

SESSION WEEKLY

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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
TTY (612) 296-9896

Director
LeClair G. Lambert

Assistant Director/Editor
Peg Hamerston

Assistant Editor
Nick Healy

Art & Production Coordinator
Paul Battaglia

Writers
Sandy Donovan, Grant Martin,
Jim Thielman, Matt Wetzel,
Nicole Wood

Photographers
Tom Olmscheid, Laura Phillips,
Andrew Von Bank

Office Manager
Toinette L. B. Bettis

Staff Assistants
Ken Kaffine, Mary Newcomb

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Reflections

The governor's State of the State message to state officials and lawmakers is one of the many governmental duties guided by the tradition of protocol.

In Minnesota's bicameral Legislature, the constitutionally mandated "... message to each session of the Legislature ..." becomes a joint meeting of 201 members, with both the speaker of the House and the president of the Senate presiding. The governor, other constitutional officers, and judges are invited guests.

Protocol dictates that on the day of the governor's speech, around 11:45 a.m., senators, led by their chief sergeant-at-arms, and other officials are escorted to the House chamber by designated legislators and by representatives of the military.

The House chief sergeant-at-arms announces each arrival, then is given permission by the speaker for the guests to enter the chamber. The governor is the last dignitary to enter, and begins the message promptly at noon.

Gov. Henry H. Sibley, the state's first chief executive, and the six governors who served over the next 21 years gave an annual address during each year of their two-year terms in office. Legislators met on an annual basis. From 1881 to 1971, the Legislature met biennially, so the governor gave only a biennial report of progress in the state. Since 1973, the governor has once again reported annually to the legislators who meet each year of a two-year session.

In 1969, Gov. Harold LeVander added "State of the State" as the name of the official report to Minnesotans.

For 140 years, most governors' messages or inaugural addresses have been given in the legislative chambers under protocol. But Gov. Rudy Perpich, in 1983, delivered a separate inaugural address at Hibbing High School.

Likewise, in 1988, he had legislators and other officials load onto four buses at the Capitol, and travel 110 miles away for an evening State of the State speech at Winona State University.

In 1990, Perpich's last message occurred at Bloomington Jefferson High School. His speech did not focus on the state's condition, the budget, or even revenue forecasts. The 15-minute message focused on building a drug-free environment. Again breaking protocol, the address was written by David Carr, a free-lance writer and recovering cocaine addict.

Gov. Arne Carlson made his final State of the State address on Feb. 4 in the House chamber (*See related story, page 17*) but his 1996 message was given to the Minnesota Chamber of Commerce at a hotel miles from the Capitol in the near southwest suburbs. A different audience. And for the first time, State of the State guests ate dinner and paid \$60 per person for chamber members and \$80 for nonmembers.

Carlson's final message to the state this week was given to a more traditional audience of legislators, state officials, school groups, and the general public.

Once again, protocol prevails.

—LeClair Grier Lambert

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On the cover: Evergreen needles covered with frost add a glittery softness to the Capitol grounds.

—Photo by Laura Phillips

First Reading

Noise on the lakes . . .

Proposed personal watercraft restrictions resurface

By Nicole Wood

The Land of 10,000 Lakes is being overrun by 27,000 personal watercraft (PWC) operators, according to supporters of a bill that would strictly limit use of the increasingly popular watercraft.

Rep. Kris Hasskamp (DFL-Crosby) is sponsoring the bill, which she has dubbed the personal watercraft safety and courtesy act.

Lakeshore property owners, the Department of Natural Resources (DNR), PWC manufacturers, watersport enthusiasts, and others brought their disparate opinions on personal watercraft to the House Environment and Natural Resources Committee Feb. 2.

"In a democracy, it is unacceptable that such a small and noisy minority have such a negative impact on others," Jeff Brown, of Minnesotans for Responsible Recreation, told the panel.

Proponents of the bill said that the foremost problem with PWCs is the noise.

Dr. Peter Army, who has lived on Turtle Lake in Shoreview since 1953, said he has stopped fishing because of the PWC noise which he described as analogous to swarming bees.

"It's incessant. It drives you inside," he said. "People who use them should think about how they invade other people's privacy."

Supporters of **HF1690** also accused PWC operators of reckless disregard for boaters, swimmers, and wildlife.

Helen Wilkie, representing Polaris Industries, a Minnesota manufacturer of snowmobiles, motorcycles, all-terrain vehicles, and personal watercraft, gave the industry's response to the proposed legislation.

Wilkie said the real problem is a lack of enforcement of existing laws.

"Polaris is doing what [it] can to support

Bombardier of Canada — "a major player in the industry" — has introduced a PWC that reduces noise by 50 percent, Wilkie said, and the rest of the industry is close on Bombardier's heels.

Wilkie said while Polaris supports "user-friendly" education and an age requirement, they do not agree with the proposed ban on lakes up to 200 acres.

"Should people who are fortunate enough to own lakeshore property have the ability to ban something on public waters simply because they don't like it?" she asked.

Well-known Twin Cities businessman Irwin Jacobs was among those who stepped up to testify in favor of the bill. Jacobs is the chair of Genmar Holdings Inc., a manufacturer of several boat lines including Lund, Larson, and Crestliner.

He has recently withdrawn his membership from the National Marine Manufacturers Association in protest against industry support of personal watercraft.

Jacobs said he believes PWCs are bad for the boating industry. In fact, he said, they shouldn't be considered boats in the first place.

Some on the panel questioned his motives. "There's no question I have a lot invested in the boat business," he said. "I don't need any help for my business. I believe in free enterprise."

Jacobs, who lives on Lake Minnetonka, said he has witnessed the personal watercraft problem firsthand while cruising the lake on his pontoon boat.

"They don't stay within the buoys, and they zig and they zag," he said. "If they claim to be boats, why don't they act like boats?"

U.S. Coast Guard figures show that while PWCs make up 5 percent of the watercraft, they cause 37 percent of the accidents, Jacobs said.

"It's not about the safe and friendly users," he said. "It's about the abusers."

Scott Hough, of Plymouth, said that although he is a safe and courteous rider, he, too, supports the bill.

"A lake is a neighborhood," he said. "How can you as a good neighbor not have liability insurance?"

Armed with a videotape of a PWC buzzing incessantly in front of her lake home, Kathy

Continued on next page



Personal watercraft, which critics describe as noisy and disruptive, would be banned from many Minnesota lakes, under a bill advancing in the House.

The bill (**HF1690**) is Hasskamp's second attempt in as many years to "accommodate the reasonable rider and give everyone else some relief," she said. The committee approved the bill.

Among the provisions in the bill are a ban on all personal watercraft from lakes of 200 acres or less in size, mandatory certification and liability insurance, an increase in the minimum operator's age from 13 to 16, an expanded no-wake zone, and reduced hours for full-throttle operation.

law enforcement," she said, "but chasing loons and high speeds are already illegal."

Wilkie compared the current PWC situation to the introduction of snowmobiles in the 1960s.

"Controversy and conflict always surround the introduction of new and innovative products," she said.

Wilkie did admit that noise is a problem. She said Polaris has updated their engines and mufflers and is working on sound-deadening materials.



Irwin Jacobs, owner of a company that produces several lines of boats, testifies Feb. 2 in support of a bill that would limit the use of personal watercraft on Minnesota lakes.

Continued from page 3

Blunt of Nisswa said her neighborhood went downhill with the arrival of the machines.

Seeking privacy and tranquillity, Blunt and her husband moved north from the Twin Cities three years ago. They spent their first summer on their 153-acre lake watching loons, ducks, eagles, and osprey, she said, and then the PWCs arrived.

Now her sandy shorefront has turned to muck, she said, and there is only one pair of loons left.

"The wildlife activity changed dramatically when the louder, faster, more erratic watercraft arrived," she said.

Blunt explained that although a ban on lakes up to 200 acres in size would remove 87 percent of Minnesota's lakes from PWC use, the remaining 13 percent of the lakes have enormous amounts of water surface area.

Pam Perry, a wildlife biologist with the DNR in Brainerd, said she is deeply concerned about the effects of personal watercraft on wildlife and loons.

The bill would mandate a DNR study on the impact of PWCs on loons and loon nesting areas. Loons prefer to nest in shallow water close to shore where traditional boats can't go, Perry said.

"Now we have a recreational vehicle that

Continued on page 18



As governor's chief of staff, Omann recalls youthful impact

By Jim Thielman

At one time, he was the new kid (almost literally) on the block. But Bernie Omann, now Gov. Arne Carlson's chief of staff, doesn't recall being treated like a college kid when he stepped into the Minnesota House of Representatives in 1986.

Omann was a student at St. Cloud State University when he won a special election to replace his father, Ben, who died at the beginning of his 1986 term.

"The nice thing was," Omann recalls, "I was 22, and my vote mattered as much as someone who was 60 or 70. In '86, there weren't as many younger legislators as there are now. As I recall, the closest one to me in age was in [his] early 30s. But people dealt with me as just a member."

This 80th Legislative Session features plenty of young representatives. Rep. Doug Stang (R-Cold Spring) is 23, Rep. Torrey Westrom (R-Elbow Lake) is 24, and there are others in their 20s and early 30s. But Omann was peerless when he began his six years in the House Republican Caucus.

Omann recalls his age quickly took a back seat to knowledge when he entered the House.

"In the committee process, it doesn't take legislators long to decide who studies the issues," Omann says. "And whether you're 60 or 25, no one comes into it who doesn't have something to learn."

"I don't know what it would be like to go back now, being a little bit older, but I never felt being younger was a hindrance. One thing that people who are young bring is a different perspective, and people appreciate a different perspective."

As Carlson's chief of staff, Omann has worked to move legislators toward passing a bill that would call for construction of a new baseball stadium in the metropolitan area. He said one fond memory from his House days was working to get a provision in a bonding bill for the National Hockey Center in St. Cloud.

At the time, St. Cloud State was a Division

III hockey program. But the team boasted former Olympic hockey coach Herb Brooks at its helm, and the intent from the start was to get St. Cloud into Division I, the most competitive level of intercollegiate play.

The \$9.5 million arena was plagued by financial problems, and like the stadium topic Omann recalls, "it was a controversial issue in the district I represented. But look at it now: No way St. Cloud would be Division I without it."

Omann still resides near Sartell, Minn., which is north of St. Cloud.

In 1992 and 1994, Omann challenged DFLer Collin Peterson for the 7th Congressional District seat. Omann lost by scant percentage points each time.

In 1993 and 1994, he was assistant state commissioner of agriculture. In that capacity during the flood of '93, Omann was



Bernie Omann, Gov. Arne Carlson's chief of staff, talks with members of the press after a recent news conference announcing a new proposal for an open-air stadium for the Twins.

known for helping coordinate Carlson's many trips and meetings related to the issue. Omann's intimate knowledge of rural issues was also considered to be a plus in the agriculture department role.

He became Carlson's special assistant in 1994 and was named the chief of staff in May 1997. At 32, Omann is one of the younger chiefs of staff to serve a governor.

With Carlson overseeing his final legislative session, Omann will soon have to mull his options for the future.

"At this time, I just want to help the governor get his proposals through the Legislature and help implement his vision," Omann said. "I haven't spent a great deal of time looking to get outside of the political arena." 🐾

Highlights



AGRICULTURE

Studying industrial hemp

A bill that would call for a study of industrial hemp and its uses was approved by the House Agriculture Committee Feb. 2.

The bill (**HF349**), sponsored by Rep. Phyllis Kahn (DFL-Mpls), passed on a 9-7 vote. It attracted controversy because hemp is in the same family as marijuana, an illegal controlled substance in the United States since 1937.

Both plants carry the scientific classification of *cannabis sativa*, but they are different, according to information supplied to the committee by the North American Industrial Hemp Council.

THC (tetrahydrocannabinol) is the intoxicating drug in both marijuana and hemp. Marijuana contains 3 percent to 20 percent THC, while hemp contains .05 percent to 1 percent THC. In the latter case, 10-12 "joints" would have to be smoked in a short time to get high, according to the council. And that amount of smoke and gas would be hard for anyone to take, the council claims.

Proponents say industrial hemp can be made into paper which can be recycled more often than wood-derived paper, and that hemp can be used for clothing, fiber board, twine, bird seed, and oil. The finished product has no THC in it.

The uses for Minnesota farmers are obvious, according to Tom Cochrane, executive director of the Minnesota Agri-Growth Council.

"Anytime we are able to provide an alternative crop with so many advantages, it's a good choice. If we don't find a way to study it, I think we're being remiss in working with our [farmers]," he said. "With the ability we have to improve a product that has as much potential as this, it would be a crying shame if we didn't find a way to use this."

The House considered the bill last year, but the measure did not come up for a vote on the House floor. A similar measure passed the Senate in 1997.

Hemp, which is grown in Canada and 25 other countries, has been a topic of discussion in several states.

But Rep. Carol Molnau (R-Chaska) said she has problems with even doing a study.

"I don't see why we're studying a lose-lose

[situation]," she said. "This, to me, is nothing but a way to legalize an illegal drug."

Some also expressed concerns that marijuana plants could be hidden in a hemp field, but Kahn said hemp usually crowds out the marijuana plant and makes it hard for it to grow.

Rep. Mary Ellen Otremba (DFL-Long Prairie) encouraged her colleagues to support the bill.

"I don't drink, I don't smoke, and I didn't even pretend to inhale in college. And I'm familiar with [agricultural] technology," she said.

Mike Campion, assistant superintendent of the Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension (MBCA), testified against the bill, saying there would be opposition from the law enforcement community.

The bill would direct the University of Minnesota, working with the Department of Agriculture and the MBCA, to study issues related to industrial hemp production.

The bill now moves to the floor.



BANKING

Eliminating ATM surcharges

Despite opposition from the banking industry and several lawmakers, a bill that would eliminate some surcharges on Automatic Teller Machines (ATMs) was narrowly approved Feb. 2 by the House Financial Institutions and Insurance Committee.

The bill (**HF2292**), sponsored by Rep. Irv Anderson (DFL-Int'l Falls), would prevent banks that own more than four ATMs from assessing a surcharge for use of the machines.

An earlier version of the bill would have applied to banks that own more than two machines, but Anderson offered an amendment to address concerns about how the bill would affect smaller banks.

ATM users are usually hit with two fees for each transaction. One fee is assessed by their bank; the other is assessed by the bank that owns the machine. Anderson's bill would address only the latter fee, which usually comes in the form of a charge at the time of the transaction at an ATM not owned by the customer's bank network.

Customers then often find a separate fee assessed at the end of the month on their bank

statement. That fee would be unaffected by the bill.

Rep. Todd Van Dellen (R-Plymouth), who was among the bill's critics on the committee, said the measure — even with Anderson's amendment — would hurt small banks.

"Changing the threshold from two to four doesn't change that," Van Dellen said. "It seemed pretty clear the small community banks did depend on their ability to make contracts with larger banks."

"If you want to vote for the bill, you think you know better than the private economy. I know we regulate banks, but we don't need to regulate this. It's a choice that our constituents want."

Rep. Carlos Mariani (DFL-St. Paul) was on the opposite side of the debate.

"I think this is an important piece of legislation," Mariani said. "Bank services are critical . . . for citizens to be able to function in society. I think it responds directly to what citizens demand of their government."

The bill now moves to the House floor.



CHILDREN

Child protection system

Why did the system fail to protect Desi Irving? That question has plagued people working in the child protection system since the child's tragic death in February 1997.

"We still don't know what happened to Desi Irving," Rep. Matt Entenza (DFL-St. Paul) said at a House Judiciary Committee meeting Jan. 30. "We have families that are crying out for help and assistance who are not getting help and assistance."

Entenza is sponsoring a bill (**HF2985**) that would provide comprehensive changes to Minnesota's child protection system. The bill has received approval from the Judiciary Committee and is currently being reviewed by the House Health and Human Services Committee.

Last year, Mildred Irving plead guilty to second-degree murder in her three-year-old daughter's death. She admitted to the court that she repeatedly hit Desi with an extension cord, broke one of Desi's arms, and punched her in the abdomen so hard that her liver was lacerated. The autopsy results showed that Desi had suffered numerous broken bones,

had cigarette burns and many other scars, and had been suffering from malnutrition before her death.

The brutality of Desi's death was accented by the fact that evidence shows that the Irving family had been in contact with Hennepin County's child protection services.

Legislators sought to make sure that children like Desi were protected in the future. Attempts to bring Hennepin County caseworkers to testify before the Legislature during the interim failed due to data privacy issues. Caseworkers expressed a desire to disclose the facts of the case. However, they feared losing their jobs if they broke the data privacy law.

Last year, legislation that would have opened the child protection cases in the courts to public scrutiny passed both bodies of the Legislature, but differences could not be worked out in conference committee in time for the end of session.

However, the Minnesota Supreme Court has instituted a pilot project starting in June to open court hearings in such cases.

In January 1998, the legislative auditor released an evaluation of the state's child protection system. The auditor found that services varied greatly from county to county and that no external oversight exists to monitor the actions in these cases. The auditor suggested numerous approaches to reforming the current state of the system.

Entenza's bill incorporates many of the suggestions, along with changes recently mandated by federal law. **HF2985** would create a more uniform statewide system and attempt to provide a sufficient level of oversight to make sure that the cases are handled effectively. The bill also seeks to place children more quickly into permanent living situations, either with a parent or another alternative home.

In addition, the bill would require that the Department of Human Services design a statewide child protective services plan with input from the county-administered programs. And the bill would appropriate \$30 million to the department for child welfare initiatives.

Diane Benjamin, of the Children's Defense Fund, testified in support of the bill before Judiciary Committee. She said that this approach will resolve some of the issues in the state's child protective system.

"In the past, we have been working in the margins in these situations," Benjamin said, "and we are excited about this legislation because we think it takes a big step forward."

HF2985 now is on its way to the Health and Human Services Finance Division.



CONSUMERS

Money up front

Real estate deals are seldom sealed by a handshake these days. In a time of mortgage company failures, it's best to get the money up front, according to Rep. Matt Entenza (DFL-St. Paul).

"Some people have walked away from the title transfer with no money," he said, during a Feb. 2 hearing before the House Commerce, Tourism and Consumer Affairs Committee.

Although this has never happened to anyone in Minnesota, Entenza said, his bill (**HF2972**) would ensure that "qualified" loan funds are always available at the closing of a residential real estate deal. The committee approved the measure.

"Qualified" is clearly defined in the bill. Some types of qualified funds include cash in the form of U.S. currency, cashier's checks or bank money orders issued by a federally insured financial institution, and U.S. treasury checks.

Martin Henschel, from the title arm of Edina Realty, said he supports the bill because his company has had a few situations where the loan money did not come in for several weeks after closing a sale.

Curtis Loewe, of the attorney general's office, said more than 10 states have adopted "good money" legislation to guarantee the money is available at closing.

"When people go to a closing, they expect

everything to be done," he said. "All this bill would do is ensure good funds."

The bill now moves to the House Financial Institutions and Insurance Committee.

Home mortgage services

Shopping for a home mortgage can be risky and confusing. Consumers often assume they are dealing with a bank whose activities are heavily regulated when, in fact, their lender or broker may be an unknown player in the residential mortgage industry.

Should anything go wrong during the process, the consumer is left without any recourse except, perhaps, an appeal to the attorney general's office.

A bill (**HF2983**) sponsored by Rep. Jim Tunheim (DFL-Kennedy) would license and regulate companies that perform residential mortgage services in Minnesota.

With the support of the Department of Commerce, the attorney general's office, and the Minnesota Real Estate Services Association, **HF2983** was approved by the House Commerce, Tourism and Consumer Affairs Committee Feb. 2.

The bill also would establish an industry-wide code of conduct against infractions such as misrepresentation of services, misleading statements, or deceptive advertising. The standards of conduct would apply even if the business, such as a bank or credit union that is already regulated, was exempt from licensing.

Tunheim said that more than 40 states have

Music appreciation



Eiji Oue, music director of the Minnesota Orchestra, concentrates on a piece performed by Sarah Kwak, first associate concertmaster, left, and Vali Phillips, principal second violin, Feb. 5 in the House chamber.

already adopted regulatory programs that address residential mortgage transactions.

"Clear standards of conduct which apply to all residential mortgage originations will provide a level playing field within the industry as well as offer protection to consumers," he said.

The bill now moves to the House Financial Institutions and Insurance Committee.



CRIME

Court-ordered appearances

The second time was a charm for a bill that would make it easier for prosecutors to compel offenders and witnesses to appear in court.

HF3051, sponsored by Rep. Len Biernat (DFL-Mpls), would increase penalties for individuals who defy a court subpoena to appear in relation to a violent crime.

The bill stalled on a tie vote the first time it came up in the House Judiciary Committee Feb. 4. Later, during the same meeting, Rep. Peg Larsen (R-Lakeland) moved that the bill be reconsidered, and after a clarification, the bill was approved.

The bill creates a five-year felony penalty for knowingly and willfully violating a court-ordered appearance in relation to a crime of violence. The bill also requires that the action must be intended to obstruct the criminal justice process.

Mike Freeman, Hennepin County attorney, testified in support of the bill. He said that the bill is necessary to make sure that criminal trials are not impeded.

"This is an attempt to provide some additional inducements so that people show up," Freeman said.

Michael Jones, of the Communities of Color Institute, told the committee that he had reservations about the bill. He said that he fears the bill would be used to compel people who fear retaliation to testify.

Jones described what happened when he once witnessed a murder at a bar in Minneapolis. He said that he was put in the back of a squad car where everyone could see that he was a witness, and although he wanted to see justice done, he felt very uncomfortable in the situation.

"When it dawned on me, I got scared. And this is real," Jones said. "Because I have kids and they need a dad — someone who will be around for the next 60 years or so."

Jones said everyone who lives in a community plagued by violence wants to see justice done. He said that some protection needs to be put in place to make sure that witnesses feel safe in the justice system.

"Quite frankly, if it's bad enough and I feel threatened, I'm out of the state, and justice is not done," Jones said. "Even parents tell their kids in some situations, 'Don't talk. You're putting your family at risk'"

The bill is set to be included in the omnibus crime bill to be assembled this session.

Obstructing police officers

A bill that would toughen penalties for obstructing police officers was debated Feb. 2 by the House Judiciary Committee.

HF2702 is sponsored by Rep. Charlie Weaver (R-Anoka), who said the bill is in response to a situation that occurred in Coon Rapids, Minn.

Officer David Westberg, of the Coon Rapids Police Department, told the committee that he and other officers were trying to remove some disorderly individuals from a motel in late 1997. He said that the situation came to a point where arrests became necessary. As the officers were attempting to remove disorderly individuals, others began to verbally confront and "chest butt" the officers.

And, Westberg said, the situation soon got worse. Five arrests had to be made, two officers suffered broken bones, and one officer suffered a heart attack.

Under current law, individuals must act with the knowledge that their action creates a risk of death or substantial bodily harm to be charged with felony obstruction, which is punishable by up to five years in prison. Weaver's bill would remove that requirement, making it easier to prosecute people who obstruct police officers.

Paul Young, assistant attorney with Anoka County, testified in support of Weaver's bill. He said the current law for obstruction of the legal process is too restrictive.

If punches had been thrown by the individuals in the Coon Rapids case, they could have been charged with fourth-degree assault, according to Young. However, in this specific incident punches were never thrown.

"The dilemma I had was trying to find a crime that this action fit into," Young said. "We have to show the intent to commit the harm, and it's an unfair burden for officers to prove and for prosecutors to establish."

The committee took no action on the bill. It is expected to be discussed again this session.

Gang-related crimes

The House Judiciary Committee approved two bills Feb. 2 that would increase penalties on illegal activities done for the benefit of a gang.

Rep. Joe Mullery (DFL-Mpls) is sponsoring legislation that would increase the penalties for witness tampering — a problem often associated with gang cases.

HF2305 adds witness tampering to the list of crimes requiring a minimum prison sentence.

David Steinkamp, assistant attorney general assigned to the Minnesota Gang Strike Force, told the committee of a situation where a witness was stopped on the street by a carload of suspected gang members. She was told she had better not go to court, and when she looked in the car she saw that the driver had a gun. The gun was never pointed at her, but the threat was implicit, he said.

Mullery's bill also would add witness tampering to the list of eligible crimes which can define an organization as a criminal gang.

"[Witness tampering] is the bread and butter of gang activity," Steinkamp said. "When you add witness tampering, you increase the parameter as to what counts as a gang and that is very helpful."

Dakota County Attorney Jim Backstrom told the committee that increasing the penalty for witness tampering is necessary to effectively prosecute gang members.

"Clearly, this sends the message that these types of crimes will not be tolerated," Backstrom said.

HF2305 also would provide grant money to the counties to fund programs to help ensure the safety and security of witnesses. Steinkamp said there is a misconception that the counties have large budgets to deal with witness protection. He said that the new funds would be used to make witnesses who testify feel more comfortable.

Also, Rep. Len Biernat (DFL-Mpls) is sponsoring **HF2679**, which would enhance a current law that provides increased penalties for some gang-related crimes.

The bill would expand the law to increase penalties for all crimes that are motivated by involvement with a gang.

Mike Freeman, Hennepin County attorney, said the new language is necessary to assist prosecutors in gang-related cases. He said that the current law was a step in the right direction, but the proposed expansion would make it more effective.

"[The current law is] a good idea, but it's difficult to prove," Freeman said. "We believe this [change] will help us make use of a statute that, frankly, has not been useful before."

Both bills are set to be included in this year's omnibus crime bill.



EDUCATION

The state and failing schools

A plan for the state to take over failing schools faced some opposition at its first committee hearing Feb. 4.

HF3214, sponsored by Rep. Joe Opatz (DFL-St. Cloud), would measure a school's performance based on its scores on the new statewide tests. Schools showing poor scores over several years could eventually be turned into state-sponsored charter schools, over which school districts would lose their authority.

But some members of the K-12 Education Finance Division of the House Education Committee said the proposal goes too far in punishing districts.

Rep. Mindy Greiling (DFL-Roseville) called the bill "harmful overkill."

And Rep. Lyndon Carlson (DFL-Crystal), chair of the full Education Committee, said that it's not clear that the state could do a better job of running at-risk schools than districts could.

The bill is one of several this year that try to identify accountability for poor showings on the newly implemented statewide testing.

Under Opatz's plan, schools that show a 1 percent increase in scores would be eligible for reward money, while schools that showed a 5 percent decrease would be eligible for state assistance.

That assistance would include state-appointed educators sent in to monitor the schools. After several years without improvement, schools could be converted into charter schools and the new board of directors would have the authority to fire or demote teachers.

Opatz said that state takeover would likely be a rare event.

"But what alternative do we have?" he asked. "Do we just throw up our hands?"

Opponents of the bill included teachers unions and school districts.

Minneapolis Superintendent Carol Johnson specifically criticized a provision that would allow students to transfer from failing schools to successful schools. She said already issues of space "are no small task" in Minneapolis schools.

The division did not vote on the bill, but later will consider it for inclusion in this year's omnibus K-12 funding bill.

Top priority capital projects

Metro-area magnet schools and residential boarding academies were designated top-priority building projects by the K-12 Education Finance Division of the House Education

Committee, which finalized its prioritized list of capital projects Feb. 4.

The division considered 31 project requests and ranked them according to importance.

At the top of the list is \$15 million for developing a magnet school in Robbinsdale to aid integration in the western metropolitan area. That amount would cover estimated building costs for one of three proposed schools in the West Metro Education Program. The program first received planning funds from the 1990 Legislature.

The division's recommendations also include (as a lower priority) \$15 million for a similar school in the eastern metropolitan area.

Another \$2 million is ranked among the top five K-12 bonding priorities to allow completion of a downtown Minneapolis magnet school. A lower priority on the division's list is the same amount to provide startup costs for an Edina magnet school, with \$11.2 million for construction costs at that location far down on the list. Those two schools are also part of the West Metro Education Program.

All funds for magnet schools are proposed to come from general obligation bonds. The

governor's bonding proposal included no funding for magnet schools.

But the division's second-ranked project — residential boarding academies for at-risk youth — carries the governor's full support. The division and the governor both recommend \$12 million from the general fund to develop three academies.

Third on the division's list of priorities is a St. Paul community-based elementary schools project, which also has the governor's approval. Both recommend \$4.6 million in bond funds for that project.

The division sent a bill (**HF772**) listing the K-12 bonding priorities to the full Education Committee. The bill is sponsored by Rep. Geri Evans (DFL-New Brighton).

The bonding recommendations will eventually be submitted to the House Capital Investment Committee to be considered for inclusion in this year's bonding bill.

School year start dates

A bill that would allow schools to start classes before Labor Day was opposed by the hospitality industry during a Feb. 2 House committee hearing.

The bill, sponsored by Rep. Ken Wolf (R-Burnsville), would permanently repeal a ban on schools starting before Labor Day. The measure would take effect in the 2000-2001 school year.

A 1997 law allows districts to start the school year as early as the Wednesday before the holiday for the 1998-1999 and 1999-2000 academic years.

Wolf told the K-12 Education Finance Division of the House Education Committee that **HF3003** was one of the results of an interim subcommittee which tried to "take a good look at anything we could do to take some constraints off the [school] districts."

Bob Meeks of the Minnesota School Boards Association supported the proposal.

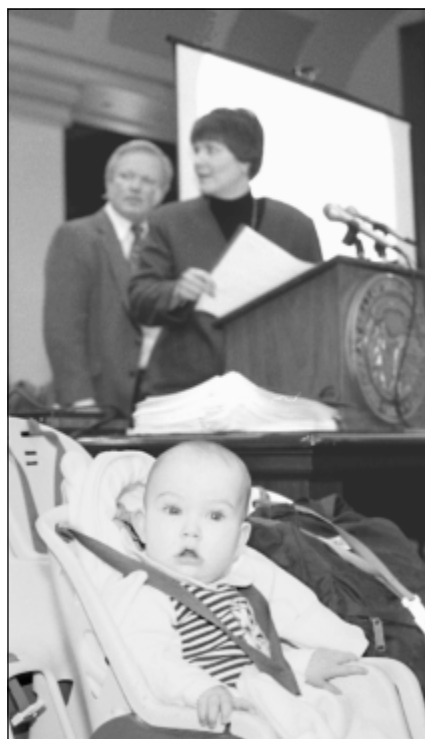
"This is really a local decision and should be based on local needs," he said.

But representatives from hospitality trade associations said that moving up school start dates would harm that industry.

"[Starting after Labor Day] adds an additional week to 10 days to a very small [tourism] season," Tom Newcome, of Hospitality Minnesota, said. He asked the committee to wait to see how the current two-year "compromise" works out, saying there was no need to rush legislation aimed at 2000-2001.

However, some lawmakers said that the well-being of hospitality businesses should not affect decision-making by an education committee.

Child endowment



Seven-month-old Maria Gisselquist, daughter of Minnesota Historical Society employee Shana Crosson, captures the attention of those attending a Capitol press conference where Sen. John Hottinger and Rep. Nora Slawik unveiled a bill that seeks a constitutional amendment creating an "endowment for Minnesota's children."

"Here, we're looking at what's good for kids," Rep. Mindy Greiling (DFL-Roseville) said.

Committee chair Rep. Becky Kelso (DFL-Shakopee) agreed.

"If parents want to start after Labor Day, local school board representatives are not going to turn a deaf ear to that desire," she said. "To me, this is a stereotypical local-control issue."

The bill was laid over for possible inclusion in this year's omnibus K-12 finance bill.

Compulsory summer school

Minnesota students may soon have a new incentive to pass their basic skills tests: avoiding summer school.

A bill approved by the House Education Committee's Subcommittee on Quality Initiatives Feb. 3 would give school districts the authority to compel students to attend summer school.

And district officials said they could use that authority to provide assistance for students who fail one or more of the basic skills tests given under the state's graduation rule.

Rep. Len Biernat (DFL-Mpls), who is sponsoring **HF2276**, said the bill's goal is to give districts more control.

"If a school district is to be accountable for results, then it should have all the leverage it needs to achieve those results," he said.

The bill also would redefine a truant student as one who has missed five days of school. Under current law, a child must miss 15 days to be considered a truant. Once a student is officially declared a truant, child protective services can intervene to assist the student.

The proposal is supported by the Minneapolis School District, which hopes to build on the success of its 1997 summer school program.

Last summer, more than 10,000 students attended summer school in that district, and many showed up to six months of academic growth after a two- to eight-week program.

But only 30 percent of the district's eighth-graders who failed the basic-skills test showed up for summer school — and that's the number officials say they want to improve.

"There are students who don't take [the tests] seriously," said John Oullette-Howitz of the Minneapolis district, who helped organize last year's program. "We want them to find out before the year 2002 — when they don't get their diploma — that the district takes it very seriously."

The bill would allow districts to determine for themselves which students must attend summer programs.

The bill now moves to the full Education Committee.



ELECTIONS

Absentee ballots

For some, the goal is to remove as many obstacles as possible to voting. They did it in a pilot project in Ramsey County, and now they're looking to do it in a pilot project in Senate District 58 in north Minneapolis.

HF2293, sponsored by Rep. Richard Jefferson (DFL-Mpls), would allow eligible voters in Senate District 58 to vote by absentee ballot until Jan. 1, 2002, without having to provide a reason.

The House General Legislation, Veterans Affairs and Elections Committee approved the bill Feb. 2.

All voters would have to do is apply in writing to the Hennepin County auditor's office, providing such basic information as their name, address, and signature.

"The district has repeatedly had the lowest voter turnout in the entire state, and we have the largest number of minorities in the state," Jefferson said.

It's also an area with a high concentration of poverty and renters, and all of those factors often mean low voter turnout, he said.

A result of the low voter turnout is that people running for statewide office often don't make north Minneapolis one of their campaign stops.

"We would hope we would have more can-

didates coming into the area," Jefferson said.

Under current law, people wanting to vote with an absentee ballot must have a reason, such as absence from the precinct, illness, disability, observance of a religious holiday, or service as an election judge. An absentee ballot is mailed or given to the voter, who fills it out like a regular ballot and mails it back to the county auditor's office. The ballots are held until election day, then tallied with all the other ballots.

"The bill would increase voter turnout," said Joe Mansky, director of the Elections Division of the Office of the Secretary of State.

But there was some opposition to Jefferson's bill.

"How are we going to make sure the people actually do live in the district? Things change all the time. Is it really feasible?" Rep. Bill Haas (R-Champlin) asked.

The committee also approved a bill (**HF2567**) that would extend the pilot project in Ramsey County. The bill is sponsored by Rep. Betty McCollum (DFL-North St. Paul).

In 1991, Anoka, Hennepin, Polk, and Ramsey counties were part of a pilot project which allowed for open absentee balloting. In 1994, Ramsey County had the pilot project extended until this year, and the county now wants the project extended until Dec. 31, 1999.

McCollum said she has heard positive things about the project.

"There has been no indication of fraud; we just want to continue it the way it's been," she said.

Both bills now move to the House floor.

Women in sports



Girls from schools all over the state gather in the Capitol rotunda to celebrate Girls and Women in Sports Day Feb. 5. The event, sponsored by the Minnesota Coalition to Promote Women in Athletic Leadership and the National Girls and Women in Sports Day Committee, celebrates females who participate in sports, encourages participation, and recognizes sports leaders.



EMPLOYMENT

The right to strike

Would a strike by 911 dispatchers threaten a community's public safety?

That was the crux of a debate Feb. 2 over a bill that would grant public safety dispatchers the status of essential employees.

Under that status, workers give up the right to strike, but they can still request arbitration in a labor dispute.

Frank Whippler, legislative chair of the Minnesota Sheriff's Association, testified in support of **HF1693** before the House Labor-Management Relations Committee.

"In our view, a strike would be detrimental to public safety," he said.

His description of dispatchers as "indispensable to the community" drew a round of applause from dispatchers in the audience.

The committee approved the bill, which is sponsored by Rep. Thomas Pugh (DFL-South St. Paul).

Also in support of the bill are the Minnesota Professional Firefighters Association, Law Enforcement Labor Services, and, according to Whippler, 96 percent of the state's 911 dispatchers.

But officials from both the League of Minnesota Cities and the Association of Minnesota Counties testified against the bill.

"A strike would be disruptive and unpleasant, but not an immediate threat to public safety," said Kevin Frazell, of the League of Minnesota Cities.

He cited a strike by Ramsey County dispatchers — the only such strike in the state's history. Public safety was not threatened when backup county workers took over for the striking dispatchers, Frazell said.

Concern about taking away the workers' right to strike was at the heart of opposition to the bill.

"It is, at times, essential for people to go on strike and walk the picket line so that their fellow workers can benefit," Rep. Tom Rukavina (DFL-Virginia) said. "As you start down this path of essential employees, where does it end? I'm afraid we're going to do away with the right of all employees to collectively bargain."

But other lawmakers said that although they were sympathetic to Rukavina's point, they supported the bill because it came with the backing of the employees, the employers, and the union.

"If this were coming from Gov. Carlson, I would not be supportive," Rep. Thomas Bakk (DFL-Cook) said. "The reason I support this

bill is because it is fundamentally coming from the workers."

The bill now moves to the House floor, where it stalled last year after passing out of the same committee. A companion bill passed the Senate last year.



ENVIRONMENT

Motors in boundary waters?

Despite decades of debate, the controversy over the use of motors in the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness (BWCAW) continues.

Rep. John Tuma (R-Northfield) is sponsoring a bill (**HF2231**) that aims to finalize the status of the BWCAW once and for all.

The bill would ensure that the phasing out of motors that was agreed upon in the 1978 Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness Act continues on schedule.

Tuma said that U.S. Sen. Rod Grams and U.S. Rep. James Oberstar are currently supporting legislation to roll back the clock on the issue.

"Minnesota needs to send a strong message to Congress that we do not want to go backwards on this effort," Tuma said.

The bill passed the House Environment and Natural Resources Committee Feb. 4.

But the proposal was met with major opposition from Rep. Tom Bakk (DFL-Cook).

"The entire [BWCAW] is in my district and the issue is much more complicated than what Rep. Tuma has brought here today," he said. "Please do not be misled to think that this bill restores the integrity of the 1978 act."

Bakk said that there were some things in the 1978 act that were not well planned, particularly a ban on motorized boats on lakes along the Canadian border.

"Canadians have motors," he said. "It makes no sense to allow motors on one side of an imaginary line and not on the other."

Bakk said that Congress and the U.S. Forest Service are trying to deal with that and other complicated issues.

"It shouldn't be the Legislature that monkey with a delicate compromise that was reached in 1978," he said.

The bill now moves on to the Environment, Natural Resources, and Agriculture Finance Committee.



FAMILY

Family asset accounts

A problem for low-income people is that the cost to get out of their fix — like buying a home, going to college, or starting a small business — is prohibitive.

An attempt to ease those costs is found in a bill (**HF2748**) sponsored by Rep. David Tomassoni (DFL-Chisholm). The bill would allow low-income families to contribute money to a "family asset account" and receive matching amounts from the state or a private organization.

The money could then be spent for certain approved purposes, like paying for school or a house, making a major home repair, or starting a small business. To be eligible, a family's annual income could be no more than twice the federal poverty level. The poverty level for a family of four is \$16,050.

The bill was heard and approved Feb. 4 by the House Financial Institutions and Insurance Committee.

"This is a very simple bill. It's such a good thing that both the credit unions and the banks are supporting it," Tomassoni said.

Tomassoni said the proposed program could be compared to an Individual Retirement Account. Other states are considering such programs and similar legislation is pending in the U.S. Congress, he said.

Harland Tardy, of the Arrowhead Economic Opportunity Agency, said groups like his would work with families who are in the program, along with the banks and credit unions.

Often, people renting an apartment or a house pay more in rent than they might in a monthly house payment, but they can't afford a down payment, he said.

The program would allow them to save in a "family asset account," get their savings matched, and use the money for a down payment on a house, he said.

"It's just any family trying to better themselves," Tomassoni said.

Under the bill, the matching funds from the state and private sector would be kept in a separate account, and the family would not get the money until they have finished an economic literacy course and achieved their goals for buying a home, paying for school, or devising a business plan.

The program would be administered by the Minnesota Department of Children, Families and Learning.

The bill now moves to the House Education Committee.

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HEALTH

'Off-label' drug use

According to a 1990 Gallup survey of oncologists, about 10 percent of cancer patients do not receive the treatment prescribed by their physicians, even if the patient responds to that treatment.

The problem occurs when a prescribed drug has not been approved by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) for treating certain forms of cancer.

The attempt to treat patients with the so-called "off-label" use of drugs is not uncommon, says Rep. Richard Mulder (R-Ivanhoe). Mulder, a practicing family physician, said, "Every physician in this state uses off-label drugs for patients."

But, Mulder said, "Managed-care [health plans] sometimes don't want to pay for its use."

Under a bill sponsored by Rep. Alice Hausman (DFL-St. Paul), health plans could not exclude reimbursement of off-label drug use in cancer patients, provided the drug is recognized as a treatment of cancer in standard medical literature.

The bill, which was approved by the House Health and Human Services Committee Feb. 3, would not cover experimental drugs used in cancer treatment.

Nurse Ann Deshler, of Edina, told committee members that sometimes a rare form of cancer responds to treatment used in more common cancers. But if the FDA has not approved a drug for treating that specific cancer, a patient might be denied reimbursement.

Deshler has been a registered oncology nurse for 19 years. She told of a patient who responded well to an off-label treatment, only to see his coverage eventually denied. She said such problems are frustrating for the patient and that medical professionals are forced to expend their time dealing with insurance companies "on a case-by-case basis when the time could be used to treat patients."

Hausman's bill (HF1306) would prohibit all health plans, including Medicare supplemental coverage, from refusing to pay for these cancer treatments. There are 27 other states with similar laws.

The bill moves to the House Financial Institutions and Insurance Committee.

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Licensing naturopaths

For the fourth time since 1986, a bill that would license naturopathic physicians has been introduced in the House.

Rep. Linda Wejcman (DFL-Mpls) is sponsoring the bill (HF396), which was heard Feb. 2 by the Subcommittee on Licensing and Scope of Practice of the House Health and Human Services Committee.

The bill would license and regulate naturopathic doctors under the Board of Medical Practice. Naturopaths would have to graduate from an approved naturopathic medical college or degree-granting program, and pass the Naturopathic Physicians Licensing Examination. They also would have to practice in Minnesota for two years under a board-approved, licensed physician, osteopath, or naturopathic physician.

Naturopaths treat clients with nutrition, herbal remedies, manipulative therapy, massage, and other non-invasive techniques. From 1927 to 1974, naturopaths could practice by registering with the state Board of Healing Arts. Since 1974, they have existed in legal limbo.

Wejcman said, "This legislation doesn't put anyone out of business." Those who provide homeopathic and other remedies would still be able to do so. What the bill would do is allow licensed naturopaths the exclusive right to use certain terms, such as "naturopathic physician" and the abbreviation, "N.D." Violators would be guilty of a misdemeanor.

The bill was prompted after a naturopath who had practiced in St. Paul since 1983 was

accused of practicing medicine without a license in 1996. An injunction against the naturopath was lifted when she and the Board of Medical Practice agreed she would stop calling herself a physician.

At the time, she was among six naturopathic doctors in the state with four-year degrees in the field. A dozen other states already license naturopathic doctors.

The bill was sent to the full House Human Services Committee, along with a separate bill (HF1135) that would allow massage and Oriental bodywork therapists to register with the state. The latter bill would serve a similar purpose for massage therapists, and would not define the scope of practice.

Sponsored by Betty McCollum (DFL-St. Paul), the bill would allow massage and Oriental bodywork therapists to register with the Board of Chiropractic Examiners after meeting certain requirements. Only registered practitioners would be allowed to use the title "Registered Massage Therapist" or "Registered Oriental Bodywork Therapist."



HIGHER EDUCATION

Biology building funding

The construction of a \$70 million cellular and molecular biology building is the centerpiece of the University of Minnesota's 1998 legislative funding request. But some lawmakers argued Feb. 5 that only \$8.5 million for design and demolition should be appropriated this session.

Defibrillator demo



A dummy is used to demonstrate how to use an automatic external defibrillator during an American Heart Association event Feb. 2 in the Capitol rotunda. The event was part of an effort to educate people about the need for public access to the life-saving defibrillators.

Rep. Hilda Bettermann (R-Brandon), the lead Republican of the Higher Education Finance Division of the House Education Committee, was concerned that regional construction companies would be unable to keep pace with burgeoning projects in this booming economy.

The finance committee ultimately approved \$416.5 million in bonding for statewide higher education building projects and sent the bill to the full Education Committee.

Bettermann said the House Capital Investment Committee on which she serves has concerns over approximately \$660 million in unissued bonds, not all of which are for higher education, from earlier bonding laws.

"All of the builders around the state are busy, and they cannot necessarily keep up with building projects," Bettermann said.

She said some lawmakers would prefer to fund only the design portion of the biology building.

But Dr. Frank Cerra, head of the University of Minnesota Academic Health Center, said construction on the molecular biology building would begin in the fall of 1999 and the building would open in 2001. Cerra said a university-wide policy committee has been operational for eight months, and the committee is certain "we are on track with our timeline."

Some lawmakers also wanted to increase from \$43 million to \$65.2 million the appropriation for Higher Education Asset Preservation and Replacement (HEAPR) in the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities System (MnSCU).

HEAPR projects include building health and safety improvements, infrastructure repair, and projects that update the exterior, interior, mechanical or electrical systems. MnSCU comprises Minnesota's 36 technical, community, and state colleges.



HOUSING

Remedies for 'sick houses'

New homes are tighter and better insulated than in the past. Trouble is, according to Rep. Geri Evans (DFL-New Brighton), they may rot from trapped moisture or make people sick if not properly ventilated.

Evans, who is sponsoring a bill (**HF2430**) that aims to remedy problems with "sick houses," brought the well-publicized issue to the House Commerce, Tourism, and Consumer Affairs Committee Feb. 3.

She reminded the panel of the plight of homeowner Sue Stavenau, of Plymouth, who had testified before the committee Jan. 29.

Stavenau was the subject of a Minneapolis *Star Tribune* investigative series, "The Trouble with Houses," which first drew significant attention to the issue last fall.

"Her house has ruined her life, her health, and her pocketbook," Evan said.

One provision of Evans' bill would increase contractor license fees to pay for a public information program about residential construction issues, including potential moisture and indoor air quality problems.

The bill also would increase new home warranty periods and give homeowners more time to report defective conditions and seek legal action. The bill was narrowly approved by the committee.

The provision of the bill that drew the most criticism would require the commissioner of public service to adopt, as part of the state energy code, rules that require new residential buildings to contain mechanical ventilation systems.

Tom Joachim, from the building code division of the Department of Administration, said that due to the "tightening" of homes required by the state building and energy codes, mechanical ventilation systems are necessary to protect against moisture and other problems.

"In the effort to save energy, am I now creating the need for more energy?" asked Rep. Jim Farrell (DFL-St. Paul).

Lisa Peterson, of the Builders Association of Minnesota, said that although energy is required to operate mechanical ventilation systems, people will still see overall savings.

Since the "tightening" of homes has caused the need for mechanical ventilation in the first place, some critics on the panel wondered if the building and energy codes need to be revamped.

"I think we should look at what caused the need for mechanical ventilation in the first place," said Rep. Roxann Daggett (R-Frazee).

Opponents of the provision also objected to the cost.

Peterson said that Department of Public Service figures put the estimated cost of a mechanical ventilation system at \$6,084 for a new two-story, 3000-square-foot home selling for \$150,000.

"What concerns me," Rep. Bud Nornes (R-Fergus Falls) said, "is that everyone talks about affordable housing and this will add on even more money."

The bill now moves to the Economic Development Finance Division of the House Economic Development and International Trade Committee.

Chemical sensitivity

Kenneth Wuori, of Prior Lake, told lawmakers that he was forced to sleep in a van outside his townhouse because of his reaction to household chemicals in the new dwelling.

"I could not go into my new house . . . for fear that I would get ill," he said, in Feb. 3 testimony before the Housing and Housing Finance Division of the House Economic Development and International Trade Committee.

Myra Radel, of Little Canada, told the committee she has had chronic problems with the overwhelming number of chemicals in her home. She said that she had to move out of a relatively chemical-free environment because she had a reaction to the chemicals in her roommate's hand lotion.

Wuori and Radel told the committee that they suffer from a disorder called multiple chemical sensitivity (MCS). They have allergy-like sensitivity to a broad range of household substances, such as cleaning solvents, detergents, perfumes, and household dust and mold.

They said they often suffer from back pains, sleep disorders, stomach pains, anxiety, chronic fatigue, and respiratory problems due to the large number of chemicals common in homes.



Susan Lasley, of St. Paul, who has Multiple Chemical Sensitivity, listens to testimony before the Housing and Housing Finance Division about a bill that would make grants of up to \$25,000 available to individuals with the disorder to help them in making their homes free of chemicals.

HF2555 sponsored by Rep. Jim Rostberg (R-Isanti), would provide grant money to people who suffer from MCS to refurbish their homes to make them chemical-free. Currently, loans are made available through the Minnesota Housing Finance Agency to finance improvements, but Rostberg said the funds should come in the form of grants.

"One of the problems we have is that people with MCS cannot qualify for these loans because they are unable to work," Rostberg said.

The bill proposes that \$1 million be made available in the form of grants administered through the Minnesota Housing Finance Agency, enough for 40 grants totaling \$25,000 each.

"We need scent-free housing," Wuori said. "It's important that we have sleeping quarters because sleeping in a van or a tent, as some people with MCS do, is as bad as being homeless."

The bill was laid over by the committee and is expected to be included in this year's omnibus housing bill.

Low-income high-rises

Chris Learned, a resident of Minneapolis, said that a society had developed among the 350 residents in her rent-subsidized housing complex on Oak Grove near Loring Park. People look after and take care of each other. She said that older people, Russian immigrants, and low-income young people all see to it that no one is overlooked.

All that will change if the plan to make her high-rise a market-rate property becomes a reality, she said.

"The announcement of the mortgage prepayment in June of 1997 was the beginning of the systematic dismembering of our society," Learned said.

Learned was referring to the decision by the owners of her place of residence to refinance the balance of their federal mortgage, allowing the owners to charge market-rate rent for the units. The decision means an increase of approximately \$200 in rent per month for the elderly, handicapped, and low-income tenants in the building.

In the 1970s, the federal government set up a program where developers received reduced-rate mortgages and financing incentives to build low- and moderate-income housing, such as Learned's building. Rent rates were subsidized by the federal government and rent increases were regulated.

Owners of these complexes are now taking advantage of a provision that allows them to prepay the remaining portion of their mort-

gage and to begin charging market rate rent.

The situation at Learned's building could happen at the over 300 apartment complexes throughout the state that were financed through the federal program. The owners of Hopkins Village in Hopkins, Knox Landing in Bloomington, and Grand Pre By the Park and Selby-Dayton in St. Paul have all announced that they plan to take advantage of the prepayment option.

Learned and many others currently living in federally assisted housing testified before the Housing and Housing Finance Division of the House Economic Development and International Trade Committee on Feb. 5.

"The only solution that would help us save our homes at this point is to have a nonprofit organization buy our building," Learned said.

Rep. Dee Long (DFL-Mpls) is sponsoring a bill (**HF2991**) that would equip the Minnesota Housing Finance Agency (MHFA), local units of government, and nonprofit organizations to deal with this issue. The Oak Grove building is in Long's district.

The bill authorizes the MHFA to issue loans and provide tax credits to assist in maintaining already existing low-income housing. The financial incentives can be made available to local units of government and nonprofit organizations.

HF2991 was approved by the committee and is set to be included in this year's omnibus housing bill.



INDUSTRY

'Negative checkoff'

Telephone customers sometimes receive mailed notices that their long distance carrier will be switched unless the customer cancels the change. The practice is called "negative checkoff."

Under a bill introduced by Rep. Loren Jennings (D-Harris), long distance carriers would be required to make audio recordings of customers authorizing a negative checkoff and to be able to produce the recordings if contested.

If the carrier could not provide such evidence, the bill (**HF3042**) would force the carrier to pay the cost of returning the customer to the original long distance service and to assume the cost of the services during the unauthorized period.

Representatives of AT&T told the House Regulated Industries and Energy Committee Feb. 3 the company had no opposition to that section of the bill. AT&T and some other long distance providers use a practice called "third-

party verification," in which the customer tells a third party during a telephone solicitation that the change is authorized.

But AT&T opposed a section of the bill pertaining to public notification of rate increases. Currently, long distance carriers may notify customers of rate hikes through bill inserts, direct mailing, phone call, or publication of the increase in general circulation newspapers. The latter is the most common form of public notification.

The bill would repeal the provision that allows carriers to notify customers of increases through newspaper ads.

AT&T representatives said newspaper ads are the most efficient and affordable method of disclosure. The company said if the method were eliminated, it would increase their cost of providing service to Minnesota customers.

The committee took no action on the bill.



TAXES

Child care tax credit

With seven of 10 mothers in the workforce, five of six mothers with children under the age of six working, and with the cost of having an infant in day care running about \$7,000 a year, some see a great need for more help from the Legislature.

Rep. Nora Slawik (DFL-Maplewood) is sponsoring a bill (**HF2804**) that would lend a hand in that direction. The bill was approved Feb. 3 by the Sales and Income Tax Division of the House Taxes Committee.

The state currently allows a child care tax credit equal to a percentage of child care costs, up to a maximum of \$720 for one child or \$1,140 for two or more children. That credit begins to decrease for parents making \$17,340 a year and is completely phased out for parents making \$31,080.

Slawik's bill would decrease the rate in which the credit is phased out and increase the income at which the credit would be completely phased out to \$45,080 per year.

Slawik said 22,000 new children enter the day care system every year and that paying for that child care takes an average 10 percent of the family income.

Rep. Bob Milbert (DFL-South St. Paul) was in favor of the proposal, but he said there might be opposition from people making more than \$45,080.

"We ought to look at a way to make it more universally acceptable," he said.

Rep. Todd Van Dellen (R-Plymouth) also expressed concerns about the bill.

"Aren't you concerned that this is a deepen-

ing of the difference in the way we treat people with children and the way we treat single people and people who don't work outside the home?" he asked.

Rep. Alice Johnson (DFL-Spring Lake Park) said it's important to try to help parents and, ultimately, children.

"The world wouldn't last any longer if people didn't have children," she said. "With the job market the way it is, we are bringing everyone into the workforce."

Tom Prichard, president of the Minnesota Family Council, urged caution. He said the bill would likely "encourage" families to make the decision to have both parents work and put the children in day care.

"[The government should be] allowing families to make the child care decision, rather than being encouraged by tax policy," he said. "Government policy should be necessitating, rather than encouraging them, biasing them in favor of day care. I think we're giving them the wrong incentive."

The bill now moves to the full Taxes Committee.

Permanent tax reductions

House Minority Leader Steve Sviggum (R-Kenyon) believes the time is now for a permanent tax cut, and he's brought forth a bill that would do just that.

The bill (**HF2322**) had two hearings recently before two divisions of the House Taxes Committee — first in the Property Tax and Tax Increment Finance Division Feb. 4 and the Sales and Income Tax Division Feb. 5. Both divisions sent the bill to the full Taxes Committee without recommendation.

Sviggum said there have been six consecutive budget forecasts showing surpluses in state coffers. And instead of providing one-time tax refunds, Sviggum said, people — particularly those in the low- and middle-income categories — should be given a permanent tax reduction.

The bill would permanently reduce income taxes for low- and middle-income people and provide a one-time rebate for property taxes paid in 1998.

The property tax rebate would match the one approved for property taxes paid in 1997. That means homeowners would get back 20 percent of property taxes paid in 1998, and renters would get 3.6 percent of rent paid (the portion of rent that goes to pay property taxes).

"The bottom line of my bill: Return the money to the taxpayers," Sviggum said. "I would like to make sure we can't spend the money. Members, I will tell you it's time for a reduced tax rate in Minnesota."

Reaction from the Property Tax and Tax

Increment Finance Division was mixed, and there were differences of opinion as to who is paying more taxes.

"We have been overtaxing the property taxpayers," said Rep. Dee Long (DFL-Mpls). "I've overwhelmingly had complaints about the burden of property taxes."

Long also said she was concerned about making permanent tax cuts and shortly thereafter having to pass higher taxes because the economy takes a downturn. That happened in 1979 and 1986, she said.

Tax break for libraries

Public libraries would get financial assistance in the form of a new tax break, under a bill advancing in the House.

Rep. Andy Dawkins (DFL-St. Paul) is sponsoring a bill (**HF2303**) that would give public libraries the same exemption on paying sales tax that is currently enjoyed by public schools.

The bill was approved Feb. 3 by the Sales and Income Tax Division of the House Taxes Committee.

The exemption would apply to public libraries and cooperative regional library systems. County and state law libraries were granted the exemption in 1993.

The exemption for public libraries is now limited to the buying of reading material and equipment used by patrons, software and cataloging, and circulation equipment.

Dawkins' bill would expand that exemption. Examples of purchases that would be-

come exempt from sales tax include furniture, work stations, laminating and binding machines, office and building supplies, and utility services.

Ken Behringer, of the Great River Regional Library in St. Cloud, said the current law can be confusing.

"If I buy a delivery vehicle, it's not taxable. If I buy a vehicle for training, it is taxable. It limits the libraries' flexibility," he said.

It's estimated that the change in the tax code would cost about \$90 million a year in sales tax revenue. But Behringer said the public pays for that sales tax now, in the form of the property tax revenue that usually supports public libraries.

Rep. Alice Johnson (DFL-Spring Lake Park), chair of the division, expressed support for the bill.

"Libraries are probably the most value [taxpayers] get for their tax dollars," she said.

The bill now moves to the full Taxes Committee.



TRANSPORTATION

Light rail transit

Opponents of a bill that would provide a \$106 million bonding request for a light rail transit (LRT) system told the finance division of the House Transportation and Transit Committee Feb. 3 that LRT would lead to the ruination of the local bus system.

New stadium proposal



Rep. Loren Jennings and Sen. Roy Terwilliger explain the funding aspects of a new proposal for a downsized, open-air stadium for the Minnesota Twins during a Feb. 3 press conference. They said the plan would allow a new ballpark to be built without using tax dollars, but the plan has been criticized because it would use the income taxes paid by both Twins and visiting players to help repay bonds that would be issued to pay for the stadium.

Lisa Lee, of Minneapolis, said LRT would create a "rigid, limited form of service" that would become an expensive proposition in the long run.

Opponents said the plan would create transportation that only moves people from the suburbs to downtown, but forgets about bus riders. LRT typically serves urban-suburban markets with short distances between stations.

But Peter McLaughlin, chair of the Metropolitan LRT Joint Powers Board, said, "It's time to think beyond the strategies that have been pursued in this region in the past 20 years, strategies that have resulted in a one-third drop of people riding the bus."

Sponsored by Rep. Alice Hausman (DFL-St. Paul), the bill (**HF2561**) would appropriate \$100 million to match federal and other local funding for the \$370 million construction of a light rail project from downtown Minneapolis to Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport and the Mall of America.

A total of \$200 million would come from federal transit capital funds. Of the remaining

\$70 million, \$30 million has already been spent locally on planning and infrastructure and another \$40 million in local funding is to be raised.

The remaining \$6 million in the \$106 million bill would go to study expansion of the system into St. Paul and other corridors.

The LRT spending is not included in Gov. Arne Carlson's bonding proposal or his supplemental budget request.

The bill is expected to be considered again this session.

Vehicle registration

Minneapolis police officer William Lundquist said used automobiles involved in crimes are often improperly registered, and the paper trail often stops with the previous, law-abiding owner.

A bill that would suspend or revoke a vehicle registration if the buyer fails to apply for a new certificate of title within 10 days of the

sale was approved by the House Transportation and Transit Committee Feb. 2.

The bill now moves to the committee's finance division.

Lundquist told of hit-and-run incidents, traffic violations, and gas station driveoffs involving cars that were never registered following a private sale. Often, a law-abiding person who sold a car was still listed as its owner.

The bill (**HF719**), sponsored by Rep. Jim Rhodes (R-St. Louis Park), would require state motor vehicle title forms to contain a separate "notice of sale." The vehicle's title number and identification number would be printed on the notice.

The bill would exempt a seller from damages involving a vehicle after the sale if the seller completes and mails the notice of sale within a week of the transaction.

The bill also would authorize the Department of Public Safety to suspend or revoke a vehicle registration if the new owner fails to apply for a new certificate within 10 days of the purchase.

Gov. Hammond known as 'scholar in politics'

It's a fact!

The administration of Minnesota's first and only bachelor to serve as governor did not last long.

Gov. Winfield Hammond, known as "a scholar in politics," was elected in 1914 and died in 1915 before the end of his first year of service.

"Hammond was a good governor, but had little chance to make a record," one observer commented.

Hammond, the state's 18th governor, was born in Southboro, Mass., in 1863. During his lifetime, he would work as a teacher, prosecuting attorney, high school principal, superintendent of schools, congressman, and governor.

He came to Minnesota in 1884, shortly after graduating from Dartmouth College in Hanover, N.H., and settled in St. James, Minn., where he began a career in education. Hammond was principal of the high school in Mankato, Minn., and later the president of the St. James School Board. In 1895, he became superintendent of schools in Madelia, Minn.

In his spare time, Hammond studied law, passed the bar, and became a lawyer. He also became active in Democratic politics. Hammond ran for the U.S. House in

Minnesota's 2nd Congressional District in 1892 but was beaten by Republican John Lind, who also later served as governor.

Not until 1906 did Hammond take another shot at Congress, but that time he won. In Washington, D.C., he became a member of the important House Ways and Means Committee and was quickly recognized as a party leader.

In 1914, the Democrats persuaded him to run for governor, and although he remained at work in Congress and did little campaigning, Hammond beat Republican William Lee by more than 12,000 votes.

The temperance movement held center stage in the election, and Hammond —

labeled a "wet," or prohibition opponent — won, in large part, because of his views on the matter, historians note.

However, Hammond was not extremely outspoken on the issue. He paid the matter little attention in his inaugural address. Instead, he encouraged the Legislature not to spend a lot of time discussing temperance because so much time and energy had already been devoted to the issue.

Still, soon after he took office, the Legislature gave counties the authority to regulate saloons outside cities.

There was little time for much else during Hammond's stay in office.

Hammond was 52 years old when he died of a sudden stroke Dec. 30, 1915, while in Clinton, La., on personal business.

"He was the highest minded man I ever knew," Charles Andrist, Hammond's secretary, said then. "Every question was decided on the basis as to whether it was right or wrong, not whether it was expedient or advisable politically."

Hammond's body was returned by train for burial in Mount Hope Cemetery in St. James. He was succeeded by Lt. Gov. J.A.A. Burnquist.



Gov. Winfield Hammond

Photo from *Men of Minnesota*, R. L. Polk & Co.

Clark picks up baton, advances father's civic desire

By Jim Thielman

After James T. Clark's father passed away, Clark found a copy of a letter that eventually inspired him to consider public office. The letter was written by Clark's father to then-president



Rep. James T. Clark

Ronald Reagan.

"My father was proud of his World War II service and his work as a member of the Rotary, and he wrote to President Reagan how he was a great believer in the democratic process and a great waver of the American flag," Clark (R-Springfield) recalled. "My father wanted to know how he could continue to contribute to his country now that he was retired.

"I don't know if President Reagan responded, or what course my father would have taken."

Clark's father passed away shortly after the letter was written.

But in a sense, Clark picked up the baton. Before reading the letter, Clark's vision as a public servant was uncertain. However, Clark soon began to work on political campaigns to get involved in the political process.

"Before I read my father's letter, public office was never a goal or an aspiration of mine," Clark said.

When the late Rep. Barb Vickerman died of cancer last December, Clark was approached by state Republicans, and his collision with a political career began.

He won the party's endorsement to face DFLer Bonnie McKnight in a special election. Clark then won overwhelmingly at the polls Jan. 20 by a 3,864 to 1,874 margin.

Representing a Minnesota district in the House was something the marketing major from Scarsdale, N.Y., never imagined. He earned his undergraduate degree at Iona Col-

lege in New Rochelle, N.Y., a suburb known as home to television's Rob and Laura Petrie on "The Dick Van Dyke" show. He later graduated cum laude from Thomas M. Cooley Law School in Lansing, Mich. But his political baseline was set years before he became an honors law student and assistant editor of the law review at Cooley.

"When I was a senior in high school, I watched Ronald Reagan's acceptance speech," Clark said, "and I think that crystallized my political philosophy. It sparked my interest in politics."

Clark worked on political campaigns for former President George Bush and U.S. Sen. Rod Grams, but he hadn't considered a campaign of his own until party members beckoned. After talking with his wife, Cara, the decision was made.

"I have an eight-month-old daughter, and we wanted to be sure that I would be able to have enough time to be a good father and husband," he said.

Along with being a good parent, he emphasized he wants to keep the channels of communication open to his "neighbors," whom he emphasized are not simply "constituents."

"Springfield is a small town of 2,300 people," Clark said. "About 60 of them were here for the swearing-in ceremony. In a town of that size, they're not your constituents but your friends and neighbors, and I know already they will certainly pick up the phone."

Clark says it was partially his desire to know his neighbors that brought the couple to Minnesota. His wife is an Iowa native, with relatives in Minnesota.

"Minnesota is an ideal environment to raise a family," Clark said. "New York is a nice place to visit."

Clark said the main complaint he hears from his friends and neighbors is "over-regulating and mandating" by the government.

"The one thing I want is permanent tax reduction," he said. "That will be what we're here to work on. What the government has done is overtaxed citizens. We have a \$1.3 billion surplus in this state, and this is not the government's money. It's the citizen's money. It's my neighbors' money. Getting their money back to them is the one issue I will continue to work on."

Clark will serve on the House Health and Human Services Committee and its finance division, the House Regulated Industries and Energy Committee, and the House General Legislation, Veterans Affairs and Elections Committee.

"It's been hectic," he said. "I've only been here a couple days and there's no training period. But there have been other representatives who have taken me under their wing."

And there are always thoughts of his father. Secured on Clark's key ring is a thin piece of metal that identified a military man in World War II.

"Something I always carry around with me is my father's dog tag," Clark said. "I was rubbing it the other day as I was walking toward the Capitol. It was a very satisfying feeling to me. I know my father would be very proud of what I'm trying to do here."

District 23A

1995 population: 33,661

Largest city: Redwood Falls

Counties: Brown, Redwood

Location: southwestern Minnesota

Top concern: "We are blessed to have a \$1.3 billion surplus. My top priority is to return this money to the taxpayers in the form of a permanent tax reduction. This money is not the government's money. It is your neighbors' money and my neighbors' money. It needs to be returned to them."

— Rep. James T. Clark

Constitutional Officers

Governor

Arne H. Carlson

130 State Capitol

75 Constitution Ave.

St. Paul 55155 296-3391

Lieutenant Governor

Joanne E. Benson

130 State Capitol

75 Constitution Ave.

St. Paul 55155 296-3391

Attorney General

Hubert H. Humphrey III

102 State Capitol

75 Constitution Ave.

St. Paul 55155 296-6196

Secretary of State

Joan Anderson Growe

180 State Office Building

100 Constitution Ave.

St. Paul 55155 296-9208

State Auditor

Judith H. Dutcher

Suite 400

525 Park St.

St. Paul 55103 296-2551

State Treasurer

Michael A. McGrath

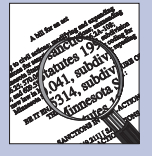
303 Administration Building

50 Sherburne Ave.

St. Paul 55155 296-7091

Gov. Carlson calls the state of the state 'excellent'

A closer look ...



By Sandy Donovan

The state of the state is excellent, Gov. Arne Carlson told lawmakers during his eighth and final annual assessment. Still, he outlined a plan for improvement that includes increased funding for higher education, further property tax reforms, and other new programs.

"We are stronger financially, we're more prosperous and better prepared to take on the future than ever before in history," he told a joint session of the Legislature during his State of the State address in the House chamber Feb. 4.

Throughout the speech he credited bipartisan cooperation and partnerships with the private sector for helping his administration turn its 1991 inherited budget deficit of \$1.8 billion into this year's forecast surplus of \$1.3 million. Carlson will retire from public office at the end of his term this year.

"We would not be talking about [a] surplus today had we not cast — and had you not upheld — some 330 major vetoes, blocking . . . new taxes, spending, and fees," he told legislators.

He cited, as evidence of excellence, areas where he said Minnesota now leads the nation.

"We have become a national model for welfare reform," he said, adding that this year 8,550 fewer Minnesota families rely on welfare than did last year.

He also said that property tax reforms and a decrease in workers' compensation premiums have created a favorable climate for business, spurring job growth.

But he called education reform — including the implementation of basics skills testing and the funding of classroom technology — the area he finds most meaningful.

"We challenged the status quo and succeeded," he said. "We are now making decisions based on what is best for the children, not the educational bureaucracy."

Outlining his agenda for the coming year, however, the governor included only three educational priorities: providing private school vouchers, creating residential boarding academies, and funding colleges and universities.

Vouchers for private schools, he said, would allow families to send their children to the school that best serves their needs.

"I will fight to see that every single family in this state has the same educational choices for their children as the president, vice president,



Gov. Arne Carlson waves to a cheering audience as he leaves the House chamber after giving his last State of the State address Feb. 4.

and members of Congress," he said.

His proposal to create Minnesota's first state-run residential academies for at-risk students would help keep potential trouble-makers out of the criminal justice system, he said — and thereby save the state money in the long run.

"We need to find a way to give kids who have spent years bouncing around the foster care system a sense of permanency and a place to succeed," he said. He did not mention his own years as a scholarship student at a Connecticut boarding school.

Also on the issue of education, the governor described the higher education system as the state's engine of job growth.

"Never in our history has Minnesota needed higher education more than today," he said. And never have there been "as many compelling reasons to justify bonding requests of \$252 million for the University of Minnesota and \$167 million for the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities."

He applauded MnSCU's successful partnerships with private industry and stressed the importance of building those programs to train students to enter the state's high-growth industries — including computer software, health, graphics, manufacturing, and taconite production.

He also stressed the importance of strong research at the U of M and of statewide medical advances.

"I want to make us . . . the lead state in the world in the development of medical technology," he said.

In addition to funding higher education to

foster job growth, Carlson said he wants to see property tax rates further compressed to promote business. His budget proposes a reduction in the commercial and industrial property tax rate.

"While this proposal will not cost homeowners one dime more, it will grow jobs and our economy," he said.

He added that under his plan, the state would be able to extend this year's property tax relief program — residents will recover about 20 percent of their 1997 property taxes as a rebate this year — through 1999.

Carlson also called on lawmakers to be fiscally cautious considering the current economic upheaval in Asia.

"I repeat my call for an Asian market reserve account to cushion any potential blow to our budget from the turmoil in these nations," he said. His budget proposal calls for the state to set aside more than \$200 million to brace for potential problems resulting from economic struggles in Asia.

But, he said, it's essential to recognize issues beyond the "bread and butter" ones of a healthy economy, lower taxes, and high-quality jobs.

"We also value that which enriches our soul — all those things ranging from the arts to our great outdoors," he said.

He called for support of his "Access to the Outdoors" initiative, and, specifically, of the controversial plan to build a veterans memorial park in Duluth, with the now-mothballed U.S.S. Des Moines as its centerpiece.

He did not mention his 1997 priority of a

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new ballpark for the Twins baseball team.

The governor wrapped up his speech with an appeal for compassion toward those in need.

"I want all of our children to grow up in a society that focuses on opportunity rather than entitlement," he said.


And he urged support of continuing Fetal Alcohol Syndrome research — an effort spearheaded by his wife, Susan.

He said that proactive programs like that research and his proposal for boarding schools will contribute to the health of future generations.

"We have to realize that all parents are not

equipped to be good parents," he said.

He spoke of his desire to look back on his administration as one that offered "succeeding generations the opportunity to genuinely pursue history."

"It's my prayer that one day a young person who we have helped will be standing here as governor." 

House and Senate leaders react to governor's speech

DFL leaders in the House and Senate applauded what Gov. Arne Carlson said Feb. 4 in his last State of the State address, but there was some criticism over what he didn't say.

Speaking to a joint session of the Legislature in the House chamber, Carlson called for a commitment to high-tech education and high-tech jobs. He also pushed for private school vouchers and residential academies for at-risk youth.

"I appreciate his call for higher education funding," said House Speaker Phil Carruthers (DFL-Brooklyn Center).

But the speaker questioned Carlson's lack of attention to public schools.

"What about the 850,000 school children in the state?" Carruthers asked. "That's something the Democrats will work for. We should be concerned about what the future will portend. We've got to work to improve K-12 education."

House Minority Leader Steve Sviggum (R-Kenyon) said the final words of the governor's speech resounded for him.

Carlson ended by saying that he hoped that a disadvantaged child of today would someday have the chance to stand in his place.

Sviggum said, "I think we all have dreams about the future of our children. The question is: Does government need to spend more on children? We want to empower parents in this role, not just the educational bureaucracy."

He said the governor didn't appear to be as fiscally prudent as in the past. It was the "fiscal management of the last few years that allowed him to make this speech. This speech had much more of a spending theme to it," Sviggum said.

But Sviggum said Republicans embrace Carlson's overall vision to strengthen Minnesota's higher education system and make it a leader in the area of medical and biological research.

"It's the total size of the budget that we have a problem with," Sviggum said. "It's just too large."

Senate Majority Leader Roger Moe (DFL-Erskine) said the governor has a long list of goals for the final year of his administration.

"That doesn't necessarily mean he's going to get everything he wants," Moe said. "Our job is to look forward into the 21st century." And Moe said some of the governor's suggestions originally came from the DFL. "But that's

OK because I think it indicates in the final analysis we worked together," he said.


House Majority Leader Ted Winter (DFL-Fulda) said he would have liked more from the governor about the rural and agricultural economy.

"Small businesses are the greatest job creators for the state," Winter said. "I wanted to see more emphasis put on our economy of agriculture in Minnesota. People all across the state depend on that."

Carruthers was asked to sum up Carlson's tenure as governor. "I think he's done a good job. Certainly, he's somebody who cares deeply about the state of Minnesota. We've cut property taxes, we've reformed the welfare system," Carruthers said.

One thing the governor did not mention in his speech was a possible new stadium for the Minnesota Twins, who are threatening to move to North Carolina without one. A bill for a new stadium has been introduced.

"It's not a high priority," Carruthers said.

"At this point, it's like any other bill; it's been introduced," Winter said. 

Continued from page 4

can zoom in and create havoc in places that have become sanctuaries," she said.

Each year, Perry sends out an informal loon watchers survey. Her latest survey included questions about loon sightings and nesting habits as well as an addendum asking about the frequency of boats and other watercraft use.

The response Perry received from concerned loon watchers in Aitkin, Cass, and Crow Wing counties reinforced her fears: 54 percent said PWCs are negatively affecting the loons on their lakes.

"This is the state's playground, and this is the heart of loon country," Perry said. "We have a clash here."

Jim Medema of the Jet Sporters Association of Minnesota said that it would be unfair to crowd the larger lakes with a ban on smaller lakes.

The association is also against a provision in the bill that says a PWC could be operated only at slow speed between the hours of 8 a.m. and 10 a.m. and 7 p.m. to sunset.

"This provision would harm everyone who actually has a day job," Medema said.

Although noise is a problem, he said, it can be resolved by changing rider habits through enforcement, education, and improved technology.

Medema said his group would support a mandatory education program and an increased no-wake zone.

"The current state of affairs is not OK, but we don't want unfair restrictions," Medema said. "Until we've given education and media publicity a chance, it is unfair to consider statewide bans."

"Just because somebody turns on a PWC does not mean the day is ruined, that fishermen have to go in, that swimmers are afraid to swim."


The bill now moves to the Environment, Natural Resources, and Agriculture Finance Committee. 

Exhibit shows architect's influence on U of M campus



This is how the University of Minnesota campus would have looked if architect Cass Gilbert's contest-winning plans had been followed. The ambitious designs were not used, but Gilbert's influence on the campus remains evident today.

Image courtesy of the University Archives

By Nick Healy

State Capitol architect Cass Gilbert's grand vision for the University of Minnesota campus was never fully realized. Perhaps it never really could have been.

After all, Gilbert's plans for elaborate terraces, gardens, and Greek amphitheaters running between a domed auditorium at one end of the mall and the Mississippi River at the other would have required a budget as spectacular as the architect's drawings.

Still, the spirit of Gilbert's 1908 "General Plan for Laying Out the Grounds and Locating the Buildings on the Campus of the University of Minnesota" often guided subsequent development of the mall.

An exhibition of Gilbert's campus drawings and plans runs from Feb. 6 to March 22 in the William G. Shepherd Room at the Weisman Art Museum on the U of M campus.

The exhibition "provides a look at the ideas and perceptions of campus planners when the university's landscape was raw material and shows how they dealt with this landscape against the changing needs of the students and the expanding institution," said Carole Zellie, one of two curators for the display, which is called "An Enduring Emblem: Cass Gilbert and the Plans for the University of Minnesota."

The museum show is particularly timely right now. The condition of the campus mall and its overall importance to the university have drawn new attention in recent months from university and state leaders.

Mark Yudof, the university's new president, has made restoration of the campus mall

and improvement of campus buildings top priorities for the university. Lawmakers this year are considering whether to finance the first phase of Yudof's four-year \$776 million plan for capital improvements at the U of M.

This year's proposed \$252 million bonding package for the university would provide money to improve key buildings on the Minneapolis campus, including major projects at Walter Library and Ford Hall, both on the mall.

"The exhibit is a tangible reminder of the value in setting a vision for a place so that the essential character of the place — here at the University of Minnesota campus — is preserved even as changes are made," said Thora Cartlidge, the exhibit's other curator.

The exhibit of Gilbert's U of M drawings also is another sign of a resurgence of interest in the architect, who was considered a national leader in his field during the early years of this century.

Gilbert is best known outside of Minnesota as the architect of the U.S. Supreme Court, The U.S. Customs House, and the Woolworth Building, the latter two located in New York.

But in Minnesota, Gilbert is recalled as the designer of the State Capitol, the Minneapolis Federal Reserve Building, and numerous homes and churches in and around St. Paul.

Gilbert grew up in St. Paul and practiced architecture in the city for 27 years. He won a design competition for the Minnesota Capitol in 1895, and that event began his career designing important, well-known buildings for government and business.

"He used art, sculpture, and color all to-

gether to make a nice, smaller — so to speak — public building," said Carolyn Kompelien, manager of the Capitol Historic Site. "It's a very well-done building, and it's held in very high esteem as far as its architectural design. This building was what really launched him in his career."

By the time Gilbert entered the competition to design the U of M campus mall, he had offices in New York and St. Paul, and he had been awarded the commission for the U.S. Customs House.

Gilbert's design for the Minnesota campus was modeled on Columbia University, which itself was patterned after Thomas Jefferson's plan for the University of Virginia.

The contest-winning plan was considered too costly by the U of M Board of Regents, which eventually dismissed Gilbert in 1910. Not a single building on the campus mall was designed by Gilbert, but as the exhibit demonstrates, he had a great influence on his successors.

The exhibition includes the original drawings of the designers of existing buildings on the campus mall along with the Gilbert drawings, and the documents reveal the impact of Gilbert's work.

And the exhibition is another step in the rediscovery of Gilbert, whose style had passed out of fashion by the time of his death in 1934, and the renewed celebration of his work.

"There are a lot of people who have come to appreciate his classical designs," Kompelien said.

For more information about the Gilbert exhibition, call (612) 625-9494. 🐼

Bill Introductions

HF3000-HF3448

Thursday, Jan. 29

HF3000—Knobloch (R)
Governmental Operations
St. Cloud police consolidation account special one-time postretirement adjustment provided.

HF3001—Mariani (DFL)
Economic Development & International Trade
St. Paul grant provided for the construction of the Minnesota African-American performing arts and education center, bonds issued, and money appropriated.

HF3002—Wolf (R)
Education
Retired principal or superintendent allowed to serve as an interim administrator without financial penalty.

HF3003—Wolf (R)
Education
Labor Day; school year start before Labor Day prohibition repealed.

HF3004—Wolf (R)
Education
Superintendent salary cap removed.

HF3005—Johnson, A. (DFL)
Education
Pell Grant percentage excluded from student financial aid calculation, and money appropriated.

HF3006—Carlson (DFL)
Health & Human Services
Rule 80 nursing facilities rate setting formula modified.

HF3007—Greenfield (DFL)
Health & Human Services
Medical Assistance recipients provided a spouse asset allowance for the alternative care program.

HF3008—Jennings (DFL)
Regulated Industries & Energy
Large energy facility definition expanded to include high voltage transmission lines that cross state boundaries.

HF3009—Jennings (DFL)
Regulated Industries & Energy
Electric utility personal property tax exemption provided relating to school districts adjusted net tax capacity.

HF3010—Molnau (R)
Commerce, Tourism & Consumer Affairs
Consumer report copy fees regulated.

HF3011—Kubly (DFL)
Economic Development & International Trade
Employer contribution for employee housing tax credit provided.

HF3012—Kahn (DFL)
Governmental Operations
Minnesota State Colleges and Universities Retirement Plan provisions modified.

HF3013—Greenfield (DFL)
Health & Human Services
Health care provider uniform billing requirements established.

HF3014—Pugh (DFL)
Judiciary
Contributing to a child's delinquency, juvenile petty offender status, and need for protection services laws clarified, and penalties imposed.

HF3015—Hausman (DFL)
Environment, Natural Resources & Agricultural Finance
Como Park education resource center in St. Paul funded, bonds issued, and money appropriated.

HF3016—Farrell (DFL)
Economic Development & International Trade
Stroh's Brewery site redevelopment and job creation assistance provided, and money appropriated.

HF3017—Entenza (DFL)
Education
Elementary class size reduction program funding enhanced, and money appropriated.

HF3018—Munger (DFL)
Environment & Natural Resources
White pine acquisition and management funded, bonds issued, and money appropriated.

HF3019—Hausman (DFL)
Economic Development & International Trade
Millennium screenwriting festival planning funded, local screenwriter grants provided, and money appropriated.

HF3020—Wejcman (DFL)
Health & Human Services
Consumer advisory board staffing and funding provided, and money appropriated.

HF3021—Jennings (DFL)
Health & Human Services
Health insurance premium tax calculation modified, regional coordinating boards abolished, proposed health coverage mandate assessments provided, and money appropriated.

HF3022—Johnson, R. (DFL)
Health & Human Services
Sexually transmitted disease prevention initiatives appropriated money.

HF3023—Stanek (R)
Judiciary
Repeat theft crime penalties clarified.

HF3024—Milbert (DFL)
Taxes
Pull-tab and tipboard tax rates reduced.

HF3025—Entenza (DFL)
Education
K-12 education finance supplemental appropriations bill.

HF3026—Mahon (DFL)
Economic Development & International Trade
Wold Chamberlain Field in Richfield improvements provided, bonds issued, and money appropriated.

HF3027—Rest (DFL)
Local Government & Metropolitan Affairs
Municipal tort liability exception clarified relating to snow and ice accumulation.

HF3028—Pawlenty (R)
Transportation & Transit
Motor vehicle dealer licensing regulated, and exception provided to non-profit organizations.

HF3029—Pawlenty (R)
Education
Higher education assistance trust fund established, and money appropriated.

HF3030—Pawlenty (R)
Education
Building space average age threshold reduced relating to school district alternative facilities bonding and levy program qualifications.

HF3031—Pawlenty (R)
Local Government & Metropolitan Affairs
City council members permitted to vote on an appointment to fill a mayor or clerk vacancy.

HF3032—McCollum (DFL)
Education
School district alternative facilities program eligibility requirements modified, and money appropriated.

HF3033—McCollum (DFL)
Education
School district alternative facilities program eligibility requirements modified, and money appropriated.

HF3034—Skoglund (DFL)
Judiciary
Juvenile mentoring pilot programs appropriated money.

HF3035—Skoglund (DFL)
Judiciary
Harassment and stalking crime expanded to include injury of a peace officer's reputation, and enhanced penalties provided.

HF3036—Jaros (DFL)
Economic Development & International Trade
Independent living centers appropriated money.

HF3037—Kubly (DFL)
Regulated Industries & Energy
Biomass fuel exemptions and power purchase contract provisions modified.

HF3038—Kubly (DFL)
Transportation & Transit
Trunk Highway No. 17 Minnesota river bridge designated as the William Angermeyer Memorial Bridge.

HF3039—Pawlenty (R)
Judiciary
Subsequent controlled substance conviction provisions expanded to include dispositions under the controlled substance prescription law.

HF3040—Johnson, R. (DFL)
Health & Human Services
Long-term nursing care facility payroll documentation procedures modified.

HF3041—Johnson, A. (DFL)
Taxes
Local property tax levy limit growth factors modified.

HF3042—Jennings (DFL)
Regulated Industries & Energy
Long-distance telephone provider additional antislamming disclosure requirements provided, price increase notification requirements clarified, and international calls for information services billing provisions modified.

HF3043—Trimble (DFL)
Education
Metronet; libraries throughout the state appropriated money for a Minnesota authors video series.

HF3044—Chaudhary (DFL)
Transportation & Transit
Twin Cities metropolitan area transit accessibility board established, powers and duties assigned, and money appropriated.

HF3045—Greenfield (DFL)
Health & Human Services
Medical Assistance income eligibility standards increased for the aged, blind, or disabled.

HF3046—Greenfield (DFL)
Health & Human Services
Medical Assistance and General Assistance medical care eligibility requirements modified, and MinnesotaCare provisions modified.

HF3047—Knoblach (R)
Health & Human Services
Nursing home bed certification moratorium exception provided.

HF3048—Pugh (DFL)
Judiciary
Concurrent sentences allowed for separate crimes only with compelling reasons, and jail time credit limited.

HF3049—Greenfield (DFL)
Health & Human Services
Reimbursements modified for certain nursing facilities in Hennepin, Ramsey, and Brown counties.

HF3050—Rostberg (R)
Education
Cambridge Community College master facilities plan completion provided, bonds issued, and money appropriated.

HF3051—Biernat (DFL)
Judiciary
Failure to obey certain subpoenas provided felony penalties, and felony offender failure to appear for criminal proceedings provided increased penalties.

HF3052—Seagren (R)
Education
K-12 education finance supplemental appropriations bill.

HF3053—Larsen (R)
Judiciary
Interference with privacy and making obscene or harassing telephone calls exempt from juvenile petty offenses.

HF3054—Paymar (DFL)
Economic Development & International Trade
Public Arts St. Paul appropriated money for art projects throughout the city.

HF3055—Mariani (DFL)
Judiciary
Ramsey County juvenile crime prevention pilot project appropriated money.

HF3056—Peterson (DFL)
Education
Independent School District No. 378, Dawson, cooperative education and community center construction provided, bonds issued, and money appropriated.

HF3057—Lieder (DFL)
Transportation & Transit
Road or highway redefined, trunk highway and general fund expenditures regulated, transportation spending goals established, state patrol funded, motor fuel tax rates adjusted, local bridge replacement authorized, and money appropriated.

HF3058—Solberg (DFL)
Local Government & Metropolitan Affairs
Itasca County tourism expenditures increased pending local approval.

HF3059—Juhnke (DFL)
Judiciary
Juvenile court records made public in certain cases, and annual delinquency disposition reports required.

HF3060—Rukavina (DFL)
Commerce, Tourism & Consumer Affairs
Virginia authorized to issue an additional on-sale liquor license.

HF3061—Chaudhary (DFL)
Judiciary
Driver's license revocation judicial review petition and judicial expungement order petition content requirements modified.

HF3062—Carlson (DFL)
Education
Technology funding program created, first grade preparedness program made permanent, and summer school activities additional compensatory revenue authorized.

HF3063—Clark, K. (DFL)
Economic Development & International Trade
Green Institute, Inc. appropriated money for job creation in the Phillips neighborhood of Minneapolis.

HF3064—Clark, K. (DFL)
Regulated Industries & Energy
State telephone assistance program amended to conform with federal requirements, automatic enrollment provided for certain persons, TAP surcharge increased, and state universal service fund developed.

HF3065—Dorn (DFL)
Financial Institutions & Insurance
Comprehensive health insurance maximum lifetime benefit increased.

HF3066—Winter (DFL)
Education
Delivered fuel account established, and money appropriated.

HF3067—Paymar (DFL)
Judiciary
Written domestic abuse police reports provided data classification.

HF3068—Solberg (DFL)
Governmental Operations
Ratification of certain labor agreements and certain plans and proposals relating to state employees provided.

HF3069—Trimble (DFL)
Environment & Natural Resources
Small business owners with tanks located on their properties provided petroleum fund reimbursement eligibility.

HF3070—Wolf (R)
Regulated Industries & Energy
Homeowners variance allowing operation of decorative gas lamps provided.

HF3071—Wolf (R)
Commerce, Tourism & Consumer Affairs
Petroleum product specifications modified.

HF3072—Greenfield (DFL)
Health & Human Services
Health care premium tax payment modified, and exemption provided.

HF3073—Jennings (DFL)
Health & Human Services
Child care provider licensure provisions modified.

HF3074—Holsten (R)
Environment, Natural Resources & Agricultural Finance
State of Minnesota storm sewer reconstruction project in Bayport appropriated money, and bonds issued.

HF3075—Anderson, I. (DFL)
Governmental Operations
Public employee insurance trust fund appropriated money.

HF3076—Kalis (DFL)
Environment, Natural Resources & Agricultural Finance
Quad-lakes restoration project in Faribault and Blue Earth counties appropriated money.

HF3077—Knoblach (R)
Governmental Operations
State building maintenance costs required in annual operating budget.

HF3078—Mahon (DFL)
Judiciary
South metro joint public safety training facility in Richfield appropriated money, and bonds issued.

HF3079—Pawlenty (R)
Taxes
Charitable contribution tax credit provided.

HF3080—Wejcman (DFL)
Local Government & Metropolitan Affairs
Minneapolis allowed to exceed bonding limit for water supply capital improvement projects.

HF3081—Paymar (DFL)
Local Government & Metropolitan Affairs
St. Paul bonding limits set.

HF3082—Mariani (DFL)
Economic Development & International Trade
Harriet Island redevelopment in St. Paul appropriated money, and bonds issued.

HF3083—McElroy (R)
Transportation & Transit
Metropolitan public safety radio system appropriated money, and bonds issued.

HF3084—Ness (R)
Economic Development & International Trade
Meeker County economic development authority authorized.

HF3085—Peterson (DFL)
Health & Human Services
Emergency management division required to provide volunteer resource coordination during disasters, and money appropriated.

HF3086—Osthoff (DFL)
Environment, Natural Resources & Agricultural Finance
Acquisition of metropolitan regional recreational open space provided, bonds issued, and money appropriated.

HF3087—Rostberg (R)
Economic Development & International Trade
Cambridge sewer and water services appropriated money, and bonds issued.

HF3088—Kielkucki (R)
Economic Development & International Trade
Waverly granted funds to establish Hubert H. Humphrey museum and learning center, bonds issued, and money appropriated.

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HF3089—Dorn (DFL)
Education
Mankato State University Foundation authorized to construct a black box theater, and ownership transfer to the state required.

HF3090—Schumacher (DFL)
Education
Unlimited possibilities plan grant provided for high school to college or work assistance, and money appropriated.

HF3091—Murphy (DFL)
Education
Pell Grant percentage excluded from student financial aid calculation, and money appropriated.

HF3092—Goodno (R)
Commerce, Tourism & Consumer Affairs
Social Security number required as a condition of check acceptance prohibited, and dishonored check case prosecution provided.

HF3093—Pugh (DFL)
Commerce, Tourism & Consumer Affairs
Minnesota collection agencies regulated, and certain out-of-state agencies exempt.

HF3094—Harder (R)
Education
Independent School District No. 2884, Red Rock, accelerated transition plan authorized.

HF3095—Rhodes (R)
General Legislation, Veterans Affairs & Elections
First Sunday in February designated as Four Chaplains Sunday in honor of four chaplains who sacrificed their lives during World War II.

HF3096—Davids (R)
Transportation & Transit
Chatfield roadway construction provided, bonds issued, and money appropriated.

HF3097—Davids (R)
Transportation & Transit
Laura Ingalls Wilder Historic Highway route modified.

HF3098—Schumacher (DFL)
Local Government & Metropolitan Affairs
Foley tax increment finance district revenue expenditure authorized for a wastewater treatment facility outside the district.

HF3099—Schumacher (DFL)
Transportation & Transit
Motor vehicle sales tax proceeds allocated to the highway user tax distribution fund and the transit assistance fund.

HF3100—Schumacher (DFL)
Transportation & Transit
Local bridge grants provided for construction and repair, and money appropriated.

HF3101—Skare (DFL)
Local Government & Metropolitan Affairs
Bemidji authorized to impose additional sales and excise taxes for the purpose of funding convention center construction.

HF3102—Schumacher (DFL)
Environment & Natural Resources
Small city cost-share program created for wetland replacement, and money appropriated.

HF3103—Anderson, B. (R)
Agriculture
First-time and seasonal food handlers license provisions modified.

HF3104—Delmont (DFL)
Regulated Industries & Energy
Lottery retailer bonus plan established, holiday game conducted, operating reserve account created, additional advertising fund expenditure authorized, and conflict of interest clarified.

HF3105—Pawlenty (R)
Commerce, Tourism & Consumer Affairs
Eagan authorized on-sale liquor licenses increased.

HF3106—Erhardt (R)
Judiciary
Motor vehicle air bag on-off switch installation and deactivation regulated, and dealer limited liability provided.

HF3107—Daggett (R)
Taxes
Pull-tab and tipboard tax rates reduced.

HF3108—Dawkins (DFL)
Education
Youth initiative grants provided to local governments for public improvements, bonds issued, and money appropriated.

HF3109—Ness (R)
Education
Special education cooperatives nos. 52-937, Crow Wing, and 52-938, Meeker and Wright, disabled access improvement grant reauthorized, and money appropriated.

HF3110—Daggett (R)
Environment & Natural Resources
Walleye, sauger, northern pike, muskellunge, largemouth bass, and smallmouth bass angling season extension authorized.

HF3111—Macklin (R)
Judiciary
Forfeited vehicle return subject to agency approval, convictions in other states used for harassment penalty enhancement, restitution hearing request 30-day limit provided, and financial institution search warrants filed within 30 days.

HF3112—Tompkins (R)
Judiciary
Value of stolen property definition clarified relating to theft.

HF3113—Rest (DFL)
Taxes
Dependent care income tax credit expanded.

HF3114—Skare (DFL)
Economic Development & International Trade
Workforce center programs school-to-work initiatives support provided, and money appropriated.

HF3115—Evans (DFL)
Economic Development & International Trade
Health homes pilot project established, and money appropriated.

HF3116—Ness (R)
Education
Graduation rule expanded to include knowledge of personal and family financial management and investment.

HF3117—Paulsen (R)
Education
School plan or school closure provided to improve student achievement levels based on minimum state expectations, and unrequested leave of absence provisions modified for teachers at closed schools.

HF3118—Olson, E. (DFL)
Taxes
Counties provided unorganized town road maintenance funding through natural resources land payments in lieu of taxes.

HF3119—Olson, E. (DFL)
Local Government & Metropolitan Affairs
Officer of a local unit of government authorized to contract with the unit to provide construction services and materials under certain circumstances.

HF3120—Rest (DFL)
Financial Institutions & Insurance
Insurance and health plan underwriting standards modified to prohibit the use of credit history of the applicant to deny coverage.

HF3121—Jennings (DFL)
Governmental Operations
State design-build contracts provided, and rulemaking authority provided.

HF3122—Chaudhary (DFL)
Governmental Operations
Extended leave of absence deadline extended for a certain teacher.

HF3123—Jennings (DFL)
Regulated Industries & Energy
Public Utilities Commission or Department of Public Service telecommunications proceeding costs to be shared by all parties.

HF3124—Rukavina (DFL)
Transportation & Transit
Minimum value of above-market passenger automobiles increased for motor vehicle sales tax purposes.

HF3125—McGuire (DFL)
Education
Gang prevention and intervention program appropriated money.

HF3126—Osskopp (R)
Local Government
& Metropolitan Affairs
Community-based planning and goal provisions repealed.

HF3127—Luther (DFL)
Education
Full day kindergarten phase-in provided, first grade preparedness program expanded, and money appropriated.

HF3128—Seifert (R)
Education
Independent School District No. 415, Lynd, funds transfer authorized.

HF3129—Wejcman (DFL)
Health & Human Services
Rental housing assistance program established, homeless adult pilot program expanded, evaluation required, and money appropriated.

HF3130—Koskinen (DFL)
Education
Alternative facilities program expanded, compensatory revenue formula modified, referendum equalization aid increased, elementary achievement program established, and money appropriated.

HF3131—Otremba, M. (DFL)
Agriculture
Midwest interstate dairy compact established, and money appropriated.

HF3132—Chaudhary (DFL)
Transportation & Transit
Columbia Heights commuter rail station planned and designed, and money appropriated.

HF3133—Rukavina (DFL)
Environment & Natural Resources
Red or white pine planting required for each acre developed and removed from agricultural use in certain counties.

HF3134—Bishop (R)
Judiciary
Crimes committed by persons on bail study required, and money appropriated.

HF3135—Stanek (R)
Health & Human Services
Partial-birth abortions prohibited and criminal penalties provided.

HF3136—Greiling (DFL)
Education
General education formula training and experience revenue component restored, and money appropriated.

HF3137—Rukavina (DFL)
Governmental Operations
State debt collections act modified.

HF3138—Evans (DFL)
Health & Human Services
Automatic external defibrillator use authorized, 911 emergency call required, and civil liability immunity provided.

HF3139—Tunheim (DFL)
Commerce, Tourism
& Consumer Affairs
Beer brewers and wholesalers regulated, and obligations of successors provided.

HF3140—Kalis (DFL)
Environment & Natural Resources
Zippel Bay State Park provided a state park permit exemption, Garden Island state recreation area established in Lake of the Woods County, and state park additions provided.

HF3141—Ozment (R)
Environment & Natural Resources
Above-ground storage tank rule review provided.

HF3142—Koskinen (DFL)
Education
Child care assistance reimbursement rates modified, and wage enhancements for provider rates provided.

HF3143—Sekhon (DFL)
Environment, Natural Resources
& Agricultural Finance
Twin Cities metropolitan area state and regional park trails connected, bonds issued, and money appropriated.

HF3144—Wenzel (DFL)
Transportation & Transit
Trunk Highway No. 371 four-lane expressway improvements provided, bonds issued, and money appropriated.

HF3145—Rest (DFL)
Economic Development
& International Trade
Housing Finance Agency low-income housing tax credit allocation and compliance monitoring review provided.

HF3146—Gunther (R)
Governmental Operations
Fairmont Police Relief Association surviving spouse retirement benefits increased, and additional annual postretirement adjustment mechanism provided.

HF3147—Pugh (DFL)
Commerce, Tourism
& Consumer Affairs
Criminal alcoholic beverage transportation or importation penalty provisions modified, and liquor license local option election provision eliminated.

HF3148—Kubly (DFL)
Commerce, Tourism
& Consumer Affairs
Manufactured home sales regulated, and limited dealers' licenses authorized in certain cases.

HF3149—Kubly (DFL)
Education
Independent school districts nos. 421 and 426, McLeod West Interdistrict Cooperative, new pre K-12 facility construction authorized, bonds issued, and money appropriated.

HF3150—Jennings (DFL)
Regulated Industries & Energy
Minnesota retail electric competition act adopted.

HF3151—Bettermann (R)
Environment & Natural Resources
Douglas County authorized to sell tax-forfeited land bordering public water.

HF3152—Paulsen (R)
Taxes
Minimum income tax subtraction provided for certain elderly and disabled persons.

HF3153—Huntley (DFL)
Economic Development
& International Trade
On-the-job training program for skilled trades developed, and money appropriated.

HF3154—Chaudhary (DFL)
Education
Class size reduction program funding enhanced, and money appropriated.

HF3155—Pugh (DFL)
Judiciary
Complainant's sexual behavior evidence admissibility in sexual harassment actions limited.

HF3156—Pugh (DFL)
Environment & Natural Resources
Hubbard County school trust land sale required.

HF3157—Winter (DFL)
Local Government
& Metropolitan Affairs
Luverne provided an exemption from the Minnesota Investment Fund Grant limit for job loss offset, and appropriation reallocated.

HF3158—Peterson (DFL)
Education
Independent School District No. 378, Dawson-Boyd, education and community center construction provided, bonds issued, and money appropriated.

HF3159—Seifert (R)
Governmental Operations
Bureaucracy control act adopted requiring legislative and executive approval of proposed administrative rules.

HF3160—Bishop (R)
Taxes
Hospital sales tax exemption effective date modified.

HF3161—Mullery (DFL)
Economic Development
& International Trade
Businesses receiving public subsidies wage and job reporting requirements modified.

HF3162—Biernat (DFL)
Judiciary
State correctional investigators authorized to use force to apprehend state prison fugitives.

HF3163—Pugh (DFL)
Judiciary
Public defender law corrections, updates, and clarifications provided.

HF3164—Mullery (DFL)
Judiciary
Presumptive sentence departures permitted based on offenders prior juvenile offense record.

HF3165—Rest (DFL)
Economic Development
& International Trade
Manufacturing and housing project
bond allocation provided.

HF3166—Greenfield (DFL)
Health & Human Services
Medical assistance and
MinnesotaCare program information
provided in English, Spanish, Viet-
namese, and Hmong.

HF3167—Slawik (DFL)
Education
Children's endowment fund estab-
lished, money appropriated, and con-
stitutional amendment proposed.

HF3168—Chaudhary (DFL)
Taxes
Residential property owners provided
a 1998 tax rebate, and seasonal recre-
ation residential property owners and
renters included.

HF3169—Larsen (R)
Taxes
Seniors provided an additional prop-
erty tax refund.

HF3170—Larsen (R)
Education
School year length set at 175 days of
instruction.

HF3171—Larsen (R)
Judiciary
Watchmaker or jeweler liens provided
for value of the work performed.

HF3172—Wagenius (DFL)
Transportation & Transit
Metropolitan transit authority and
commuter rail fund established, and
money appropriated.

HF3173—Winter (DFL)
Judiciary
Children from a subsequent family
taken into account when setting the
level of child support.

HF3174—Rest (DFL)
Local Government
& Metropolitan Affairs
Advisory council on metropolitan
area critical problems, and money
appropriated.

HF3175—Rest (DFL)
Health & Human Services
Residential hospice advisory task force
established to study facility licensure,
and money appropriated.

HF3176—Mullery (DFL)
Health & Human Services
MinnesotaCare eligibility require-
ments modified for persons with con-
tinuation coverage.

HF3177—Mullery (DFL)
Economic Development
& International Trade
Job-training programs study require-
ments modified to include wage rate
and group breakdown information.

HF3178—Jennings (DFL)
Local Government
& Metropolitan Affairs
Municipal utility proprietary and
competitive business data classified
as nonpublic, and open meeting law
exception provided.

HF3179—Jennings (DFL)
Regulated Industries & Energy
Municipal provision of telecommu-
nications services regulated.

HF3180—Westfall (R)
Environment & Natural Resources
Board of natural resources created,
and powers and duties transferred.

HF3181—Clark, K. (DFL)
Health & Human Services
African-American men with hyper-
tension studied, cultural wellness
grant program implemented, and
money appropriated.

HF3182—Anderson, B. (R)
General Legislation, Veterans
Affairs & Elections
Picture identification card required
to vote.

HF3183—Mariani (DFL)
Economic Development
& International Trade
Housing Finance Agency nonprofit
capacity building grants provided, and
money appropriated.

HF3184—Skoglund (DFL)
Judiciary
Prenatal alcohol abuse civil commit-
ment provided, and reporting re-
quired.

HF3185—Boudreau (R)
Judiciary
Children in need of protection case
plans expanded, maltreatment of mi-
nors provisions modified, and risk
assessment alternatives and perfor-
mance measurement task forces es-
tablished.

HF3186—Larsen (R)
Judiciary
Juvenile corrections facilities licen-
sure restricted.

HF3187—Trimble (DFL)
Economic Development
& International Trade
Minnesota Technology, Inc.'s seed
capital fund changed to equity fund
and provisions modified.

HF3188—Trimble (DFL)
Environment & Natural Resources
Environmental response provided at
eligible mixed municipal solid waste
facilities posing human health and
environmental risks.

HF3189—Mullery (DFL)
Economic Development
& International Trade
Summer youth employment pro-
grams appropriated money.

HF3190—Mullery (DFL)
Economic Development
& International Trade
Neighborhood Development Center,
Inc. grant provided, and money ap-
propriated.

HF3191—Paymar (DFL)
Regulated Industries & Energy
Public Utilities Commission required
to reconsider telephone area code as-
signments for the metropolitan area.

HF3192—Juhnke (DFL)
Taxes
New farm machinery sales tax ex-
emption provided, and aquaculture
equipment subject to sales tax.

HF3193—Ness (R)
Local Government
& Metropolitan Affairs
Hutchinson authorized to impose
additional taxes to fund a civic and
community center, and recreational
facilities.

HF3194—Wenzel (DFL)
Agriculture
Agricultural crop security interest
regulated, and collateral provisions
modified.

HF3195—Wenzel (DFL)
Environment, Natural Resources
& Agricultural Finance
Little Falls; Mississippi River east bank
sediment cleanup state share funding
provided, and money appropriated.

HF3196—Wenzel (DFL)
Education
Little Falls Carnegie library improve-
ments provided, bonds issued, and
money appropriated.

HF3197—Folliard (DFL)
Education
Independent School District No. 270,
Hopkins, model transportation and
school start time policy created, re-
port required, and money appropri-
ated.

HF3198—Folliard (DFL)
Governmental Operations
Teachers Retirement Association and
First Class City Teacher Retirement
Fund Associations part-time teach-
ing position eligibility modified re-
lating to qualified full-time service
credit participation.

HF3199—Leighton (DFL)
Education
Charter school employment and op-
erating provisions modified.

HF3200—Munger (DFL)
Transportation & Transit
Lake Superior and Mississippi Rail-
road improvement grant provided,
and money appropriated.

HF3201—Otremba, M. (DFL)
Agriculture
Unpasteurized fruit juice and cider
labeling required.

HF3202—Pelowski (DFL)
Governmental Operations
Winona State University teaching per-
sonnel authorized to purchase ser-
vice credit for unreported extended
leave of absence.

HF3203—Huntley (DFL)
Health & Human Services
Proposed health plan coverage man-
dates assessed.

HF3204—Pugh (DFL)
Judiciary
Carisoprodol schedule IV controlled
substance listing effective date de-
layed.

HF3205—Kubly (DFL)
Economic Development
& International Trade
Challenge grant program maximum
business loan amount increased.

HF3206—Lieder (DFL)
Education
Independent School District No.
2854, Ada-Borup, health and safety
revenue use authorized.

HF3207—Knoblach (R)
Environment, Natural Resources
& Agricultural Finance
Stearns County; quarry park and nature preserve improvements provided, bonds issued, and money appropriated.

HF3208—Dehler (R)
Regulated Industries & Energy
Lottery retailer commissions adjusted.

HF3209—Dehler (R)
Transportation & Transit
Firearms safety training designation provided on drivers' licenses and identification cards.

HF3210—Dehler (R)
Taxes
Golf course class rate reduction eligibility extended.

HF3211—Johnson, R. (DFL)
Environment & Natural Resources
Becoming an Outdoors Woman program continuation and expansion provided, and money appropriated.

HF3212—Mares (R)
Education
Residential academies for at-risk students provided program grants, and money appropriated.

HF3213—Kinkel (DFL)
Health & Human Services
Hospice programs required to properly dispose of legend drugs.

HF3214—Opatz (DFL)
Education
Successful schools defined, at-risk school improvement plans developed, school improvement fund and distinguished educators program established, at-risk to charter schools transformation provided, studies required, and money appropriated.

HF3215—Wagenius (DFL)
Governmental Operations
Minneapolis Fire Department Relief Association payment of survivor benefits to a certain person authorized.

HF3216—Solberg (DFL)
Transportation & Transit
Transportation improvement fund created, motor vehicle sales tax proceeds dedicated, motor fuel tax increased, and constitutional amendment proposed.

HF3217—Kelso (DFL)
Education
Historical educational programs grants provided for elementary and secondary school curriculum design, and money appropriated.

HF3218—McGuire (DFL)
Judiciary
State made financially responsible for costs associated with the treatment and confinement of persons who are sexually psychopathic or sexually dangerous.

HF3219—Farrell (DFL)
Judiciary
Automatic external defibrillator purchase grant program established for local law enforcement agencies, and money appropriated.

HF3220—Ness (R)
Labor-Management Relations
State contracted project compensation ranges established for all job classifications and prevailing wage rates assigned.

HF3221—Skare (DFL)
Health & Human Services
Breast and cervical cancer control program funding provided for screening of low-income individuals, and money appropriated.

HF3222—Huntley (DFL)
Judiciary
911 emergency dispatchers relieved from tort liability in certain cases.

HF3223—Slawik (DFL)
Education
Class size reduction program funding enhanced, school district debt service levy full equalization provided, and money appropriated.

HF3224—Wejcman (DFL)
Health & Human Services
General Assistance citizenship requirements modified, state food assistance programs created for certain legal noncitizens, noncitizen family food assistance benefits extended, and money appropriated.

HF3225—Jefferson (DFL)
Taxes
Minneapolis Convention Center improvement materials and equipment sales tax exemption provided.

HF3226—Rukavina (DFL)
Environment & Natural Resources
Gunn Lake elevation level provided, and penalties provided.

HF3227—Murphy (DFL)
Education
Independent School District No. 93, Carlton, district building and services coordination developed, and money appropriated.

HF3228—Murphy (DFL)
Governmental Operations
Teachers Retirement Association and First Class City Teacher Retirement Fund associations service credit purchase authorized for prior military service, out-of-state teaching service, and pre-1976 maternity leaves or breaks-in-service.

HF3229—Jennings (DFL)
Commerce, Tourism
& Consumer Affairs
Cigarette displays accessible to the public limited to cartons of 10 units or more.

HF3230—Tunheim (DFL)
Environment & Natural Resources
Shipment and possession of wild animals taken on the Red Lake Indian Reservation north of the 49th parallel authorized, and no state license required.

HF3231—Bradley (R)
Health & Human Services
Prepaid medical assistance program expansion and county-based purchasing provisions modified.

HF3232—Farrell (DFL)
Commerce, Tourism
& Consumer Affairs
Sign contractor voluntary registration provided.

HF3233—Pugh (DFL)
Judiciary
District and state public defender representation eligibility clarified.

HF3234—Leighton (DFL)
Local Government
& Metropolitan Affairs
Municipal liability provisions modified.

HF3235—Dawkins (DFL)
Taxes
St. Paul sales tax revenue distributed to the STAR program to be awarded through a grant review process, and allocation provided.

HF3236—Rest (DFL)
Commerce, Tourism
& Consumer Affairs
Retail sale of tobacco licensed by local units of government, specified substances in cigars disclosure exemption provided, and the sale of unopened cartons on cigarette displays accessible to the public authorized.

HF3237—Chaudhary (DFL)
Local Government
& Metropolitan Affairs
Columbia Heights enterprise zone established, and tax incentives provided for high technology businesses.

HF3238—Holsten (R)
Environment, Natural Resources
& Agricultural Finance
Critical habitat private sector matching account special license plate revenue required to be matched by public appropriations.

HF3239—Jennings (DFL)
Taxes
Sparkling wine excise tax reduced.

HF3240—Rest (DFL)
Taxes
Low-income housing property tax class rules clarified, penalties modified, and fees and penalties deposited in the housing development fund.

HF3241—Pelowski (DFL)
Governmental Operations
Voter registration reassignments to correct precinct and election district provided following legislative redistricting, and money appropriated.

HF3242—Bishop (R)
Capital Investment
Omnibus bonding bill providing public improvements of a capital nature, bonds issuance authorized, and money appropriated.

HF3243—Dempsey (R)
Economic Development
& International Trade
Hastings municipal water park construction provided, bonds issued, and money appropriated.

HF3244—Jennings (DFL)
Health & Human Services
Water conditioning contractors and installers licensed and regulated, continuing education required, and registration required for water conditioning units claiming to remove primary contaminants.

HF3245—Dorn (DFL)
Economic Development
& International Trade
Mankato technology center construction provided, bonds issued, and money appropriated.

HF3246—Lieder (DFL)
Economic Development
& International Trade
Ada disaster loan guarantee provided for damaged public health care facility operating losses, and money appropriated.

HF3247—Jennings (DFL)
Economic Development
& International Trade
St. Croix Valley heritage center designed, prior bond proceeds cancelled, and money appropriated.

HF3248—Anderson, B. (R)
Environment & Natural Resources
Biodiversity Treaty; Congress memorialized to oppose the ratification of the Biodiversity Treaty.

HF3249—Larsen (R)
Economic Development
& International Trade
Land mines; United States government urged to sign the international convention to ban land mines.

HF3250—Garcia (DFL)
Transportation & Transit
Aircraft safety; president and Congress memorialized to enact the Aircraft Repair Station Safety Act of 1997.

HF3251—Pelowski (DFL)
Education
University of Minnesota law clinics program provided funding for low-income legal assistance expansion, and money appropriated.

Thursday, Feb. 5

HF3339—Hilty (DFL)
Regulated Industries & Energy
Electric utilities required to disclose supply sources and pollutant amounts.

HF3340—Jennings (DFL)
Regulated Industries & Energy
Public utilities energy conservation improvements definition expanded.

HF3341—Schumacher (DFL)
Environment, Natural Resources
& Agriculture Finance
Sand Dunes State Forest office facility/interpretive center designed, bonds issued, and money appropriated.

HF3342—Kinkel (DFL)
Local Government
& Metropolitan Affairs
Town subordinate service district dissolution petitions provided.

HF3343—Sykora (R)
Health & Human Services
Fetal alcohol syndrome campaign implemented, statewide network of FAS diagnostic clinics and grant programs established, study required, and money appropriated.

HF3344—Mariani (DFL)
Education
Incentives for child care services for children with disabilities provided, and money appropriated.

HF3345—Greenfield (DFL)
Health & Human Services
Minnesota Family Investment Program-Statewide provisions modified, and service unit plans modified.

HF3346—Murphy (DFL)
Education
Independent School District No. 94, Cloquet, reading readiness program provided, and money appropriated.

HF3347—Mullery (DFL)
General Legislation,
Veterans Affairs & Elections
Multiple unit dwelling candidate access denial prohibitions modified, and felony penalties provided.

HF3348—Kahn (DFL)
Governmental Operations
Twins baseball franchise community ownership provided, stadium construction conditions established, and money appropriated.

HF3349—Opatz (DFL)
Education
Northstar research coalition created to leverage the University of Minnesota's research capabilities, and money appropriated.

HF3350—Orfield (DFL)
Governmental Operations
Advisory council on official publications created.

HF3351—Bishop (R)
Taxes
Construction materials and supplies used to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act sales tax exemption provided.

HF3352—Holsten (R)
Environment, Natural Resources
& Agriculture Finance
Critical habitat private sector matching account special license plate revenue required to be matched by the critical habitat license plate matching account.

HF3353—Holsten (R)
Environment & Natural Resources
Washington County authorized to sell tax-forfeited land bordering public waters.

HF3354—Holsten (R)
Environment, Natural Resources
& Agriculture Finance
Washington County; Twin Lake flooding problems engineering analysis funded, and money appropriated.

HF3355—Rest (DFL)
Financial Institutions & Insurance
Investments of insurers act adopted.

HF3356—Milbert (DFL)
Environment & Natural Resources
Taking of white bears prohibited.

HF3357—Murphy (DFL)
Judiciary
Court surcharge and fine assessment provisions revised and consolidated.

HF3358—Ness (R)
Governmental Operations
Broad statutory delegations of rulemaking authority to state agencies studied, and rulemaking regulated.

HF3359—Hilty (DFL)
Governmental Operations
Occupational regulatory oversight council established to coordinate health-related and non-health-related occupation regulation boards, report required, and money appropriated.

HF3360—Paymar (DFL)
Judiciary
Recognition of domestic abuse protection orders from other states clarified, and mutual orders not entitled to full faith and credit in certain cases.

HF3361—Mares (R)
Financial Institutions & Insurance
Cochlear implant health plan coverage required.

HF3362—Greiling (DFL)
General Legislation,
Veterans Affairs & Elections
Public's right to know; independent expenditures definition expanded, independent campaign expenditure notice requirements modified, and lobbying costs disclosure in full required.

HF3363—Seagren (R)
Education
School districts required to notify parents of transition goals and services for their children with disabilities, eligible institutions definition modified relating to student grants, and money appropriated.

HF3364—Rukavina (DFL)
Economic Development
& International Trade
Three direct reduction iron processing facilities constructed, bonds issued, and money appropriated.

HF3365—Otremba, M. (DFL)
Education
Central Lakes College, Staples, and Northwest Technical College, Wadena, improvements funded, bonds issued, and money appropriated.

HF3366—Chaudhary (DFL)
Judiciary
Justifiable homicide expanded to include preventing the commission of a felony by certain trespassers.

HF3367—Solberg (DFL)
Environment & Natural Resources
Itasca County authorized to sell tax-forfeited land bordering public waters.

HF3368—Abrams (R)
Governmental Operations
Independent School District No. 16, Spring Lake Park, teacher provided service credit purchase for a sabbatical leave.

HF3369—Rest (DFL)
Taxes
Low-income taxpayer assistance services funded, and money appropriated.

HF3370—Paymar (DFL)
Judiciary
Victims of domestic violence address confidentiality program established, and money appropriated.

HF3371—McCollum (DFL)
Transportation & Transit
Transit-related capital improvements bond issuance authorized, and money appropriated.

HF3372—Kahn (DFL)
Environment & Natural Resources
Mississippi whitewater trail established in Minneapolis.

HF3373—Kahn (DFL)
Governmental Operations
Capitol mall memorials repair and rehabilitation funded, bonds issued, and money appropriated.

HF3374—Solberg (DFL)
Education
Retired health benefits expenses school district levy authority made permanent.

HF3375—Tomassoni (DFL)
Governmental Operations
Trained force of firefighters maintained by the commissioner of natural resources, and public employee definition expanded.

HF3376—Juhnke (DFL)
Education
Ridgewater Community College Americans with Disabilities Act compliance and improvements funded, bonds issued, and money appropriated.

HF3377—Johnson, R. (DFL)
Education
Fire service training board established, training and education assistance provided, and money appropriated.

HF3378—Westrom (R)
Health & Human Services
Vision Loss Resources, Inc. rehabilitation and community centers funded, and money appropriated.

HF3379—Winter (DFL)
Financial Institutions & Insurance
Ambulance services health plan company reimbursements provided.

HF3380—Dawkins (DFL)
Judiciary
Claims against the state limited relating to losses involving the operation of a recreational motor vehicle on a trunk highway right-of-way, highway closures regulated, and civil penalties imposed.

HF3381—Wenzel (DFL)
Economic Development & International Trade
Morrison, Crow Wing, Mille Lacs, and Kanabec counties compensated for tornado damage, and money appropriated.

HF3382—Jennings (DFL)
Judiciary
Unlawful detainer provisions modified, court felony filing fee reduced, stay of execution eliminated, and storage period reduced for tenants property after writ execution.

HF3383—Schumacher (DFL)
Taxes
Political subdivision sales and use tax exemption provided.

HF3384—Wejcman (DFL)
Health & Human Services
Noncitizen food stamp program continued, and money appropriated.

HF3385—Wejcman (DFL)
Health & Human Services
Legal nonlicensed family child care minimal safety standards required, and child care fund assistance receipt prohibited if standards are not met.

HF3386—Wejcman (DFL)
Health & Human Services
Safe houses with homeless targeted youth services funded, and money appropriated.

HF3387—Rifenberg (R)
Judiciary
Private property rights protection act adopted.

HF3388—McGuire (DFL)
Education
St. Paul campus of the University of Minnesota dairy barn renovation and conversion funded, bonds issued, and money appropriated.

HF3389—McGuire (DFL)
Judiciary
Financial institutions provided limited liability for criminal alert network data errors regarding fraudulent checks.

HF3390—McGuire (DFL)
Judiciary
Criminal alert network funded, and money appropriated.

HF3391—Juhnke (DFL)
Governmental Operations
Willmar and Litchfield volunteer rescue squad relief associations authorized, and service pensions provided.

HF3392—Rest (DFL)
Taxes
Municipal levy limits repealed.

HF3393—Trimble (DFL)
Economic Development & International Trade
Housing trust fund grant provided to Metro State University for a student housing pilot program, and money appropriated.

HF3394—Trimble (DFL)
Education
St. Paul Technical College worker information resource center funded, and money appropriated.

HF3395—Hausman (DFL)
Transportation & Transit
Metropolitan commuter rail service study requirements modified.

HF3396—McGuire (DFL)
Education
Child care assistance and child care programs modified, provider rate bonus for reading programs and school-age child care program grants established, and money appropriated.

HF3397—Bradley (R)
Education
Independent School District No. 535, Rochester, special education services loan provided, and money appropriated.

HF3398—Hausman (DFL)
Environment & Natural Resources
Low impact forestry act adopted.

HF3399—Lieder (DFL)
Environment, Natural Resources & Agriculture Finance
Flood hazard mitigation programs funded, bonds issued, and money appropriated.

HF3400—Greenfield (DFL)
Health & Human Services
Nursing home planning and transition grant program established, and money appropriated.

HF3401—Greenfield (DFL)
Health & Human Services
Nursing home licensed bed inactive status established.

HF3402—Davids (R)
Financial Institutions & Insurance
Insurance company affiliate rebates prohibited.

HF3403—Davids (R)
Environment, Natural Resources & Agriculture Finance
Preston to Forestville Blufflands Trail completion provided, bonds issued, and money appropriated.

HF3404—Davids (R)
Environment, Natural Resources & Agriculture Finance
Root River Trail in Lanesboro parking facility improvements provided, bonds issued, and money appropriated.

HF3405—Davids (R)
Commerce, Tourism & Consumer Affairs
Credit card issuers required to disclose on each billing statement the number of months it would take to pay off account balance based on minimum payments.

HF3406—Boudreau (R)
Commerce, Tourism & Consumer Affairs
Local alcoholic beverage sale and possession restriction provisions clarified.

HF3407—Solberg (DFL)
Taxes
Optional/special function school sales and use tax exemption provided.

HF3408—Mahon (DFL)
Financial Institutions & Insurance
No-fault auto insurance disability and income loss benefits regulated.

HF3409—Knoblach (R)
Health & Human Services
Stearns and Sherburne County ICFs/MRs provided reimbursement for field audit disallowances, spend-up limit exemptions provided, and money appropriated.

HF3410—Slawik (DFL)
Education
Full-day kindergarten, technology enhancements, and gifted and talented programming site-based funding provided, and money appropriated.

HF3411—Harder (R)
Taxes
Income tax brackets and alternative minimum tax exemption amounts modified to reduce marriage penalties.

HF3412—Rhodes (R)
Health & Human Services
Autopsy mandate exemption provided for religious beliefs.

HF3413—Rostberg (R)
Judiciary
Convicted traffic offenders who fail to appear at probation review hearings provided driver's license suspension.

HF3414—Davids (R)
Governmental Operations
Available investments expanded for public supplemental pension or deferred compensation plans.

HF3415—Harder (R)
Agriculture
Value-added agricultural product loan program purposes expanded, proposed feedlot environmental review requirements modified, and money appropriated.

HF3416—Finseth (R)
Environment, Natural Resources
& Agriculture Finance
University of Minnesota appropriated money for wheat and barley scab research.

HF3417—Juhnke (DFL)
Environment, Natural Resources
& Agriculture Finance
University of Minnesota appropriated money for turkey respiratory disease control and prevention research.

HF3418—Jefferson (DFL)
Governmental Operations
Minneapolis Employee Retirement Fund shorter service death-while-active retirement benefits increased, and annuity escalation provided.

HF3419—Bakk (DFL)
Judiciary
Mandatory life sentence without release imposed for all types of first-degree murder.

HF3420—Sviggum (R)
Governmental Operations
Hiring freeze imposed on certain public and legislative employers.

HF3421—Winter (DFL)
Agriculture
Animal feedlots and practices limited, generic environmental impact statement prepared on the long-term effects of the livestock industry, livestock industry environmental steering committee created, and money appropriated.

HF3422—Sykora (R)
Education
Direct child care assistance payments modified.

HF3423—Jennings (DFL)
Health & Human Services
Health and human services providers annual rate adjustment provided.

HF3424—Molnau (R)
Economic Development
& International Trade
Independent School District No. 112, Chaska, eastern Carver community collaborative project funded, bonds issued, and money appropriated.

HF3425—Anderson, I. (DFL)
Education
Independent school districts nos. 593, Crookston, 361, International Falls, 706, Virginia, and 2154, Eveleth-Gilbert, supplemental revenue modified.

HF3426—Greiling (DFL)
Education
High school league governing board member appointment date established, rule review required, and commercial relationship prohibition repealed.

HF3427—Jefferson (DFL)
Education
Gary Neil Sudduth education reform act; nonwhite and white at-risk student educational needs met, educational success obstacles identified, staff development and community training provided, advisory council created, and money appropriated.

HF3428—Knight (R)
Economic Development
& International Trade
Equity take-out loan availability extended, low-income housing tax credit allocation procedures modified, federally assisted rental housing program provisions modified, tenant relocation assistance permitted, and money appropriated.

HF3429—Johnson, A. (DFL)
Health & Human Services
Adolescent pregnancy prevention plan established, and money appropriated.

HF3430—Jennings (DFL)
Health & Human Services
Plumbing inspection program expanded.

HF3431—Kelso (DFL)
Education
Office of educational responsibility established, and money appropriated.

HF3432—Wenzel (DFL)
Financial Institutions & Insurance
Life insurance company investments and financial transactions regulated, qualified long-term care policies regulated, and chronically ill individual definition modified.

HF3433—Harder (R)
Environment, Natural Resources
& Agriculture Finance
Watonwan River flood abatement project funded, bonds issued, and money appropriated.

HF3434—Harder (R)
Economic Development
& International Trade
Martin County Fox Lake wastewater project funded, bonds issued, and money appropriated.

HF3435—Macklin (R)
Taxes
Proposed property tax levy notices permitted to include transit levy information.

HF3436—McElroy (R)
Local Government
& Metropolitan Affairs
Regular route transit service and transit zone definitions modified, transit zone maps redrawn, and property tax rate application prohibition removed for retail structures in transit zones.

HF3437—Munger (DFL)
Judiciary
Hazardous materials team reimbursements provided, and money appropriated.

HF3438—Westrom (R)
Environment & Natural Resources
Farwell-Kensington sanitary district established, and tax levies authorized.

HF3439—McElroy (R)
Local Government
& Metropolitan Affairs
Burnsville amphitheater admissions tax imposed and tax increment finance district established.

HF3440—Rukavina (DFL)
Labor-Management Relations
Minimum wage increased, and large and small employer requirements specified.

HF3441—Peterson (DFL)
Agriculture
Animal waste technician training and licensing provided, feedlot expansion permits limited, cleanup fund created, ordinance update assistance provided, and generic environmental impact statements required.

HF3442—Wenzel (DFL)
Judiciary
Interstate emergency management assistance compact adopted.

HF3443—Osthoff (DFL)
Capital Investment
Minnesota financial institutions required to be principal underwriters of state bond issues.

HF3444—Mullery (DFL)
Labor-Management Relations
Parenting leave requirements extended to 12 weeks.

HF3445—Davids (R)
Environment, Natural Resources
& Agriculture Finance
Chatfield water system improvements provided, bonds issued, and money appropriated.

HF3446—Trimble (DFL)
Economic Development
& International Trade
St. Paul provided a grant to acquire right-of-way in the Phalen corridor, bonds issued, and money appropriated.

HF3447—Mullery (DFL)
Economic Development
& International Trade
Women encouraged to enter nontraditional careers, grant requirements and information provided, and money appropriated.

HF3448—Munger (DFL)
Environment & Natural Resources
Board of Water and Soil Resources appropriated money for small non-industrial private forest land management.

Where to find information

Chief Clerk's Office

211 State Capitol
(612) 296-2314

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

Committee Schedule

Schedule is subject to change.

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MONDAY, Feb. 9

8 a.m.

Economic Development

Finance Division/ ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & INTERNATIONAL TRADE

500S State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Steve Trimble

Agenda: HF2466 (Winter) Authorizing state bonds; appropriating money for capital improvements to the Laura Ingalls Wilder Pageant facilities in Walnut Grove.

HF2639 (Daggett) Detroit Lakes Community Center funding provided, bonds issued, and money appropriated.

HF2423 (Swenson, H.) New Ulm; Herman Monument restoration, enhancement, and protection provided, bonds issued, and money appropriated.

HF2605 (Dawkins) St. Paul transit zone property designated as an enterprise zone.

HF2194 (Chaudhary) Fridley Historical Museum restoration provided, bonds issued, and money appropriated.

HF2656 (Johnson, R.) Nicollet County treaty site historic center grant provided, land acquisition and capital improvements authorized, bonds issued, and money appropriated.

K-12 Education Finance Division/ EDUCATION

5 State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Becky Kelso

Agenda: HF2511 (Pawlenty) Building space average age threshold reduced relating to school district alternative facilities bonding and levy program qualifications.

HF3032 (McCollum) Modify eligibility for alternative facilities program.

HF3033 (McCollum) Modify eligibility for alternative facilities program.

HF2914 (Evans) Health and safety revenue authorized for use in certain new construction relating to schools.

HF2915 (Evans) Independent School District No. 621, Mounds View, funds usage authorized.

HF3206 (Lieder) Authorizing the use of health

and safety revenue for Independent School District No. 2854.

HF2879 (Lieder) Flood-affected school districts average daily membership modified.

HF2412 (Lieder) School district flood losses appropriation extended.

HF3109 (Ness) Reauthorizing canceled facilities grant to Crow River Education Co-op.

HF2474 (Opatz) Independent School District No. 742, St. Cloud, authorized to purchase a community education site with remaining bond proceeds.

Property Tax & Tax Increment Finance (TIF) Division/TAXES

200 State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Edgar Olson

Agenda: HF2360 (Sekon) City base aid increase provided for newly incorporated cities.

HF2436 (Tunheim) County assessor notification limited concerning agricultural homesteads abandoned due to flooding.

HF2549 (Winter) Regional development commissions levy limit modified.

HF2821 (McElroy) Tax-Increment Financing district decertification responsibility and duration of reporting requirements clarified, and remedies provided for failure to file required reports.

8:30 a.m.

ENVIRONMENT, NATURAL RESOURCES & AGRICULTURE FINANCE

Basement Hearing Room

State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Tom Osthoff

Agenda: HF2584 (Evans) Independent School District No. 621, Mounds View, Laurentian Environmental Learning Center renovation authorized, bonds issued, and money appropriated.

HF2877 (Lieder) Fertile; Agassiz Environmental Learning Center improvements provided, bonds issued, and money appropriated.

HF2414 (Lieder) Polk County; Maple Lake Regional Park and Trail development provided, bond issuance authorized, and money appropriated.

HF2562 (Peterson) Montevideo Recreational Trail completed, bonds issued, and money appropriated

HFXXXX (Schumacher) Sand dunes.

Additional bills may be added.

10 a.m.

AGRICULTURE

200 State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Stephen Wenzel

Agenda: HFXXXX (Peterson) Feedlot legislation; "Living with Livestock" feedlot proposal.

ENVIRONMENT & NATURAL RESOURCES

5 State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Willard Munger

Agenda: HF2418 (Rukavina) BWCA; permanent school fund funded through Boundary Waters Canoe Area campsite fees.

HF3140 (Kalis) State Parks.

HF3297 (Long) MERLA; statute of limitations provided for filing of actions under the Minnesota Environmental Response and Liability Act.

HF3275 (Tomassoni) Percentage of moose licenses to be selected from previously unsuccessful applicants.

HFXXXX (Munger) Small woodlots.

HF1561 (Finseth) Natural snow fencing funding provided, and money appropriated.

Health & Human Services

Finance Division/

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

10 State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Lee Greenfield

Agenda: Public testimony on the governor's supplemental budget recommendations for programs administered by the Department of Health, Department of Human Services, Veteran's Home Board, Emergency Medical Services Regulatory Board, Board of Veterinary Medicine and the Board of Medical Practice. To testify contact Vic Thorstenson, committee administrator, 296-2317; or Don Jorovsky, legislative assistant, 297-7202.

JUDICIARY

Basement Hearing Room

State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Wes Skoglund

Agenda: HF381 (Greenfield) Nonprofit health care trust defined and transaction agreement regulation provided.

HF2486 (Greiling) Voter eligibility and campaign material provisions ruled unconstitutional eliminated.

HF2286 (Skoglund) Violent crime offense penalty provisions modified, and mandatory sentence provisions recodified.

HF24 (Weaver) Life sentence provided for persons convicted of a third violent felony offense.

HF2397 (Mullery) Probation revocation hearings provided preponderance of the evidence standard.

Additional bills may be added.

State Government Finance Division/ GOVERNMENTAL OPERATIONS

400S State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Tom Rukavina

Agenda: HF3241 (Pelowski) Voter registration updates.

Supplemental budget requests by the Office of the Attorney General, Office of the State Auditor, and Gambling Control Board.

Additional bills and agencies may be added.

12:30 p.m.

Family & Early Childhood Education Finance Division/EDUCATION

5 State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Tony Kinkel

Agenda: HF2748 (Tomassoni) Minnesota family asset initiative established for education, housing, and economic development purposes, and money appropriated.

HF2581 (Delmont) Emergency assistance and

transitional housing programs appropriated money.
HF3167 (Slawik) Children's endowment fund.

GENERAL LEGISLATION, VETERANS AFFAIRS & ELECTIONS

Room To Be Announced.
Chr. Rep. Bob Milbrett
Agenda: HF2526 (Osthoff) Absentee ballot provisions modified.
HF581 (Hausman) Unicameral legislature provided, and constitutional amendment proposed.
HF57 (Sviggum) Unicameral legislature provided with 135 members, and constitutional amendment proposed.
HF59 (Anderson, I.) Unicameral legislature provided with 102 to 135 members, and constitutional amendment proposed.
HF158 (Greiling) Unicameral legislature provided with 99 members, and constitutional amendment proposed.
HF1456 (Carruthers) Unicameral legislature provided, and constitutional amendment proposed.
HF905 (Pugh) Legislature reduced in size, term limits imposed, partially unicameral legislature provided, and constitutional amendment proposed.
(Committee meeting will be televised on KTCI Channel 17.)

LABOR-MANAGEMENT RELATIONS

200 State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Richard Jefferson
Agenda: HF1895 (Hilty) Workers' compensation rehabilitation program requirements modified.
HF2643 (Farrell) Settlement division established in the office of administrative hearings, transfer of judges, small claims court, duties, and funds provided.
HF2897 (Rukavina) Union organizations rights and duties established, unfair labor practices provisions expanded, and equal time requirements provided.
HF2849 (Garcia) Public employer definition expanded to include the Legislative Coordinating Commission.
HF2365 (Bettermann) Public works prevailing wage rate provisions eliminated.

TRANSPORTATION & TRANSIT

Room To Be Announced.
Chr. Rep. Jean Wagenius
Agenda: HFXXXX (Lieder) Transportation bonding bill.
HF3265 (Marko) Relating to transportation; defining road or highway; requiring certain expenditures from the trunk highway fund; establishing transportation spending goals.
HF3057 (Lieder) Relating to transportation; redefining road or highway; imposing requirement restrictions on transportation expenditures from the trunk highway fund and general fund; establishing spending goals for transportation.

2:30 p.m.

The House meets in session.

After Session

**Subcommittee on Business Regulation/
COMMERCE, TOURISM & CONSUMER
AFFAIRS**
500N State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Al Juhnke

Agenda: HF2695 (Tunheim) Malt liquor sampling regulated.
HF2926 (Tunheim) Temporary on-sale intoxicating liquor licenses authorized for state universities.
HF3139 (Tunheim) Relating to commerce; regulating beer brewers and wholesalers; providing for the obligations of successors.
HF2977 (Entenza) Temporary on-sale liquor license restrictions modified.
HF3060 (Rukavina) Relating to liquor; authorizing the city of Virginia to issue an additional on-sale license.
HF2999 (Molnau) Municipalities with a population of 5,000 or less exempt from certain temporary liquor license restrictions.
HF2837 (Tomassoni) Open bottle law exemption provided to persons designated by a licensed alcoholic beverage manufacturer or wholesaler.
HF2691 (Huntley) Canosia permitted the off-sale of intoxicating liquor until 10 p.m. Monday through Saturday.
HF2799 (Juhnke) Municipalities authorized to issue two temporary on-sale licenses for official community festivals.
HF2805 (Wejcman) Sale of alcohol to under age persons provided minimum mandatory civil penalties, regular compliance checks for licensees required, home delivery regulated, under age purchasers provided minimum fines, and 50 milliliter bottle ban allowed.
HF2851 (Paulsen) Beer brewer and wholesaler agreement termination provided.
HF3105 (Pawlenty) Relating to liquor; increasing authorized liquor licenses for the city of Eagan.
HF3293 (Kraus) Relating to liquor; authorizing the city of Albert Lea to issue additional on-sale licenses.
Additional bills may be added.

LABOR-MANAGEMENT RELATIONS

Basement Hearing Room
State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Richard Jefferson
Agenda: Continuation of a.m. agenda.

1/2 Hour After Session

Economic Development Finance Division/ ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & INTERNATIONAL TRADE

200 State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Steve Trimble
Agenda: HF2467 (Winter) Authorizing state bonds; appropriating money for construction of Prairieland Expo.
HF2758 (Mullery) Hennepin County Humboldt Avenue Greenway Project grant provided, and money appropriated.
HF2655 (Gunther) Lake Crystal area recreation center construction provided, bonds issued, and money appropriated.
HF3026 (Mahon) Public improvements; authorizing state bonds; appropriating money for the construction of improvements for certain recreational facilities for the city of Richfield.
HF2961 (McCollum) Ramsey County grant provided for family service center improvements, bonds issued, and money appropriated.

4 p.m.

**K-12 Education Finance Division/
EDUCATION**
5 State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Becky Kelso
Agenda: HF2483 (Jefferson) Driver safety

education pilot program for students established, and money appropriated.
HF2522 (Greiling) K-12 education policy changes and rulemaking provided.
HF2611 (Kelso) American Indian language and culture programs, post-secondary preparation grants, and scholarship funding increased, and money appropriated.
HF2788 (Dawkins) Youth Works Program repealer removed.
HF3090 (Schumacher) Grants for unlimited possibilities plan.
HF2839 (Seagren) Minnesota Council on Economic Education provided funding for state graduation standards teacher training, and money appropriated.
HF2967 (Rifenberg) Independent School District No. 299, Caledonia, management assistance study authorized, and money appropriated.

TUESDAY, Feb. 10

8 a.m.

EDUCATION

200 State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Lyndon Carlson
Agenda: HF2680 (Munger) Permanent school fund advisory committee membership and duties expanded.
HF3094 (Harder) Red Rock School, reduction in school board membership.
HF2919 (Biernat) Metropolitan Council authorized to contract to transport students in independent school district nos. 625, St. Paul, and 1, Minneapolis.
Additional bills may be added.
(This meeting will continue at 6 p.m. in room 200 if necessary.)

Judiciary Finance Division/ JUDICIARY

500N State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Mary Murphy
Agenda: Supplemental budget requests, Public Defense Board. Others to be announced. This meeting may continue later in the day or evening.

Transportation & Transit Finance Division/ TRANSPORTATION & TRANSIT

500S State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Bernie Lieder
Agenda: HF2589 (Wagenius) Snowfence easements, highway closures, and signs regulated, state transportation plan revised, private carriers regulated, flexible highway account created, town highways and bridges funded, and conveyances to public bodies permitted.
HF3057 (Lieder) Road or highway redefined, trunk highway and general fund expenditures regulated, transportation spending goals established, state patrol funded, motor fuel tax rates adjusted, local bridge replacement authorized, and money appropriated.
HF3265 (Marko) Trunk highway fund expenditures required, road or highway defined, transportation spending goals established, transportation trust fund created and tax revenue dedicated, state patrol funded, local bridge grants provided, and bonds issued.
HF3216 (Solberg) Transportation improvement fund created, motor vehicle sales tax proceeds dedicated, motor fuel tax increased, and constitutional amendment proposed.
HF2976 (Juhnke) County state-aids funds

transfer to revolving loan account prohibited until gas or vehicle registration tax rates are increased, bond issuance authorized, and money appropriated.

8:30 a.m.

**ENVIRONMENT,
NATURAL RESOURCES
& AGRICULTURE FINANCE**

Basement Hearing Room

State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Tom Osthoff

Agenda: HFXXXX (Davids) Blufflands.

HFXXXX (Davids) Eyota-Chatfield.

HFXXXX (Davids) Lanesboro parking.

HFXXXX (McCollum) Hoyt flood control.

HF2714 (Leighton) Mower County; land acquisition adjacent to the Ramsey Mill Pond Wildlife Management Area authorized, bonds issued, and money appropriated.

10 a.m.

GOVERNMENTAL OPERATIONS

Basement Hearing Room

State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Phyllis Kahn

Agenda: Continuation of agenda from Feb. 5 if necessary.

HF3068 (Solberg) Ratification of labor agreements.

HF2924 (Luther) State board purchase of tobacco stock prohibited.

HF2777 (Jefferson) Department of Employee Relations experimental or research project provisions modified.

HF2947 (Hilty) Department of Administration technical corrections bill.

HF1965 (Hilty) Administration department, office of environmental assistance, public service department, state archaeologist, and transportation regulation board reorganization orders codified.

HF2708 (Juhnke) Agricultural marketing and bargaining advisory committee established, dispute resolution procedures provided, and association of producers defined.

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

10 State Office Building

Chr. Rep. John Dorn

Agenda: HF2870 (Greenfield) Health care cost information system provisions modified, filing fee established, and money appropriated.

HF2649 (Wejcman) Office of health care consumer assistance, advocacy, and information created, health maintenance organization enrollee complaint system modified, informal complaint resolution process establishment date extended, and money appropriated.

HF2868 (Greenfield) Medical Assistance, Medicare, and MinnesotaCare provisions modified, Medical Assistance elderly waiver program modified, nursing facility cost report procedures modified, and health maintenance organizations surcharge offset provided.

HF2565 (Delmont) Human services claim error notification required.

HF2630 (Delmont) Family day-care licensure provisions modified.

HF2461 (Clark, K.) Establishing a grant program for research on hepatitis C; establishing a public education campaign on hepatitis C; appropriating money.

HF1135 (McCollum) Massage and Oriental bodywork therapist licensure requirement established, and penalties provided.

HF1297 (Entenza) Sign language interpreter certification required, standards established, and penalties provided.

HF3258 (Greenfield) Congress memorialized to remove Medicaid policy barriers to employment for people with disabilities.

HF3138 (Evans) Automatic external defibrillator use authorized.

HF3231 (Bradley) Prepaid Medical Assistance Program expansion and countybased purchasing provisions modified.

HF2662 (Bradley) Medical Assistance and General Assistance medical care eligibility requirements modified, and MinnesotaCare provisions modified.

Additional bills may be added.

**Housing & Housing Finance Division/
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
& INTERNATIONAL TRADE**

500S State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Karen Clark

Agenda: HF2789 (Huntley) Mental illness crisis housing assistance program appropriated money.

HF3115 (Evans) Establish healthy homes pilot project.

HF3183 (Mariani) Capacity building, VISTA \$65,000.

12:30 p.m.

CAPITAL INVESTMENT

500S State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Henry Kalis

Agenda: HF3281 (Murphy) For the Committee on judiciary, bonding recommendations.

**COMMERCE, TOURISM
& CONSUMER AFFAIRS**

200 State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Jim Tunheim

Agenda: HF2794 (Tunheim) Telecommunications commerce regulated, telemarketing fraud outreach advocacy network established, and money appropriated.

HF3071 (Wolf) Relating to motor fuels; updating petroleum specifications.

HF2510 (McElroy) Minnesota collection agency collector license holders prohibited from using assumed names.

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT
& METROPOLITAN AFFAIRS**

10 State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Ann H. Rest

Agenda: HF3101 (Skare) Bemidji authorized to impose additional sales and excise taxes for the purpose of funding convention center construction.

HF3193 (Ness) Hutchinson authorized to impose additional taxes to fund a civic and community center, and recreational facilities.

HF2257 (Chaudhary) Columbia Heights appropriated money for capital improvements, and bonds issued.

HF2973 (Evans) Corridor planning pilot projects established, and money appropriated.

HF3081 (Paymar) St. Paul bonding limits set.

HF2320 (Greiling) Metropolitan Mosquito Control Commission required to give notice prior to insecticide application.

HF2635 (Skare) Headwaters Regional Development Commission authorized to establish a not-for-profit housing corporation.

HF3157 (Winter) Luverne provided an exemption from the Minnesota Investment Fund grant limit for job loss offset, and appropriation reallocated.

REGULATED INDUSTRIES & ENERGY

5 State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Loren Jennings

Agenda: Gambling bills that pass out of subcommittee.

HFXXXX (Jennings) Modifying definition of energy conservation improvements.

2 p.m.

St. Paul Delegation

300S State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Jim Farrell

Agenda: To be announced.

2:30 p.m.

ENVIRONMENT & NATURAL RESOURCES

200 State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Willard Munger

Agenda: HF3320 (Peterson) Feedlots: moratorium.

HFXXXX (Winter) Feedlots: 750 AU/EIS.

(Meeting will move to 5 State Office Building after 5:30 p.m. if necessary.)

**Subcommittee on Data Practices/
JUDICARY**

400S State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Mary Jo McGuire

Agenda: Any bill not completed at the Data Practices meeting on Feb. 5.

HF3067 (Paymar) Data practices; classifying certain law enforcement data.

HF2371 (Mullery) Attorney general maintained consumer complaint data access modified.

HFXXXX (McGuire) Parking data classified.

HF1626 (McGuire) Government data classification and access provided.

Final passage of omnibus data practices bill (McGuire).

Additional bills may be added.

3 p.m.

FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS & INSURANCE

Basement Hearing Room

State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Irv Anderson

Agenda: HF2895 (Tomassoni) Township mutual insurance companies permitted investments expanded.

HF3272 (Tomassoni) Insurance; township mutual companies; regulating farm risks.

HF2846 (Mahon) Automobile insurance premium reduction provided for completion of an accident prevention course.

HF1604 (Tomassoni) No-fault automobile insurance nonowned vehicle residual liability insurance regulated.

HF2500 (Rest) Customer loss or theft of a debit card limited liability provided.

HF2512 (Rest) Homeowner's insurance nonrenewals regulated, and automobile and homeowner's insurance discrimination limited.

HF2016 (Haas) Financial institution loan solicitation by mailing a check payable to the addressee prohibited.

HF2890 (Tunheim) Savings Association Act maintained.

HF2750 (Wenzel) Reinsurance intermediary-brokers regulated, and held or collected fund investment provided.

HF1278 (Clark, K.) Financial institution reasonable account fees required.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT & METROPOLITAN AFFAIRS

5 State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Ann H. Rest
Agenda: To be announced.

Subcommittee on Quality Initiatives/ EDUCATION

300N State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Matt Entenza
Agenda: HF3199 (Leighton) Modify charter school provisions.
HF3266 (Kelso) Clarify contractual arrangements for charter schools.
HFXXXX (Greiling) High school league modifications.
HF3116 (Ness) Requiring personal and family financial management in profiles of learning.

4 p.m.

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

10 State Office Building
Chr. Rep. John Dorn
Agenda: Continuation of a.m. agenda.

8 p.m.

AGRICULTURE

Basement Hearing Room
State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Stephen Wenzel
Agenda: HF2798 (Juhnke) Eminent domain pipeline easement compensation requirements provided.
HF3318 (Peterson) Southwest State University regional studies center; appropriating money.
HF2892 (Peterson) Value-added agricultural livestock processing and marketing grant program expanded to include other commodities, and money appropriated.
HF2935 (Kielkucki) Commissioner of agriculture granted rulemaking authority in warehouse and grain storage laws.
HF3201 (Otremba) Requiring labeling on unpasteurized fruit juice and cider.
HF3103 (Anderson, B.) Changing food handler licensing provisions.

WEDNESDAY, Feb. 11

8 a.m.

Economic Development Finance Division/ ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & INTERNATIONAL TRADE

500S State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Steve Trimble
Agenda: HF2257 (Chaudhary) Columbia Heights appropriated money for capital improvements, and bonds issued.
HF2835 (Peterson) Montevideo downtown redevelopment project funded, and money appropriated.
HF2747 (Peterson) Montevideo historic railroad depot, related parking, and facilities capital improvement grant provided, bonds issued, and money appropriated.
HF2539 (Goodno) Historical society appropriated money for expansion of the Red River Valley Center, and bond issuance authorized.
HF2829 (Murphy) Proctor community activity center provided, bonds issued, and money appropriated.

HF3088 (Kielkucki) Waverly granted funds to establish Hubert H. Humphrey museum and learning center, bonds issued, and money appropriated.

K-12 Education Finance Division/ EDUCATION

10 State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Becky Kelso
Agenda: HF2878 (Lieder) Independent School District No. 2609, Win-E-Mac, fund transfer authorized.
HF3128 (Siefert) Lynd fund raiser.
HF3130 (Koskinen) Expand alternative facilities program, modify compensatory revenue and fund elementary achievement program.
HF2359 (Sekhon) School district compensatory revenue calculation alternative established, and money appropriated.
HF2464 (Johnson, A.) Establishing an alternative calculation for compensatory revenue; appropriating money.

Property Tax & Tax Increment Finance (TIF) Division/TAXES

200 State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Edgar Olson
Agenda: HF2482 (Rest) Long-term health care insurance premium income tax credit and inputs to taxable services and certain analgesics sales tax exemptions effective dates modified, federal conformity and property tax rebate provided, and money appropriated.
HF2516 (Pawlenty) Dakota County dangerous dog registration system city administration provided.
HF2322 (Sviggum) Income tax reserve account established, income tax and general education tax rates reduced, property tax rebate provided for taxes assessed in 1997, and money appropriated.
Additional bills may be added.

8:30 a.m.

ENVIRONMENT, NATURAL RESOURCES & AGRICULTURE FINANCE

Basement Hearing Room
State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Tom Osthoff
Agenda: To be announced.

10 a.m.

ENVIRONMENT & NATURAL RESOURCES

5 State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Willard Munger
Agenda: HF2686 (Munger) Board of Water and Soil Resources hearing provisions clarified, and wetland replacement approval required.
HF1847 (Munger) Tax-forfeited and land bordering public waters sale provisions modified.
HF3256 (Leppik) Lakes initiative.

FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS & INSURANCE

200 State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Irv Anderson
Agenda: HF2582 (Johnson, R.) Independent School District No. 508, St. Peter, authorized to establish a school bank as part of an educational program.
HF2309 (Leppik) Equal consumer credit provided for spouses.
HF2971 (Entenza) Residential mortgage loans regulated, and table funding requirements established.

HF1306 (Hausman) Health plan coverage required for off-label drug use, and advisory council established.

HFXXXX (Davids) Financial institutions; mortgage regulation.

HF2983 (Tunheim) Minnesota residential mortgage originator and servicer licensing act adopted.

Additional bills may be added.

Health & Human Services

Finance Division/ HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

10 State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Lee Greenfield
Agenda: To be announced.

JUDICIARY

Basement Hearing Room
State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Wes Skoglund
Agenda: HF2395 (Mullery) Felony-level offenders failing to appear in court provided increased criminal penalties.
HF3023 (Stanek) Relating to crime; clarifying repeat offender penalties for theft crimes.
HF2429 (Murphy) New juvenile facilities licensure conditions specified, placement bed moratorium imposed, and exceptions provided.
HF2943 (Murphy) Juvenile dispositional residential treatment facility temporary bed moratorium imposed, and out-of-home placements studied.
HF3186 (Larsen) Relating to corrections; restricting the licensing of juvenile correctional facilities.
HF2376 (Evans) State correctional facilities performance report required to include programming and inmate job placement information.
HF2568 (Broecker) Minors prohibited from engaging in body piercing without parental permission, and penalties provided.
Additional bills may be added.

State Government Finance Division/ GOVERNMENTAL OPERATIONS

400S State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Tom Rukavina
Agenda: Department of Administration: supplemental budget request, Year 2000 request, Minnesota Youth Initiative, governor's portrait.
HF2705 (Kahn) Electronic State Agency Guidebooks and Internet availability of the State Register required, and money appropriated.
Additional bills may be added.

12:30 p.m.

Civil & Family Law Division/ JUDICIARY

400S State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Andy Dawkins
Agenda: To be announced.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & INTERNATIONAL TRADE

200 State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Mike Jaros
Agenda: HF3084 (Ness) Authorizing Meeker County to establish an economic development authority.
HF3283 (Tunheim) Authorizing Kittson County to establish an economic development authority.
HF3177 (Mullery) Changing requirements for a study of on-the-job training programs.
HF3161 (Mullery) Changing the Department of

Trade and Economic Development reporting requirements for business subsidies.

HF3016 (Farrell) Stroh Brewery property development

HF3246 (Lieder) Disaster loan guarantee for the city of Ada.

HF3114 (Skare) Appropriating money for work force center involvement in school to work initiatives.

HF3019 (Hausman) Appropriating money for screenwriters grant programs.

HF3063 (Clark, K.) Appropriating money for the Green Institute Inc.

(Meeting will reconvene in Basement Hearing Room, State Office Building at 4 p.m.)

Family & Early Childhood Education Finance Division/EDUCATION

5 State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Tony Kinkel

Agenda: Citizenship update, Barry Shaffer, DCFL adult basic education supervisor.

HF3066 (Winter) Delivered fuel accounts.

HF3125 (McGuire) Gang prevention.

TRANSPORTATION & TRANSIT

10 State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Jean Wagenius

Agenda: To be announced.

2:30 p.m.

The House meets in session.

After Session

LOCAL GOVERNMENT & METROPOLITAN AFFAIRS

500S State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Ann H. Rest

Agenda: To be announced.

4 p.m.

K-12 Education Finance Division/EDUCATION

5 State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Becky Kelso

Agenda: To be announced.

4 p.m. or After Session

Hennepin County Delegation

300N State Office Building

Chrs. Rep. Ron Abrams,

Rep. Linda Wejcman

Agenda: Mortgage and deed registration; tax and child welfare.

2 Hours After Session

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

200 State Office Building

Chr. Rep. John Dorn

Agenda: HF2737 (Goodno) Welfare reform; Work First and other programs modified, and nonresidential child care program licensure modified.

HF2990 (Huntley) Welfare programs providing an education choice provisions modified.

HF3259 (Greenfield) Food stamp benefits extended for noncitizens, public housing residents' MFIP-S grant reductions delayed, alcohol and drug dependent persons' benefits continued, TANF funds transferred to federal Title XX allocation, and money appropriated.

THURSDAY, Feb. 12

8 a.m.

Economic Development Finance Division/ ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & INTERNATIONAL TRADE

500S State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Steve Trimble

Agenda: HF1529 (Jefferson) Minneapolis Convention Center expansion authorized, bond issuance authorized, and money appropriated. HF2209 (Jaros) Duluth Entertainment and Convention Center improvements authorized, bonds issued, and money appropriated.

HF2857 (Nornes) Fergus Falls convention and civic center construction provided, bonds issued, and money appropriated.

EDUCATION

200 State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Lyndon Carlson

Agenda: To be announced.

(This meeting will be continued at 6 p.m. in Room 200 State Office Building if necessary.)

Judiciary Finance Division/ JUDICIARY

500N State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Mary Murphy

Agenda: Supplemental budget requests, courts. Others to be announced. This meeting may continue later in the day or evening.

8:30 a.m.

ENVIRONMENT, NATURAL RESOURCES & AGRICULTURE FINANCE

Basement Hearing Room

State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Tom Osthoff

Agenda: To be announced.

10 a.m.

GOVERNMENTAL OPERATIONS

Basement Hearing Room

State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Phyllis Kahn

Agenda: Continuation of agenda from Feb. 10 if necessary.

HFXXXX (Kahn) Omnibus pension bill.

HF3121 (Jennings) Design build contracts.

HF2706 (Kahn) Electronic message reliability and certification authorities required, licensing and enforcement powers specified, and definitions and rulemaking provided.

HF384 (Kahn) State agency procurement procedures modified.

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

10 State Office Building

Chr. Rep. John Dorn

Agenda: HF396 (Wejcman) Naturopathic physician licensure provided, and criminal penalties provided.

HF3326 (Greenfield) Home care bill of rights modified relating to the Office of the Ombudsman for Older Minnesotans.

HF2398 (Goodno) Personal care services termination standards set, transition plans required, recipients provided appeal rights, and temporary stays of termination allowed.

HF2729 (Goodno) Temporary licensure waiver authorized for certain dietitians.

HF2503 (Bradley) Region 10 Quality Assurance Commission appropriation carryover authorized.

Additional bills may be added.

Housing & Housing Finance Division/ ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & INTERNATIONAL TRADE

500S State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Karen Clark

Agenda: HF2963 (Clark, K.) Home ownership zones program established, and money appropriated.

HF2816 (Knoblach) Sale or lease of property by a housing and redevelopment authority public notice requirements modified.

12:30 p.m.

CAPITAL INVESTMENT

500S State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Henry Kalis

Agenda: Bonding recommendations from the the Family & Early Childhood Finance Division and the K-12 Education Finance Division. Boarding school concept.

COMMERCE, TOURISM & CONSUMER AFFAIRS

200 State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Jim Tunheim

Agenda: HF2695 (Tunheim) Malt liquor sampling regulated.

Additional bills may be added.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT & METROPOLITAN AFFAIRS

10 State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Ann H. Rest

Agenda: To be announced.

REGULATED INDUSTRIES & ENERGY

5 State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Loren Jennings

Agenda: HF3042 (Jennings) Omnibus regulated industries bill.

Additional bills may be added.

2:30 p.m.

The House meets in session.

After session

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

5 State Office Building

Chr. Rep. John Dorn

Agenda: Continuation of a.m. agenda.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT & METROPOLITAN AFFAIRS

300N State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Ann H. Rest

Agenda: To be announced.

1/2 Hour After Session

Economic Development Finance Division/ ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & INTERNATIONAL TRADE

Basement Hearing Room

State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Steve Trimble

Agenda: HF2683 (Huntley) Improvements to St. Louis County Heritage and Arts Center in Duluth authorized.

HF2248 (Rhodes) St. Louis Park Arts Center

construction provided, bonds issued, and money appropriated.
HF3019 (Hausman) Economic development; providing for grants to local screenwriters.
HF3054 (Paymar) City of St. Paul; appropriating money to fund Harriet Island redevelopment.
HF2488 (Skare) Battle Point cultural and education center construction provided, bonds issued, and money appropriated.
HF2587 (Skare) Bemidji Historical Museum renovation authorized, bonds issued, and money appropriated.

7 p.m.

COMMERCE, TOURISM & CONSUMER AFFAIRS

10 State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Jim Tunheim
Agenda: Petrofund bills from the Environment and Natural Resources Committee.

7:30 p.m.

AGRICULTURE

300S State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Stephen Wenzel
Agenda: HF2278 (Wenzel) Milk handling assessment collection and proceed distribution provided, milk handler assessment account established, and money appropriated.
HF2844 (Peterson) Board of Animal Health provided funding for expansion of the bovine paratuberculosis control program, and money appropriated.

FRIDAY, Feb. 13

8 a.m.

K-12 Education Finance Division/ EDUCATION

5 State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Becky Kelso
Agenda: HF3217 (Kelso) Grants for historical

education programs.
HF2349 (Ness) Basic skills summer school funding reinstated, and money appropriated.
HF2875 (Greiling) Interagency services for children with disabilities act adopted.

Transportation & Transit

Finance Division/ TRANSPORTATION & TRANSIT

500S State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Bernie Lieder
Agenda: Continuation of agenda from Feb. 10.

10 a.m.

AGRICULTURE

300N State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Stephen Wenzel
Agenda: Feedlot legislation.
Additional bills may be added.

ENVIRONMENT & NATURAL RESOURCES

5 State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Willard Munger
Agenda: HF3319 (Peterson) Feedlots: licenses, permits, GEI, etc.

Health & Human Services

Finance Division/ HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

10 State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Lee Greenfield
Agenda: To be announced.

JUDICIARY

Basement Hearing Room
State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Wes Skoglund
Agenda: HF2993 (Paymar) Order for protection and minor respondent violations provided criminal penalties, firearm possession prohibited, and harassment restraining order service of notice clarified.
SF395 (Robling); HF64 (Pawlenty) Biological specimens required prior to release from imprisonment from persons convicted of causing

the death of someone while committing criminal sexual conduct.

HF2297 (Mullery) Correctional institution autopsies conducted in all unattended inmate deaths, Red Wing juvenile correctional facility bed limitation exemption provided, and at-risk youth and girls included in the Camp Ripley weekend camp.

HF2853 (Weaver) Concurrent incarceration provisions clarified for separate crimes or behavioral incidents, and concurrent and consecutive sentences specification requirements modified.

HF2472 (Mullery) Authorizing probation officers to impose community work service for a violation of a condition of probation; providing for district court review of the imposition of community work service.

HF3204 (Pugh) Delaying the effective date for listing the drug Carisoprodol as a controlled substance.

HF2329 (Mullery) Individuals on conditional release required to carry a verification card, and criminal penalties imposed.

HF3039 (Pawlenty) Relating to controlled substances; redefining a Minnesota Statute, offense as a prior controlled substance conviction.

HF2375 (Clark, K.) Prostitution offenses committed in a school, park, or public housing zone provided increased penalties.

Final passage and rereferral of omnibus crime bill to Judiciary Finance Division.
Additional bills may be added.

1 p.m.

GOVERNMENTAL OPERATIONS

200 State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Phyllis Kahn
Agenda: Continuation of agenda from Feb. 12 and rereferrals from other committees under Rule 5.10.

Frequently called numbers

Secretary of the Senate
231 Capitol 296-0271
Voice mail/order bills 296-2343
Chief Clerk of the House
211 Capitol 296-2314
Index, Senate
110 Capitol 296-2887
Index, House
211 Capitol 296-6646
Information, Senate
231 Capitol 296-0504
Information, House
175 State Office Building 296-2146
Committee Hotline, Senate ... 296-8088

Committee Hotline, House 296-9283
Sergeant at Arms, Senate
Senate Chamber 296-7159/6-1119
Sergeant at Arms, House
45 State Office Building 296-4860
Counsel and Research, Senate
G-17 Capitol 296-4791
Research, House
600 State Office Building 296-6753
Legislative Reference Library
645 State Office Building 296-3398
Revisor of Statutes
700 State Office Building 296-2868

Governor's Office
130 Capitol 296-3391
Attorney General's Office
102 Capitol 296-6196
Secretary of State's Office
180 State Office Building 296-9208
Capitol Security
B-4 Capitol 296-6741
Emergency 296-2100
TTY*, Senate 296-0250
Toll free 1-888-234-1112
TTY*, House 296-9896
Toll free 1-800-657-3550

*teletypewriter

Name Pronunciation Guide

1998 Minnesota House of Representatives

Abrams, Ron		Jennings, Loren		Otremba, Mary Ellen	owe-TREM-ba
Anderson, Bruce		Johnson, Alice M.		Ozment, Dennis	AHZ-ment
Anderson, Irv		Johnson, Ruth		Paulsen, Erik	
Bakk, Thomas	BOCK	Juhnke, Al	JUNK-ee	Pawlenty, Tim	paw-LENTY
Bettermann, Hilda		Kahn, Phyllis		Paymar, Michael	
Biernat, Len	BE-AIR-NAT	Kalis, Henry J.	KAH-liss	Pelowski Jr., Gene	
Bishop, Dave		Kelso, Becky		Peterson, Doug	
Boudreau, Lynda	Boo-DROH	Kielkucki, Tony	keel-COO-ski	Pugh, Thomas	PEW
Bradley, Fran		Kinkel, Anthony G. "Tony"		Rest, Ann H.	
Broecker, Sherry	BROKE-er	Knight, Kevin		Reuter, Doug	ROOT-er
Carlson, Lyndon R.		Knoblach, Jim	NOB-lock	Rhodes, Jim	
Carruthers, Phil	ka-RUH-thers	Koskinen, Luanne		Rifenberg, Michelle	RIFF-en-berg
Chaudhary, Satveer		Kraus, Ron	CROUSE	Rostberg, Jim	
	SUT-veer	Krinkie, Phil		Rukavina, Tom	roo-ka-VEEN-a
	CHAW-dree	Kubly, Gary W.	KOO-blee	Schumacher, Leslie	SHOE-mocker
Clark, Karen		Kuisle, William	KWEEZ-lee	Seagren, Alice	
Clark, James		Larsen, Peg		Seifert, Marty	SY-fert
Commers, Tim	COMM-erz	Leighton, Rob	LAY-ton	Sekhon, Kathleen	SEEK-on
Daggett, Roxann		Leppik, Peggy		Skare, Gail	SCAR-ee
Davids, Gregory M.		Lieder, Bernie	LEED-er	Skoglund, Wes	SKOHG-lund
Dawkins, Andy		Lindner, Arlon		Slawik, Nora	SLAH-wick
Dehler, Steve	DAY-ler	Long, Dee		Smith, Steve	
Delmont, Mike		Luther, Darlene		Solberg, Loren	
Dempsey, Jerry		Macklin, Bill		Stanek, Rich	
Dorn, John		Mahon, Mark P.	MAY-on	Stang, Doug	
Entenza, Matt		Mares, Harry	MAIRS	Sviggum, Steven A.	SWIG-um
Erhardt, Ron	AIR-hart	Mariani, Carlos	mar-ee-AHN-ee	Swenson, Howard	
Erickson, Sondra		Marko, Sharon		Sykora, Barbara	sick-OR-ah
Evans, Geri		McCollum, Betty	mah-CALL-um	Tingelstad, Kathy	
Farrell, Jim		McElroy, Dan	MACK-el-roy	Tomassoni, David	tom-a-SONY
Finseth, Tim		McGuire, Mary Jo		Tompkins, Eileen	
Folliard, Betty	FOLLY-ard	Milbert, Bob		Trimble, Steve	
Garcia, Edwina	gar-SEE-ah	Molnau, Carol	MOLE-now	Tuma, John	TOO-ma
Goodno, Kevin		Mulder, Richard		Tunheim, Jim	TON-hyme
Greenfield, Lee		Mullery, Joe		Van Dellen, H. Todd	
Greiling, Mindy	GRY-ling	Munger, Willard		Vandever, Ray	
Gunther, Bob		Murphy, Mary		Wagenius, Jean	wa-GHEEN-yus
Haas, Bill	HAHZ	Ness, Robert "Bob"		Weaver, Charlie	
Harder, Elaine		Nornes, Bud	NOR-ness	Wejcman, Linda	WAITS-man
Hasskamp, Kris		Olson, Edgar		Wenzel, Stephen G.	WEN-zel
Hausman, Alice		Olson, Mark		Westfall, Robert L. (Bob)	
Hilty, Bill		Opatz, Joe	OH-patz	Westrom, Torrey	
Holsten, Mark		Orfield, Myron		Winter, Ted	
Huntley, Thomas		Osskopp, Mike	AHZ-cop	Wolf, Ken	
Jaros, Mike	YAHZ-ohs	Osthoff, Tom	AHST-hoff	Workman, Tom	
Jefferson, Richard H.					

Speaker of the House: Phil Carruthers
Majority Leader: Ted Winter
Minority Leader: Steve Sviggum

MINNESOTA INDEX

Child protective services

Estimated number of child maltreatment allegations received by county child protection agencies in Minnesota, 1996	50,000
Investigations conducted by Minnesota child protection agencies, 1996	16,684
Cases in which maltreatment was determined to have occurred, 1996	6,725
Percent of maltreatment cases labeled child neglect	54
States, including Minnesota, with county-administered child protection services	10
Counties in Minnesota	87
Counties that operate their own child protection agency	82
Counties that collaborate with others for child protection services	5
County child protection agencies that investigated less than 20 percent of 1996 maltreatment allegations	5
County child protection agencies that investigated more than 90 percent of 1996 maltreatment allegations	9
Reports of maltreatment investigated annually statewide from 1994 to 1996, per 1,000 children	14
Investigations in Itasca County, per 1,000 children	3
Investigations in neighboring Hubbard County, per 1,000 children	29
Days state law allows to begin investigation after report of maltreatment	3
Percent of investigations started within three days in Hennepin County (state's most populous county), 1994-1996	44
Percent of investigations started within three days in remaining counties, 1994-1996	91
Cases open per full-time-equivalent child protection caseworker statewide, September 1997	15
Counties reporting fewer than 10 open cases per caseworker	13
Counties reporting 40 or more open cases per caseworker	7
Percent of families with child maltreatment determinations in 1993 that had another determination of maltreatment in the same county within three years	18
Department of Human Services' recorded number of child deaths attributed to maltreatment, 1994-1996	49
Number found to be injury cases erroneously reported as deaths	25
Annual child welfare expenditures in Minnesota, in millions	\$300

Source: *Child Protective Services*, January 1998, Office of the Legislative Auditor.

For more information



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House Information Office
(612) 296-2146 or
1-800-657-3550

To obtain a copy of a bill, call:
Chief Clerk's Office
(612) 296-2314

To find out about bill introductions or the status of a specific bill, call:
House Index Office
(612) 296-6646

For up-to-date recorded message giving committee meeting times and agendas, call:
Committee Hotline
(612) 296-9283



The House of Representatives can be reached on the World Wide Web at:
<http://www.house.leg.state.mn.us>



Teletypewriter for the hearing impaired. To ask questions or leave messages, call:
TTY Line (612) 296-9896 or
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