Wejcman (DFL)**Health & Human Services**

Mental health professional defined for medical assistance coverage purposes.

HF952—Luther (DFL)**Transportation & Transit**

Professional sports team and olympic special license plate issuance authorized, fees dedicated to

the amateur sports commission account, and money appropriated.

HF953—Milbert (DFL)**Environment & Natural Resources**

Walleye and Northern Pike size limits modified.

HF954—Jefferson (DFL)**General Legislation, Veterans Affairs & Elections**

Campaigning on election day prohibition repealed.

HF955—Dehler (IR)**Local Government & Metropolitan Affairs**

Morrison County bond issuance authorized for fairgrounds improvements, and referendum required.

HF956—Dehler (IR)**Housing**

Stearns County Housing and Redevelopment Authority federal tax exempt revenue bond use regulated.

HF957—Goodno (IR)**Regulated Industries & Energy**

WAPA; President and Congress memorialized to abandon the proposed sale of the Western Area Power Administration.

HF958—Dehler (IR)**Governmental Operations**

Legislators' retirement law clarification provided.

HF959—Murphy (DFL)**Taxes**

Property tax value increase prohibited for homesteads owned by persons 65 years of age or older with certain income requirements.

HF960—Bettermann (IR)**Education**

School district aid receipt effect clarified.

HF961—Opatz (DFL)**Health & Human Services**

Health promotion and disease prevention state agency program for state employees extended, and money appropriated.

HF962—Hugoson (IR)**Education**

Independent School District No. 2536, Granada-Huntley-East Chain, allowed to make a fund transfer.

HF963—Smith (IR)**Education**

University of Minnesota Board of Regents U.S. citizenship required.

HF964—Murphy (DFL)**Education**

Independent School District No. 94, Cloquet, time and technology enhanced curriculum school pilot project funding continued, and money appropriated.

HF965—Finseth (IR)**Education**

Independent School District No. 595, East Grand Forks, authorized to use capital expenditure facilities revenue to acquire and construct buildings.

HF966—Entenza (DFL)

Judiciary

Child support and enforcement provisions modified, and money appropriated.

HF967—Sviggum (IR)

Commerce, Tourism & Consumer Affairs

Canada; Fish importation from Canada to Minnesota restrictions removed.

HF968—Smith (IR)

Governmental Operations

Teacher Retirement Association member service credit purchase for previously exempt service authorized.

HF969—Murphy (DFL)

Judiciary Finance

Criminal background check fee authorized and fund dedication provided.

HF970—Bertram (DFL)

Governmental Operations

Public Employees Retirement Association police and fire fund early retirement reduction factors changed.

HF971—Tunheim (DFL)

Transportation & Transit

Manufacturer motor vehicle test license plate issuance authorized.

Thursday, March 2

HF972—Clark (DFL)

Housing

Lead abatement law technical recodification provided.

HF973—Rukavina (DFL)

Labor-Management Relations

Boiler inspection provisions modified.

HF974—Vickerman (IR)

Health & Human Services

Department of Health environmental laboratory certification fee payment time schedules modified.

HF975—Boudreau (IR)

Health & Human Services

Home care Hospice Program home care service definition modified.

HF976—Orenstein (DFL)

Ways & Means

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

HF977—Kelley (DFL)

Education

Library accessibility grant requirements modified, internet revenue and access grants established, on-line service provider contracts provided, and money appropriated.

HF978—Solberg (DFL)

Judiciary

Law enforcement agency use of forfeited weapons provisions modified.

HF979—Osthoff (DFL)

Transportation & Transit

Port development assistance provided, grant and loan application provisions specified, port development project cost payment provided, and money appropriated.

HF980—Skoglund (DFL)

Judiciary

Manslaughter in the first degree definition modified.

HF981—Skoglund (DFL)

Judiciary

Manslaughter in the first degree reasonable person standard clarified, and murder in the first degree acts clarified.

HF982—Rest (DFL)

Taxes

Wholesale drug distributor payments from federal agencies and instrumentalities exempted from gross revenue tax.

HF983—Lourey (DFL)

Health & Human Services

Emergency medical services advisory council, maternal and child health advisory task force, and state community health advisory committee reinstatement provided.

HF984—Wejcman (DFL)

Commerce, Tourism & Consumer Affairs

Minneapolis authorized to issue an on-sale intoxicating liquor license to the local branch of the American Association of University Women.

HF985—Johnson, R. (DFL)

Environment & Natural Resources

Akeley land conveyance from Department of Natural Resources commissioner required.

HF986—Wenzel (DFL)

Education

Independent School District No. 482, Little Falls, fund transfer authorized.

HF987—Murphy (DFL)

Judiciary

Criminal arraignment and first court appearance interactive video system use provided.

HF988—Perl (DFL)

Education

New housing developer school impact fee permitted.

HF989—Murphy (DFL)

Education

Student operated business grant program established, and money appropriated.

HF990—Entenza (DFL)

Commerce, Tourism & Consumer Affairs

Disabled and handicapped assistive device warranties provided.

HF991—Sviggum (IR)

Education

School district architectural barrier removal levy restrictions modified.

HF992—Pugh (DFL)

Judiciary

Computer matching agreement requirement sunset eliminated.

HF993—Jaros (DFL)

International Trade & Economic Development

International council established to coordinate the international activities of state government.

HF994—Pugh (DFL)

Judiciary

National Guard and Department of Military Affairs weapons prohibition exemption provided.

HF995—Johnson, R. (DFL)

Governmental Operations

Police state aid excess aid amounts disposition provided to fund an additional amortization aid program.

HF996—Solberg (DFL)

Education

Terminated education support employees of dissolved districts provided employment.

HF997—Delmont (DFL)

Governmental Operations

Legislative joint administrative services provided, and legislative commissions and programs abolished.

HF998—Wejcman (DFL)

Health & Human Services

Day care program licensure required for provision of services to preschool and school age children.

HF999—Greiling (DFL)

General Legislation, Veterans Affairs & Elections

Ethical Practices Board definitions clarified, enforcement powers strengthened, lobbyist activity disclosure requirements expanded, contribution report requirements modified, campaign finance requirements modified, and penalties provided.

HF1000—Johnson, A. (DFL)

Education

Late activity bus provisions clarified.

HF1001—Rukavina (DFL)

Governmental Operations

Women in Military Service Memorial at Arlington National Cemetery contribution appropriation provided.

HF1002—Rukavina (DFL)

Governmental Operations

State accounting procedures modified, dollar threshold for gifts to the state changed, state debt collection procedures modified, and petroleum tank release cleanup account terminology modified.

HF1003—Huntley (DFL)

Health & Human Services

X-ray equipment operator examination and certification required, and advisory committee established.

HF1004—Sviggum (IR)**Education**

School districts authorized to levy for special assessments.

HF1005—Onnen (IR)**Health & Human Services**

Mental health services pilot projects authorized, related condition definition modified, consumer support grant program established, home care and waived services assessment provided, and home and community-based services modified.

HF1006—Jaros (DFL)**Health & Human Services**

Prescription drug price negotiation authority granted to administration commissioner, state-wide drug formulary established, and pharmacists required to post signs relating to generic drug substitution.

HF1007—Ness (IR)**Education**

Advanced placement and international baccalaureate programs funded, and money appropriated.

HF1008—Bradley (IR)**Judiciary**

Child support, custody, and visitation proceeding orientation and education program established.

HF1009—McElroy (IR)**Transportation & Transit**

Drivers' license reinstatement fee waived in certain cases.

HF1010—Kalis (DFL)**Capital Investment**

Water and Soil Resources Board project bond proceed financing report requirements modified.

HF1011—McElroy (IR)**Transportation & Transit**

Radar speed measuring equipment jamming device sale, use, and possession prohibited.

HF1012—Dorn (DFL)**Governmental Operations**

Gambling Control Board account created for payment of pull-tab dispensing test cost reimbursement, and money appropriated.

HF1013—Greenfield (DFL)**Transportation & Transit**

Jerry Haaf memorial drive designated on Trunk Highway No. 55 in Minneapolis.

HF1014—Hausman (DFL)**Environment & Natural Resources**

Wind energy conversion system siting regulated, and rulemaking authorized.

HF1015—Hausman (DFL)**Environment & Natural Resources**

Environmental Quality Board Environmental Review Program modified.

HF1016—Jaros (DFL)**Governmental Operations**

Duluth Teachers Retirement Association postretirement benefit increase mechanism modified.

HF1017—Huntley (DFL)**Education**

Duluth Family Practice Residency Program facility capital loan provided, bonds issued, and money appropriated.

HF1018—Trimble (DFL)**Environment & Natural Resources**

Chlorofluorocarbon state regulation brought into compliance with federal law.

HF1019—Trimble (DFL)**Transportation & Transit**

Native plant program established for highway rest areas, and money appropriated.

HF1020—Trimble (DFL)**Agriculture**

Aquatic pest control applicator licensure required.

HF1021—Ness (IR)**Health & Human Services**

Nursing home geographic group provisions modified.

HF1022—Carruthers (DFL)**Commerce, Tourism & Consumer Affairs**

Real property goods warranty transferability required.

HF1023—Huntley (DFL)**Education**

Rural psychiatry program established at the University of Minnesota Duluth campus.

HF1024—Lieder (DFL)**Economic Development, Infrastructure & Regulation Finance**

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

HF1025—Huntley (DFL)**Health & Human Services**

Day training and habilitation services payment rate variance provisions modified.

HF1026—Entenza (DFL)**Judiciary Finance**

Crime Victim and Witness Advisory Council expiration date extended.

HF1027—Peterson (DFL)**Environment & Natural Resources**

Environmental legal assistance pilot project established, and money appropriated.

HF1028—Opatz (DFL)**Health & Human Services**

St. Cloud Hospital-Mayo Family Practice Residency Program appropriated money.

HF1029—Milbert (DFL)**Taxes**

Manufactured home park property tax class rate changed.

HF1030—Kahn (DFL)**Governmental Operations**

Lieutenant Governor office abolished, and constitutional amendment proposed.

HF1031—Van Engen (IR)**Health & Human Services**

Regional treatment center fund use designated.

HF1032—Tuma (IR)**Education**

Children with specific learning disabilities pilot program established.

HF1033—Greiling (DFL)**Health & Human Services**

Prescription drug price negotiation authority granted to administration commissioner, state-wide drug formulary established, and pharmacists required to post signs relating to generic drug substitution.

HF1034—Brown (DFL)**Judiciary Finance**

Corrections industries product purchase required by state agencies.

HF1035—Wejcman (DFL)**Health & Human Services**

Family Preservation Act modified, human services interpretive guidelines defined, and foster care licensure and Drop-in Child Care Program provisions modified.

HF1036—Orenstein (DFL)**Ways & Means**

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.

HF1037—Huntley (DFL)**Health & Human Services**

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

HF1038—Delmont (DFL)**Judiciary**

Sport shooting ranges exempted from noise liability.

HF1039—Milbert (DFL)**Local Government & Metropolitan Affairs**

Dakota County administrator assigned county board clerk duties.

HF1040—Kahn (DFL)**Governmental Operations**

State university and community college faculty retirement provisions modified, part-time faculty participation provided, and investment options provided.

HF1041—Jennings (DFL)**Commerce, Tourism & Consumer Affairs**

Public building and construction contracts regulated, indemnification and insurance agreements provided, and mechanics liens regulated.

HF1042—Dawkins (DFL)**Governmental Operations**

St. Paul Teachers Retirement Fund Association articles of incorporation and bylaw amendments authorized to provide postretirement adjustments.

HF1043—McElroy (IR)
Governmental Operations
Office of the State Treasurer abolished and constitutional amendment proposed.

HF1044—Tomassoni (DFL)
Governmental Operations
School districts authorized to offer early retirement incentives, and teachers permitted to purchase service credit for teaching service in other states.

HF1045—Marko (DFL)
General Legislation, Veterans Affairs & Elections
Vietnam veterans claims assistance provided, and money appropriated.

HF1046—Kinkel (DFL)
Education
Teacher licensure alternative measures task force established.

HF1047—Bakk (DFL)
Local Government & Metropolitan Affairs
Landfarming contaminated soil reporting to unincorporated townships requirements modified.

HF1048—Entenza (DFL)
Commerce, Tourism & Consumer Affairs
Videotape distribution, sale, and rental regulated, and captioning for deaf or hearing-impaired persons required.

HF1049—Mahon (DFL)
Transportation & Transit
Emergency rescue vehicles exempted from registration tax and fees.

HF1050—Jennings (DFL)
Commerce, Tourism & Consumer Affairs
Rental-purchase agreement lease services cost regulation provided.

HF1051—Koppendrayr (IR)
Education
Education Board eliminated, State Education Advisory Council created, and duties transferred.

HF1052—Entenza (DFL)
Commerce, Tourism & Consumer Affairs
Federal Lien Registration Act provisions modified.

HF1053—Kelso (DFL)
Education
Federal special education references provided, state aid provided for certain school district litigation costs, and money appropriated.

HF1054—Van Dellen (IR)
Transportation & Transit
Railroad grade crossing repair and safety device installation provided by cities and counties, and cost apportionment provided.

HF1055—Dauner (DFL)
Environment & Natural Resources
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.

HF1056—Garcia (DFL)
Transportation & Transit
Senior citizen driver's license and identification cards to contain transit symbol, employer payroll transit program tax imposed, and public transit route and schedule change planning and consultation required.

HF1057—Hugoson (IR)
Local Government & Metropolitan Affairs
Feedlot local government regulatory authority limited.

HF1058—Orenstein (DFL)
Governmental Operations
Housing Finance Agency Civil Service Pilot Project waiver requirement clarification provided.

HF1059—Orenstein (DFL)
Governmental Operations
Government Innovation and Cooperation Board to study the elimination of unfunded state mandates, and money appropriated.

HF1060—Pugh (DFL)
Local Government & Metropolitan Affairs
South St. Paul fire and police department employees excluded from civil service.

HF1061—Greenfield (DFL)
Education
STARS telecommunication program to include public and private schools as eligible system recipients and users.

HF1062—Simoneau (DFL)
Judiciary
Product liability claim state-of-the-art defense established.

HF1063—Huntley (DFL)
Environment & Natural Resources
Duluth storm water infiltration and inflow prevention demonstration project authorized.

HF1064—Johnson, R. (DFL)
Commerce, Tourism & Consumer Affairs
Automatic sprinkler installation required in existing high-rise buildings.

HF1065—Rukavina (DFL)
Transportation & Transit
St. Louis County road and bridge fund accounting and expenditure requirements modified.

HF1066—Knoblach (IR)
Capital Investment
Department of Finance commissioner to establish listing of state bonds and certificates of indebtedness.

HF1067—Van Engen (IR)
Judiciary
Health Care Provider Transition Plan, birth registration, immunization and other health related data access provisions modified.

HF1068—Abrams (IR)
Governmental Operations
Bipartisan congressional and legislative reapportionment commission established, and constitutional amendment proposed.

HF1069—Huntley (DFL)
Judiciary
Contract for deed mortgagees required to provide vendees with default notice.

HF1070—Abrams (IR)
Ways & Means
State agency fee cap provided.

HF1071—Vickerman (IR)
Labor-Management Relations
Workers' compensation rate calculation modified.

HF1072—Vickerman (IR)
Governmental Operations
Springfield hospital and clinic physicians provided public employees retirement association membership termination.

HF1073—Simoneau (DFL)
Transportation & Transit
Transit and paratransit facilities and equipment financing authorized, and metro mobility capital cost funding limitations removed.

HF1074—Hausman (DFL)
Governmental Operations
Unicameral legislature provided with 102 to 135 members, and constitutional amendment proposed.

HF1075—Vickerman (IR)
Judiciary
State adoption exchange listing required for all children freed for adoption within 20 days.

HF1076—Rhodes (IR)
Judiciary
Absent parent child support liability and parentage recognition provisions modified, administrative proceedings added, and child support collection provisions expanded.

HF1077—Greenfield (DFL)
Health & Human Services
MinnesotaCare; integrated service network requirements established, penalties provided, and money appropriated.

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 6

8 a.m.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, INFRASTRUCTURE & REGULATION FINANCE

300N State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Jim Rice

Agenda: Department of Public Service. Minnesota Community Action Association: weatherization, energy assistance, head start, community services block grants.

University of Minnesota Finance Division/ EDUCATION

300S State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Becky Kelso

Agenda: Presentation of reports by Dr. Josie Johnson, associate vice president for Academic Affairs with responsibility for Minority Affairs, University of Minnesota. A five year progress report on tenure and tenure track faculty and academic administrators of color: recruitment and retention. A five year progress report on the status of students of color: enrollment and graduation rate.

K-12 Education Finance Division/ EDUCATION

5 State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Alice Johnson

Agenda: Public testimony on Article 4 (community education) and Article 8 (other education programs) of the governor's budget recommendations.

Property Tax & Tax Increment Financing Division/ TAXES

200 State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Ted Winter

Agenda: HF91 (Johnson, V.) Conservation credit pilot program established in Houston County, property tax credits provided, and money appropriated.

HF260 (Munger) Western Lake Superior sanitary district bonding authority allocation provided.

HF322 (Pugh) Apartment property tax class rate reduction provided over a two-year period.

HF449 (Mulder) Pipestone County bond issuance authorized for county courthouse repair.

HF684 (Van Engen) Recreational property occupied by a relative homestead qualification time period reduced.

HF188 (Knight) Valuation exclusion for improvements to certain residential property (This Old House Law) provided.

8:30 a.m.

ENVIRONMENT & NATURAL RESOURCES FINANCE

Basement Hearing Room

State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Chuck Brown

Agenda: Department of Natural Resources budget presentation.

10 a.m.

AGRICULTURE

200 State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Steve Wenzel

Agenda: HF363 (Winter) Farmer-Lender Mediation Act sunset date eliminated.

HF486 (Peterson) Value-Added Agricultural Product Loan Program eligibility expanded, and money appropriated.

GOVERNMENTAL OPERATIONS

Basement Hearing Room

State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Phyllis Kahn

Agenda: Presentation on appropriation authority of the legislative and executive branches, Office of the Legislative Auditor.

HF595 (Osskopp) Finance commissioner granted authority over debts owed to the state.

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

JUDICIARY

Basement Hearing Room

State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Wes Skoglund

Agenda: HF544 (Hasskamp) Informal probate guide prepared by state court administrator, and money appropriated.

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

HF367 (Macklin) Municipal subcontractor prompt payment provided; and statutory lienholder rights and performance bond provisions modified.

HF651 (Macklin) Uniform probate code provi-

sions modified, safe deposit box search authority expanded, division and merger of trusts provisions modified, and power-of-attorney granted to spouses in certain cases.

HF529 (Pugh) Eminent domain notice of pendency provisions modified.

HF272 (Lynch) Interference with privacy crime to include intrusion on occupants of hotel sleeping rooms and tanning booths.

HF735 (Entenza) Concealing identity crime exception provided based on religious beliefs or cultural practices.

HF279 (Solberg) Public defender dismissal causes restricted, and dismissal and appeal procedures provided.

REGULATED INDUSTRIES & ENERGY

10 State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Joel Jacobs

Agenda: Department of Public Service telecommunications bill.

HF620 (Olson, E.) Telephone company alternative regulation provided for limited periods, local exchange service competition promoted, and technical provisions modified.

HF323 (Dawkins) Nursing facility rental per diem adjustment allowed.

Reports, Mandates, Litigation and Free Speech Issues Working Group/Joint Higher Education Finance Division and University of Minnesota Finance Division/EDUCATION

300N State Office Building

Chrs. Reps. Tony Kinkel, Becky Kelso

Agenda: Continuation of agendas from past meetings.

12:30 p.m.

Elections Division/ GENERAL LEGISLATION, VETERANS AFFAIRS & ELECTIONS

400N State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Richard Jefferson

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

HF289 (Jefferson) Election law modification and clarification provided.

HOUSING

500S State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Karen Clark

Agenda: HF712 (Luther) Brooklyn Park rental tax equity pilot project established, and money appropriated.

HF380 (Dawkins) Metropolitan area home-

stead program established; contract for deed home purchase assistance provided; construction community impact statements required; rental tax equity pilot project 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.

Subcommittee on Veterans Affairs/

GENERAL LEGISLATION,

VETERANS AFFAIRS & ELECTIONS

300N State Office Building

Chrs. Reps. Betty McCollum, Joe Opatz

Agenda: To be announced.

2:30 p.m.

The House meets in Session.

Immediately following Session

REGULATED INDUSTRIES & ENERGY

10 State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Joel Jacobs

Agenda: Continuation of morning agenda.

4 p.m.

Higher Education Finance Division/ EDUCATION

300S State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Tony Kinkel

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

Presentations by Frank Viggiano, executive director, Minnesota State University Student Association; Chris Lynch, president, Minnesota Community College Student Association; Roy Taylor, executive director, Minnesota College Student Association.

6 p.m.

K-12 Education Finance Division/ EDUCATION

St. Paul Technical College

Chr. Rep. Alice Johnson

Agenda: Governor's budget recommendations.

TUESDAY, March 7

8 a.m.

EDUCATION

200 State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Lyndon Carlson

Agenda: Continuation of presentation by the State Board of Education on proposed draft of the desegregation rule.

JUDICIARY FINANCE

5 State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Mary Murphy

Agenda: Agency budget presentations: Tax Court, Sentencing Guidelines Commission. Working groups will be assigned. Agency and program directors should be present to meet with working group members.

Transportation Finance Division/ ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, INFRASTRUCTURE & REGULATION FINANCE

500S State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Bernie Lieder

Agenda: HF210 (Carlson) Minnesota identification card fee changed.

HF395 (Marko) Road powered electric vehicle (RPEV) demonstration project and study appropriated money.

HF794 (Clark) Motor vehicle transfer fee sunset repealed, and fee receipts credited to the lead fund.

SF50 (Ourada); HF6 (Anderson, B.) Betty Adkins Bridge designated in Elk River on trunk highway Nos. 101 and 169 connecting Wright and Sherburne counties.

8:30 a.m.

ENVIRONMENT & NATURAL RESOURCES FINANCE

Basement Hearing Room

State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Chuck Brown

Agenda: Department of Natural Resources budget presentation.

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: Continuation of agendas from past meetings.

GOVERNMENTAL OPERATIONS

Basement Hearing Room

State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Phyllis Kahn

Agenda: Any bills not completed at the March 2nd meeting.

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

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

10 State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Bob Anderson

Agenda: HF432 (Sykora) Child abuse investigation liability provisions modified, attorney fees provided, abuse investigation protocols established, and data access provided.

HF61 (Onnen) Long-term care localization advisory commission established, and report and plan required.

HF510 (Clark) Pesticide poisoning treatment included as an emergency service for general assistance medical care eligibility purposes, pesticide poisoning reporting and education required, and money appropriated.

HF682 (Carruthers) Health plan carrier organizational provisions modified.

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

HF813 (Brown) Intermediate care facilities for persons with mental retardation or related conditions temporary payment rate established.

Property Tax &

Tax Increment Financing Division/ TAXES

200 State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Ted Winter

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

All committee members are welcome to attend the hearing for testimony and debate on the bill.

12:30 p.m.

COMMERCE, TOURISM & CONSUMER AFFAIRS

10 State Office Building

Chr. Rep. John Sarna

Agenda: HF108 (Simoneau) Tobacco retailer inspections, training, and reports required.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT & METROPOLITAN AFFAIRS

200 State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Dee Long

Agenda: HF653 (Perlt) Oakdale tax increment financing districts exempted from certain restrictions.

HF810 (Dorn) Mankato authorized to establish tax increment financing districts, and aid offset exemption provided.

HF928 (Harder) Lakefield tax increment financing districts established, state aid offset exemption provided, and regional tax capacity defined.

HF955 (Dehler) Morrison County bond issu-

ance authorized for fairgrounds improvements, and referendum required.

HF585 (Orfield) Metropolitan government obsolete references removed and language clarified.

HF763 (Farrell) St. Paul tax increment financing districts exempted from certain aid offsets. HF912 (Osskopp) Lake City tax increment financing district duration extended.

2:30 p.m.

HOUSING

500N State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Karen Clark

Agenda: HF380 (Dawkins) Metropolitan area homestead program established; contract for deed home purchase assistance provided; construction community impact statements required; rental tax equity pilot project established, and money appropriated.

4:30 p.m.

EDUCATION

200 State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Lyndon Carlson

Agenda: HF610 (Farrell) Truancy prevention and school safety projects appropriated money.

WEDNESDAY, March 8

8 a.m.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, INFRASTRUCTURE & REGULATION FINANCE

300N State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Jim Rice

Agenda: Minnesota Technology, Inc.

Higher Education Finance Division/ EDUCATION

300S State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Tony Kinkel

Agenda: HF412 (Bertram) Community colleges, state universities, and technical colleges required to use construction plans prepared through the Department of Administration. HF487 (Pelowski) State university and college library appropriations exempted from the one-third debt service requirement.

K-12 Education Finance Division/ EDUCATION

5 State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Alice Johnson

Agenda: Article 10 of governor's budget (public libraries). Any bills relating to Article 10.

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: Department of Natural Resources budget presentation.

Higher Education

Board Candidate Advisory Council

123 State Capitol

Agenda: Election of 1995 chair and vice chair. Briefings by Governor Carlson or his representative; Gary Mohrenweiser, chair, HEB; Jay Noren, chancellor, HEB. HEB/CAC procedures: statute review, Tom Stafford, Senate Counsel and Research. Recruitment finalized. Selection and balloting process finalized (including issue of attendance at interviews).

10 a.m.

ENVIRONMENT & NATURAL RESOURCES

200 State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Willard Munger

Agenda: HF672 (Wagenius) Waste Management Act provisions modified. (Meeting to be continued at 4:30 p.m. or after caucus, whichever comes first).

FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS & INSURANCE

10 State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Wayne Simoneau

Agenda: HF677 (Tomassoni) Insurance coverage regulated, and notice provisions, enforcement provisions, fees, and licenses modified, and technical changes provided.

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

Subcommittee on Civil Law/JUDICIARY

Basement Hearing Room

State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Tom Pugh

Agenda: HF348 (Kinkel) Child support arrearage interest accrual provisions modified.

HF935 (Farrell) Child support and enforcement provisions modified.

HF966 (Entenza) Child support and enforcement provisions modified, and money appropriated.

HF1076 (Rhodes) Child support modifications.

HF845 (Swenson, D.) Child support obligation and enforcement provisions modified.

12:30 p.m.

Business Regulation Division/ COMMERCE, TOURISM & CONSUMER AFFAIRS

500N State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Loren Jennings

Agenda: Begin work on division bill.

TRANSPORTATION & TRANSIT

10 State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Jim Tunheim

Agenda: HF439 (Onnen) Alternative fuel vehicle permit fee partial refund allowed, and money appropriated.

HF175 (Knoblach) Bridge of hope designated on Trunk Highway No. 15 crossing the Mississippi River near St. Cloud.

HF654 (Lieder) Town board authority clarified to alter or vacate town roads dedicated by plat. HF568 (Frerichs) Eye protection required for motorcycle riders.

WAYS & MEANS

Basement Hearing Room

State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Loren Solberg

Agenda: Report on February forecast, Laura King, commissioner, Department of Finance.

1 p.m.

INTERNATIONAL TRADE & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

500S State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Mike Jaros

Agenda: HF869 (Clark) Businesses receiving state financial assistance required to pay a living wage and increase employment.

HF873 (Van Dellen) Advantage Minnesota Inc., economic development corporate structure modified.

HF885 (Lourey) Microenterprise support program established, and money appropriated.

HFXXX (Jaros) Establishing the Minnesota International Council.

4 p.m.

University of Minnesota Finance Division/ EDUCATION

300S State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Becky Kelso

Agenda: Presentation on the future of the Academic Health Center at the University of Minnesota, William Brody, M.D., Ph.D., provost,

Academic Health Center, University of Minnesota.

4:30 p.m. or after caucus

**ENVIRONMENT &
NATURAL RESOURCES**

200 State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Willard Munger

Agenda: Continuation of morning agenda.

4:30 p.m.

**Subcommittee on Administrative Rules/
GOVERNMENTAL OPERATIONS**

300N State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Mindy Greiling

Agenda: HF830 (Greiling) Administrative rule adoption and review procedures revised.

**Subcommittee on Data Practices/
JUDICIARY**

Basement Hearing Room
State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Mary Jo McGuire

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

HF257 (McGuire) Tax data classification provisions modified.

HF538 (McGuire) Secretary of state authorized access to individuals' social security numbers in certain circumstances.

HF546 (McGuire) Child abuse victim videotape release limited.

HF376 (Van Engen) Department of Economic Security data classification provided.

Other bills to be announced.

**Subcommittee on Rules/RULES &
LEGISLATIVE ADMINISTRATION**

400N State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Betty McCollum

Agenda: Permanent Rules of the House.

6 p.m.

**Legislative Commission on
Pensions and 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.

HF493 (Jefferson) Minneapolis Employees Retirement Fund health insurance administrative provisions modified.

SF460 (Metzen); HF689 (Pugh) West St. Paul Police Relief Association deceased member spouse benefit eligibility provided.

Increase in Fire State Aid apportionments.

SF17 (Bertram); HF48 (Bertram) Firefighter state aid funding increase provided.

HF134 (Bertram) Firefighter state aid funding increase provided.

HF155 (Cooper) Firefighter state aid funding increase provided.

HF163 (Leighton) Firefighter state aid increase provided.

HF165 (Schumacher) Firefighter state aid funding increase provided.

SF256 (Runbeck); HF313 (Hackbarth) Gross premium insurance company tax rates changed.

HF424 (Hasskamp) Firefighter state aid funding increase provided.

HF755 (Johnson, R.) Insurance company gross premium tax rate modified for fire, lightning, and sprinkler coverage.

SF754 (Solon); HF864 (Jefferson) Insurance company gross premium tax rate modified.

HF947 (Johnson, R.) Department of Corrections and Department of Human Services security unit employees provided correctional employees retirement plan coverage.

SF149 (Chandler); HF128 (McCollum) North St. Paul city manager allowed to retain membership in public employees police and fire fund.
HF223 (Skoglund) Minneapolis Employees Retirement Fund member granted temporary survivor benefit option.

SF643 (Langseth); HF688 (Dauner) Water quality best management practices assessment required, well sealing cost share grants increased, and money appropriated.

SF725 (Kelly); HF799 (Trimble) Conservation easement assessment benefit determination, zoning and planning, Metropolitan Council land use decisions, and metropolitan agricultural preserves provisions clarified.

HF968 (Smith) Teacher Retirement Association member service credit purchase for previously exempt service authorized.

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.

7 p.m.

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

Central Middle School, White Bear Lake
Chr. Rep. Alice Johnson

Agenda: Governor's budget recommendations.

**Joint Working Group on Victim Services/
Government Efficiency & Oversight Division/
WAYS & MEANS/JUDICIARY FINANCE**

500S State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Howard Orenstein

Agenda: Open testimony.

THURSDAY, March 9

8 a.m.

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT,
INFRASTRUCTURE &
REGULATION FINANCE**

300N State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Jim Rice

Agenda: Public Utilities Commission.

EDUCATION

200 State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Lyndon Carlson

Agenda: HF702 (Lieder) School safety patrols authorized to include nonpupil adults as members.

HF868 (Johnson, A.) Children's services assessment and case management procedures report required.

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.

JUDICIARY FINANCE

500N State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Mary Murphy

Agenda: Agency budget presentations: Private Detectives Board, Ombudsman for Corrections, Board of Judicial Standards. (If agenda is not completed, it will be continued later at an announced time.)

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

10 State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Roger Cooper

Agenda: To be announced.

8:30 a.m.

**ENVIRONMENT &
NATURAL RESOURCES FINANCE**

Basement Hearing Room
State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Chuck Brown

Agenda: Department of Natural Resources budget presentation.

10 a.m.

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

10 State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Bob Anderson

Agenda: To be announced.

TAXES

200 State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Ann H. Rest

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

12:30 p.m.

**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: HF859 (Clark) Minneapolis authorized to determine method for sale of unclaimed property.
HF715 (Schumacher) Town board adoption of recorded town road map damages paid to property owners.
HF717 (Cooper) Town roads crossing state lands official confirmation provided.
HF866 (Osskopp) Home rule charter and statutory cities authorized to make grants to non-profit community food shelves.

**Subcommittee on Real Estate and Commerce/
COMMERCE, TOURISM &
CONSUMER AFFAIRS**

10 State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Walter Perl
Agenda: HF817 (Marko) Residential real estate transaction disclosure form designed by Department of Commerce commissioner and use implemented.
Other bills may be added.

2:30 p.m.

The House meets in Session.

After Session

AGRICULTURE

200 State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Steve Wenzel
Agenda: HF622 (Tunheim) Wetland management and protection provisions modified.

**RULES &
LEGISLATIVE ADMINISTRATION**

400N State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Phil Carruthers
Agenda: Permanent Rules of the House.

One half hour after Session

**Government Efficiency &
Oversight Division/WAYS & MEANS**

500S State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Howard Orenstein
Agenda: HF1036 (Orenstein) Relating to state departments; abolishing the Department of Public Safety, the Higher Education Coordinating Board, the Minnesota Racing Commission, the Gambling Control Board, and the Department of Public Service; transferring certain responsibilities and personnel to other state agencies; creating new agencies; reducing certain appropriations.

(Testimony only. No vote will be taken.)

FRIDAY, March 10

8 a.m.

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

Basement Hearing Room
State Office Building
Chrs. Reps. Tony Kinkel, Becky Kelso
Agenda: Overview of private colleges, Dr. Larry Osnes, president, Hamline University; other private college faculty and students. Overview of private college financial aid report, Jon McGee, vice president, Research and Policy Development, Minnesota Private College Council; Dr. David Laird, president, Minnesota Private College Council.

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

5 State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Alice Johnson
Agenda: Presentation of Article 11 of governor's budget (discontinued/nonrecurring programs).

**Transportation Finance Division/
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT,
INFRASTRUCTURE &
REGULATION FINANCE**

500S State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Bernie Lieder
Agenda: To be announced.

10 a.m.

**ENVIRONMENT &
NATURAL RESOURCES**

200 State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Willard Munger
Agenda: HF713 (Winter) Feedlot regulatory authority granted to local governments.
HFXXXX (Johnson, V.) Pollution Control Agency water quality initiative.
Other bills to be announced.

**Gambling Division/
GOVERNMENTAL OPERATIONS**

500N State Office Building
Chr. Rep. John Dorn
Agenda: SF46 (Metzen); HF364 (Pugh) Lawful purpose expenditures; gross profit percentage increase provided for expenditure for allowable expenses.
HF542 (Pellow) Lawful purpose expenditures by or to tax exempt organizations regulated.
Other bills may be added.

**Government Efficiency &
Oversight Division/WAYS & MEANS**

500S State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Howard Orenstein
Agenda: HF976 (Orenstein) Relating to state government; establishing various pilot projects to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of state agencies.
HF1036 (Orenstein) Relating to state departments; abolishing the Department of Public Safety, the Higher Education Coordinating Board, the Minnesota Racing Commission, the Gambling Control Board, and the Department of Public Service; transferring certain responsibilities and personnel to other state agencies; creating new agencies; reducing certain appropriations.
Testimony only, no vote.

JUDICIARY

5 State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Wes Skoglund
Agenda: Public input and reaction to the legislative auditor's report, *Residential Facilities for Juvenile Offenders*. Interactive TV will be used for citizen input from Duluth.

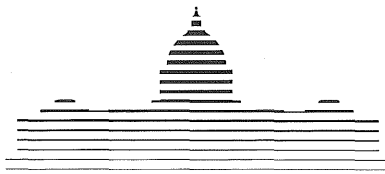
**Subcommittee on Transportation Safety/
TRANSPORTATION & TRANSIT**

10 State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Mark Mahon
Agenda: HF848 (Luther) Metropolitan Council transit vehicle security measure appropriations provided.

1:30 p.m.

Subcommittee on Civil Law/JUDICIARY

Basement Hearing Room
State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Tom Pugh
Agenda: Any bill not completed on March 8th agenda.
HF628 (Bishop) Parental right termination; presumption of refusal or neglect of parental duties created.
HF53 (Lourey) Grandparent and great-grandparent visitation rights expanded.
HF117 (Smith) Visitation interference or denial provided as grounds for custody order modification.
HF118 (Smith) Child support fund use accounting required by support recipients.
HF421 (Smith) Noncustodial parent child care authorized in certain cases.
HF418 (Hackbarth) Child support order modification grounds established by existence of other children.
HF239 (Osskopp) Marriage contracts provided and pre-marriage counseling required.



MINNESOTA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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Speaker of the House: Irv Anderson
Majority Leader: Phil Carruthers
Minority Leader: Steven A. Sviggum

MINNESOTA INDEX

Minnesota housing

Number of Minnesota households, 1990	1,647,853
Households without a telephone	39,548
Households made up of people who live alone	1 in 4
Percent of households that are renters	28.2
Median rent, statewide	\$422
Percentage of change in the number of households in Dakota County during the 1980s	53.4
Percentage of change in the number of households in Big Stone County during the 1980s	-14.3
Hennepin County homes valued at more than \$100,000	1 in 4
In Dakota County	1 in 3
Number of Minnesota households paying more than \$1,000 monthly rent	3,480
Number paying less than \$250	103,986
As a percent of all rental households	22.4
Number of Minnesota's 87 counties with no rental housing priced over \$499 per month, 1990	3
Number of mobile homes and trailers in Minnesota, 1990	90,546
In St. Louis County, most in Minnesota	5,052
In Jackson County, fewest in Minnesota	108
Median household income for mobile home and trailer owners	\$25,724
For all other homeowners	\$41,988
Reported median purchase price paid by residents of a mobile home	\$13,553
Median price of an existing single-family home in the 7-county Metro area, 1993	\$98,740
Residential building permits issued in the seven-county Metro area, 1993 ...	15,882
In 1988	18,850
Funds allocated for the state Transitional Housing Program, FY1993-94 ..	\$860,000
Households served by the program, FY1993	667

Sources: *Population Notes*, May 1992, Minnesota Planning Agency; *1990 Census of Housing, Detailed Housing Characteristics: Minnesota*, U.S. Department of Commerce, U.S. Census Bureau, 1993; *Manufactured Homes and Manufactured Home Parks, Treatment in Minnesota Law*, House Research Department; Minnesota Department of Economic Security.



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