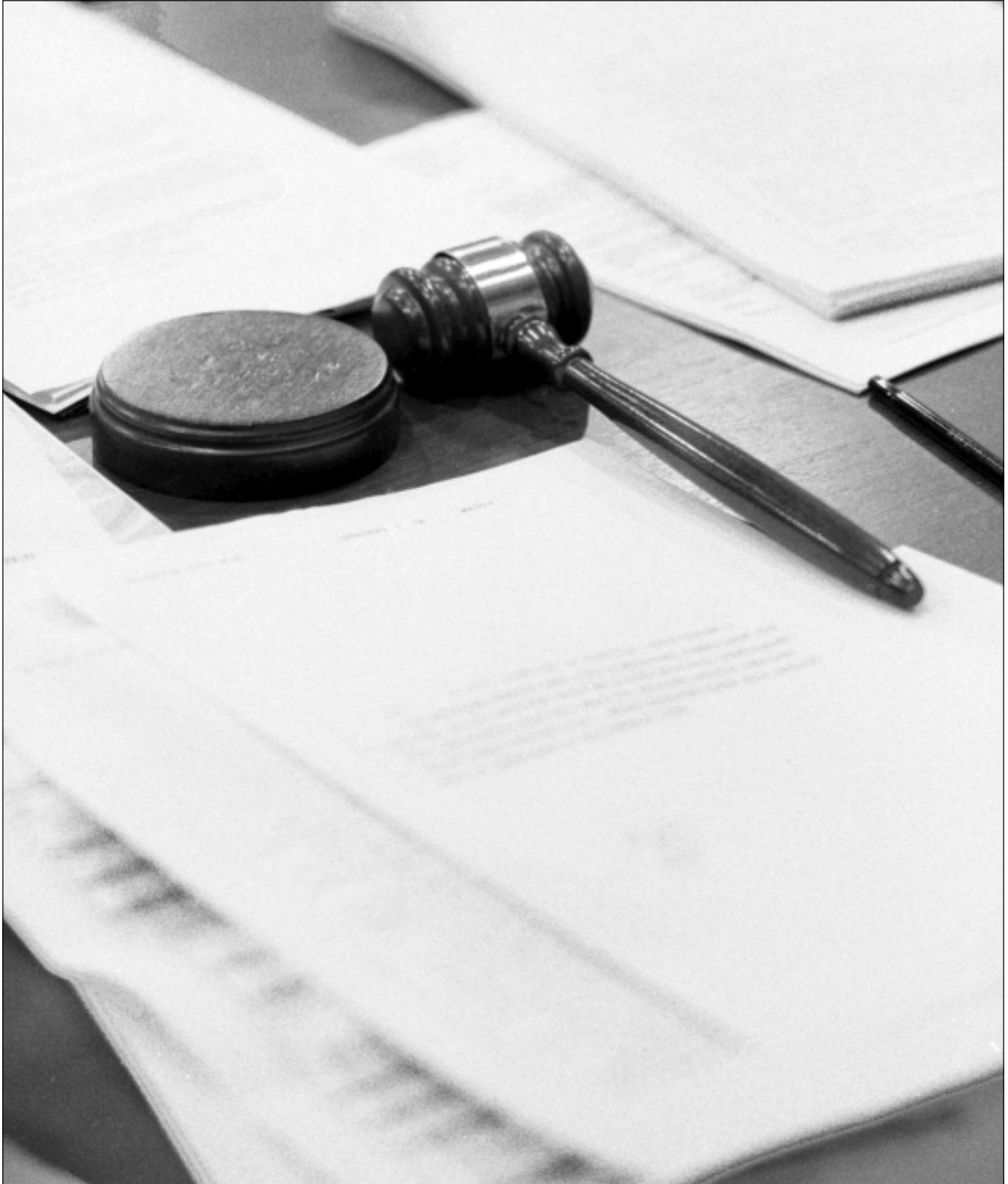


SESSION WEEKLY

A Nonpartisan Publication of the Minnesota House of Representatives ♦ March 6, 1998 ♦ Volume 15, Number 7



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SESSION WEEKLY

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Reflections

Women in Minnesota voted for the first time in 1920. They helped to elect the 20th governor of Minnesota, Jacob Aall Ottesen Preus, by a plurality of the largest majority of votes cast for governor (783,627) in the state's history until that time.

When thousands of women exercised their rights across the state, most demonstrated their preference for the issues that J.A.O. Preus advocated—endorsement of farm cooperative agencies, a fair and equitable tax on iron ore, and "... a constructive platform ... answered by fair and reasonable discussion."

A long-time civil servant, Preus' first job with the state was executive clerk to Gov. Adolph Eberhart in 1909. Two years later, he was appointed by the governor to be insurance commissioner, serving in that post for the next four years. He was elected to state auditor in 1915, and served two terms in the position until he became governor in 1921.

By 1922, the Farmer-Labor candidate, Magnus Johnson, "an actual tiller of the soil," was pitted against the incumbent governor. Preus won his re-election, but his voter margin of victory was cut down to 14,277 from his 1920 election win of 47,986 votes.

A progressive movement supported by women's suffrage gained momentum in the state, finally making inroads into how the electorate would vote. The Farmer-Labor voters, for example, deposed Republican U.S. Sen. Frank B. Kellogg by supporting Henrik Shipstead in 1923.

In July 1923, after the death of U.S. Sen. Knute Nelson, Johnson was endorsed again and won to serve out Nelson's term. This ended a 22-year monopoly by Republicans in the U.S. Senate. Previously, Charles A. Towne, a Democrat, served for one year beginning in 1900, and before he was elected, only two other Democrats became U.S. senators: James Shields (1858-1859) and Henry M. Rice (1858-1863).

Preus realized that if he stepped down as governor to be appointed by the new governor to Nelson's vacant seat, it would be a very unpopular political move. Preus called a special election, but although regarded as the heir apparent to the national office, he did not succeed.

Preus was viewed as one of "great industry, intelligence, and efficiency." One of Preus' close associates was a Lutheran minister. The governor became the guardian of the minister's daughter after the death of his friend. The minister's daughter, Agnes Jensen, later became the first secretary to chief clerk Oscar Arneson in the early 1920s (See story, page 16). She went on to serve under six other chief clerks.

Thanks to those like Preus who supported women's victories in the first quarter of the 20th century, women rights continued to grow and become even more victorious.

— LeClair Grier Lambert

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On the cover: As House committees finish up their business, much of the action shifts to the House floor, where several major finance bills have passed in recent days.

— Photo by Tom Olmscheid

First Reading

Judiciary finance and crime prevention bill . . .

Penalties increased for repeat violent offenders

By Grant Martin

The 1998 omnibus judiciary finance and crime prevention bill (SF3345) passed the full House relatively unscathed March 2. The vote was 74-56.

This year's omnibus crime bill, sponsored by Rep. Mary Murphy (DFL-Hermantown) and Rep. Wes Skoglund (DFL-Mpls), saw few amendments offered on the House floor compared to the action on similar crime bills in recent years.

The Senate passed its version of the bill Feb. 23. The bill now goes to conference committee, where lawmakers will hash out the differences in the two proposals.

The most substantial amendment offered on the House floor was sponsored by Rep. Steve Wenzel (DFL-Little Falls). The amend-

Getting tough

The omnibus crime prevention bill includes several provisions aimed at lengthening penalties for certain crimes.

One of the more controversial provisions, backed by Rep. Charlie Weaver (R-Anoka), would require life imprisonment for criminals convicted of three violent felony-level crimes. The provision also includes language for judicial discretion in applying the new sentence requirements.

In addition to the "three strikes" provision, the bill has another provision that would also address repeat violent offenders. The provision, which comes from a separate bill sponsored by Skoglund, would restructure current law that requires tougher penalties for "career criminals" and would reduce the number of

tence is 18 months; the bill would increase the mandatory minimum to five years.

Another provision in the bill increases penalties generally for soliciting a prostitute or receiving profit from prostitution. This provision also increases the penalties for engaging in prostitution in a school zone or in a residential area.

Charging burglars

A provision of the omnibus crime bill will make it easier to prosecute people who illegally enter a property by expanding the definition of burglary to include accomplices.

Prosecutors said the new language would make the law more explicit and allow them to bring charges against anyone who illegally enters a dwelling, even if they don't actually break in or steal something.

Prosecuting gangs

Prosecutors also told legislators that they have difficulties bringing gang members to trial and making the penalties stick. Several provisions in the omnibus crime bill seek to address such concerns.

One provision would expand a current law that provides increased penalties for crimes done for the benefit of a gang to include crimes motivated by "involvement with" a gang. This provision also increases these enhanced penalties.

The bill would increase penalties for witness tampering, and would add witness tampering to the list of crimes that can receive enhanced penalties if done for the benefit of a gang.

The bill also seeks to get people to show up for court, both offenders and witnesses. One provision would increase the penalty for failure to appear in court if charged with a felony level crime.

Another provision would increase penalties for individuals who knowingly and willingly defy a court subpoena to appear in relation to a violent crime.

Fighting drugs

The omnibus bill would increase the penalties for manufacturing, possessing, or selling methamphetamine. Law enforcement officials said that Minnesota is seeing a dramatic increase in use of the drug.



A provision in the omnibus judiciary finance and crime prevention bill would authorize police officers to perform pat-down searches on juveniles taken into custody. Officers said that they were surprised to see cases against juveniles thrown out of court because, under current law, pat-down searches can be performed only on adult offenders.

ment would classify murder committed in the course of a kidnapping a heinous crime. A person convicted of such a crime could be sentenced to life without parole, Minnesota's toughest sentence.

Wenzel told the body that his amendment is in response to the 1996 murder-kidnapping of Paul Antonich, the Two Harbors teenager taken from his car in Duluth after a minor traffic accident.

Here are some other highlights of the omnibus crime prevention bill.

violent crimes required to receive these harsher sentences.

Skoglund's plan also addresses credits an offender can receive against a term of incarceration. The provision makes general changes to these laws to keep repeat violent offenders behind bars for longer periods of time.

The bill also would increase penalties for felons convicted of violent offenses who are found illegally in possession of a firearm. Currently, the mandatory minimum prison sen-

The bill would raise the drug to the same status as cocaine and heroin and would make the manufacture of any amount of methamphetamine a first-degree controlled substance offense.

The bill also makes the drug ephedrine a controlled substance, to be dispensed only by prescription in most instances. The targeted over-the-counter products containing ephedrine are reportedly taken by teenagers and others looking to achieve a legal high.

Drive-by shootings

A provision in the omnibus bill makes murder committed during a drive-by shooting a first-degree murder crime, increasing the prison sentence for the offense.

The crime bill would also raise the maximum penalty from a five-year prison term to a 20-year term for firing into an occupied vehicle.

Conditional release

The omnibus bill would make several changes to the state's probation and conditional release law. Most notably, the bill would require that each convicted felon released on probation carry a card that would state the terms of the individual's release.

The person on conditional release would be required to produce the card when requested by a police or probation officer, which would allow the officer to know if the parolee is violating the terms of his or her parole.

The bill also would allow peace officers to detain for 36 hours a person on conditional release if the officer has reasonable cause to believe that the individual has violated the terms of his or her release.

The bill also prohibits courts from releasing individuals on bail who have been found guilty of a crime where the Sentencing Guidelines Commission requires a prison sentence. Currently, offenders can be released on bail before sentencing in these situations.

Juvenile criminals

The omnibus crime bill would also open some juvenile court records and proceedings to the public.

For juveniles under 14 years old, the bill would make court records available to the public if the juvenile is found guilty of a third felony or gross misdemeanor level offense.

For juveniles who are 14 years old or older, the bill would open all court hearings to the public, regardless of the offense. The records would be closed to the public when the juvenile turns 21.

The omnibus bill also would increase pen-

continued on page 15



By Sandy Donovan

There was only one other woman in the Legislature when Joan Anderson Growe was elected to the House in 1972.

Still, when Growe and four fellow female freshmen brought that number up to six, one newspaper warned: "The women are taking over."

However tongue-in-cheek that headline may have been, in Growe's case it was an apt description: In the 25 years since then, she has taken over the state's voting and election procedures, improving voter turnout and pushing for reforms in the election process.

"It's been a wonderful experience for someone who once never thought of making a life in public service," the six-term secretary of state said.

"And I've enjoyed every minute of it."

Growe spent only one term in the House before moving on to the secretary of state's office, but Minnesota's current open meeting laws are a testament to her time as a DFL lawmaker from Minnetonka.

"It was a long and interesting debate on open meetings," she said. "I hadn't realized the force of opposition."

In fact, she said, there was much to learn when she made the transition from full-time homemaker to legislator in January 1973. She made an almost snap decision to run for the DFL endorsement after her friend, the local Independent-Republican chair of the League of Women Voters, was not endorsed by that party.

"I ended up reading her speech at the DFL endorsement convention with the word Republican crossed out and DFL penciled in," she recalled. "Then I called another friend who had been on vacation and said, 'Guess what I decided to do while you were away?'"

And although Growe went on to win the House seat in a district that was 70 percent Republican, it was her gender that grabbed attention.

"The attention was unmistakable," she said. "And it could be to your advantage because the minute a woman started to speak in the chamber, it would grow quiet and the cameras would focus. But of course if you failed, you were that much more visible."

Growe steps from one House term to six terms as secretary of state

She ran for secretary of state during her second year in the House, and took office in January 1975 as Minnesota's first woman to be elected to statewide office without having been appointed first.

She found her new office to be a different world from the Legislature.

"I missed some of that camaraderie at first," she said. "And to a degree, I missed the wide range of issues that you deal with as a legislator."

She got right to work as secretary of state, implementing the election-day voter registration law, passed by the Legislature while Growe was a member.

"I also came in with some things I wanted to see changed," she said.



Joan Anderson Growe, Minnesota's longtime secretary of state, got her start in the House in the early 1970s. She will retire at the end of this year after six terms in her current job.

She pushed for simplified absentee voting procedures and helped secure mail-in balloting for many areas of the state.

She also oversaw Minnesota's pioneering motor-voter law — allowing people to register to vote while licensing their vehicle — and testified before Congress when the federal equivalent was being put together.

And she has lent her expertise internationally as well, serving as an election observer twice in Romania and, through the United Nations, once in South Africa during that country's first democratic election, in 1994.

Growe will step down as secretary of state at the end of this year, and she intends to focus on two things once she leaves office: stepping up her involvement in promoting democracy internationally and spending more time with her grandchildren.

She has three granddaughters and predicts that her fourth grandchild, due in May, will also be a girl because "we don't do boys." 🐾

Highlights



BANKING

Lost or stolen debit cards

A bill that would limit customer liability to \$50 on lost or stolen debit cards passed the House March 2. The vote was 132-0.

HF2500, sponsored by Rep. Ann H. Rest (DFL-New Hope), covers the debit cards that financial institutions issue to holders of checking accounts.

Besides getting cash out of automatic teller machines, consumers can use debit cards to make purchases that are directly deducted from their checking account, as long as the merchant has a terminal that can handle debit card transactions.

Rest's bill would limit customer liability to \$50 if the card is lost or stolen. The limit would apply to unauthorized transactions made before the bank receives notice that the card has been lost or stolen. (There is no liability for transactions made after the financial institution has been notified.)

A similar liability limit for credit card holders exists in current law.

The bill now goes to the Senate.



BONDING

Mechanism for coordination

A proposal to create a commission which would coordinate statewide convention and civic centers was debated by the House Capital Investment Committee March 4.

Sponsored by Rep. Steve Trimble (DFL-St. Paul), the proposal was laid over and could be included as an amendment to this year's bonding bill.

Trimble told the committee that with the proliferation of convention center bonding requests this year, there should be some mechanism for coordination.

"I want to maximize the amount of planning to get people competing with those facilities out of state, not with facilities in state," Trimble said. "It kind of makes sense that we don't want our facilities undercutting each other."

Currently, the House Capital Investment Committee is reviewing several bonding requests for convention and civic centers, including the Minneapolis Convention Center, the St. Paul RiverCentre, and facilities in Detroit Lakes, Duluth, Fergus Falls, Hutchinson, Lake Crystal, Rochester, St. Cloud, and Windom.

Trimble's proposal would call for a commission made up of two state representatives, two state senators, representatives from each of the facilities, and a chair selected by the governor. The commissioner of the Department of Trade and Economic Development also would serve in an advisory role on the commission.

The commission would be responsible for development, marketing, and coordinated planning for the state's public convention facilities.

All facilities receiving state funding would be required to work with the commission. Other facilities would be encouraged to participate.



BUDGET

Projected budget surplus

Gov. Arne Carlson and the House DFL leadership agree that much of the projected \$1.9 billion budget surplus announced Feb. 27 should go back to taxpayers — they just differ on how much should go back and how and when it should be done.

"The economic growth in Minnesota continues to be strong," Carlson said during a press conference in his Capitol office. "It is my prayer that we can return the vast majority of these dollars to the people of Minnesota."

The latest economic release by the finance department shows an additional \$592 million in surplus state money, thus bringing the entire state budget surplus for this biennium to \$1.9 billion. The projected surplus is due mainly to higher-than-expected tax receipts and lower spending, according to the governor.

Carlson wants \$250 million of that budget surplus to go to increase the property tax rebate for homeowners and renters, \$230 million to an income tax reduction account, and \$6 million to tax credits for education expenses.

The governor's plan would contribute 60 percent of any surplus shown in the November 1998 economic forecast to the income tax reduction account.

Carlson also wants to increase the size of his proposed Asian market reserve account from \$207 million to \$400 million.

"No one can say with any certainty what



Gov. Arne Carlson announces Feb. 27 that the most recent revenue forecast shows an additional \$592 million in projected surplus funds, pushing the total forecast surplus to \$1.9 billion.



Speaker Phil Carruthers and Majority Leader Ted Winter, left, announce a proposal to use part of the state's projected billion surplus to fund another property tax rebate that could go to homeowners and renters this fall.

impact the Asian crisis will have on the economy in Minnesota," he said.

If the November 1998 forecast shows sustained growth, the Asian reserve account would be dissolved, with \$90 million to go to schools, \$250 million to complete that property tax rebate, and \$60 million to the reserve account.

House Speaker Phil Carruthers (DFL-Brooklyn Center) agreed with much of what the governor said, but Carruthers said during a Feb. 27 press conference that his caucus hopes to go beyond the governor's plans.

Carruthers described a proposal to provide a "no wait rebate," an extra property tax rebate that homeowners and renters would get in October 1998.

"We want the families of Minnesota to get the checks as soon as possible," Carruthers said.

The October rebate would be in addition to the August refund checks normally paid to homeowners and renters. Taxpayers who get the August check would automatically get the October check, so no further paperwork would be needed.

Of the \$592 million in additional projected surplus funds, Carruthers and others in the House majority caucus leadership want \$345 million to go for property tax relief (\$250 million for the October rebate and \$95 million in permanent tax reductions), \$60 million for K-12 education, and \$100 million for transportation infrastructure, which would include roads and bridges and light or commuter rail. The DFL leaders are also calling for \$13 million for nursing homes, \$5 million for housing, and \$17 million for the reserve account.

Carruthers said the DFL plans are based on priorities described by constituents: property tax cuts, education, and transportation.

"In many areas we agree with the governor. We like the property tax rebate; we think it should be speeded up," he said.



DEVELOPMENT

Economic development, housing

The omnibus jobs, housing, and economic development bill survived an onslaught of proposed amendments related to the "healthy homes" provisions and was approved by the full House March 4. The vote was 74-57.

Sponsored by Rep. Steve Trimble (DFL-St. Paul), the bill (**HF3806/SF3367***) combines most of the initiatives heard by the House Economic Development and International Trade Committee's Economic Development Finance Division and the Housing and Housing Finance Division.

The bill includes \$15 million in appropriations going to state agencies to promote statewide economic development and job training and \$15 million in funding for housing programs.

The "healthy homes" sections of the bill received the most scrutiny on the floor. Rep. Geri Evans (DFL-New Brighton), the original sponsor of the provisions, offered one of the two amendments finally adopted.

Evans' amendment removed some of the proposed increases to new home warranty periods, which give homeowners time to find out about defective conditions, and added provisions requiring builders to notify home buyers of current warranty periods.

Rep. Bob Ness (R-Dassel), who works as a construction consultant, amended the bill to reduce the number of continuing education hours required for builders in the initial proposal.

Other provisions of the original "healthy homes" bill remain in the omnibus bill, including training requirements for builders and inspectors and the extension of some of the warranty periods for new homes.

The most controversial policy provision of the original bill was removed by the full Economic Development and International Trade Committee before the omnibus bill went to the floor. The provision called for all new homes built after March 1, 1999, to have mechanical ventilation systems.

Opponents of the "healthy homes" provisions argued that these new requirements put undue burden on the building industry, which is already responding to consumer concerns regarding home safety and quality.

Here are some other highlights of the omnibus jobs, housing, and economic development bill.

Hollywood, Minn.

The largest appropriation contained in the bill would go to the Minnesota Film Board to provide support for the state's \$250 million film and video industry.

The \$5 million appropriation, which was part of the governor's supplemental budget recommendations, would create a revolving loan fund to be administered by the film board and the Department of Trade and Economic Development.

The fund would provide loans ranging from \$50,000 to \$500,000 to film and television producers for Minnesota projects. The state loan funds could account for up to 50 percent of the production budget. The loan agreement would require the producer to spend 120 percent of the loan amount in the state.

The film board expects that 20 projects will be initiated in the state during the first few

years of the program. Currently, eight national cable television series are produced in the state, and 55 feature films have been made in Minnesota since 1990, according to the board.

Economic development

Including the aforementioned film board appropriation, funding for the Department of Trade and Economic Development — a total of \$7.5 million — makes up a quarter of the spending called for in the entire bill.

The department would receive \$1 million in additional funding for the Office of Tourism. Part of the governor's request, the money would be used to supplement advertising to attract tourists to Minnesota.

The remaining portion would fund economic development projects throughout the state.

One provision did not survive the house floor. A \$285,000 proposal for a trolley service connecting the Minneapolis Convention Center with cultural tourist attractions in south Minneapolis neighborhoods was removed from the bill.

Boosting employment

Under the omnibus bill, the Department of Economic Security would receive \$5 million to fund job training and re-employment programs.

The department would acquire \$250,000 to develop programs that encourage women to hold nontraditional occupations. The agency would develop programs to educate and train women for technical careers that, historically, have not been open to them.

The Department of Economic Security would receive \$1.4 million targeted at job training for youth. The department also would receive \$1 million for their rehabilitative services, which provides job training to people with disabilities.

The department would also receive \$1.4 million for the State Services for the Blind. The funds would be used to develop a digital communication center for its Radio Talking Book program. The program broadcasts literature over special radio frequencies that can be accessed by special receivers.

History and tourism

The omnibus bill would appropriate \$1 million to the Minnesota Historical Society and \$735,000 to the Department of Administration to fund a wide range of projects statewide.

Of these funds, \$300,000 would go to finance the development of a conference center in Little Falls, \$185,000 would fund improvements to Montevideo's historic railroad de-

pot, and \$100,000 would finance rehabilitation on the Lake Superior and Mississippi Railroad outside of Duluth.

Employment contracts

The omnibus bill also includes compromise language from a bill that initially called for all employers to disclose the terms of employment in writing in each employee's first language.

The current bill would require only that the Department of Labor and Industry develop a brochure stating employee rights and listing employee resource phone numbers.

The provision also would require employers to provide the brochure when an employee is first offered a job, and the bill would provide penalties for employers who fail to do so.

Saving subsidized housing

A provision that would provide \$10 million to the Minnesota Housing Finance Agency (MHFA) to assist in maintaining existing low-income housing is the centerpiece of the \$15 million housing portion of the bill.

The proposed \$10 million appropriation to protect existing affordable housing was worked on by legislators during the interim and was incorporated into the governor's budget recommendations. The provision comes in response to a situation occurring statewide.

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. Rent rates were subsidized by the federal government and rent increases were regulated.

Owners of many such complexes are now taking advantage of a provision that allows them to prepay the remaining portion of their mortgage and to begin charging market-rate rent.

Housing advocates say that this scenario could happen at the over 300 apartment complexes throughout the state that were financed through the federal program.

The \$10 million in the bill would fund the equity takeout loan program administered by the MHFA. The fund is used to provide financial incentives to maintain existing subsidized housing. The incentives can be made available to local units of government and nonprofit organizations.

Other housing help

The bill would allocate \$1.6 million to the MHFA to be used for current programs that finance the construction of new multifamily rental housing. The funds would be used in collaboration with federal dollars to build affordable rental housing.

Another provision would appropriate \$1.1 million to homelessness prevention programs administered by the MHFA. Of this, \$365,000 would go to the Bridges Program, which provides rental assistance to people with disabilities.

Programs that assist home ownership would receive \$2.2 million, under the bill. That sum would include \$1.6 million to the Community Rehabilitation Fund for the production of affordable single-family housing and \$500,000 for home ownership zones to encourage ownership in distressed areas.

The bill would also provide \$200,000 to fund programs seeking to make Minnesota homes healthier. Of that amount, \$75,000 would fund a program that would provide grants to people who suffer from Multiple Chemical Sensitivity. The grants would be used to finance improvements to make the homes chemically free.



GOVERNMENT

State government finance bill

The budget of the Office of the Attorney General and its role in the state's tobacco lawsuit remained intact after the House passed an omnibus state government finance bill March 4.

Other controversial provisions including a stepped-up community-based planning advisory council and a directive to the Metropolitan Sports Facilities Commission concerning stadium leases also remained in the bill (**HF3137/SF3354***), which is sponsored by Rep. Tom Rukavina (DFL-Virginia). The bill passed 70-61.

But a provision that would have increased advertising for the state lottery got the thumbs down from lawmakers.

Here's a look at the \$32.8 million House version of the state government spending bill, which now goes to a conference committee.

Funding the attorney general

The bill provides \$24 million in operating expenses for the attorney general's fiscal year 1999, which begins July 1.

That's \$441,000 less than the office requested, but \$1.5 million more than Gov. Arne Carlson recommended. Last year, Carlson used his line-item veto authority to strike the office's proposed 1999 funding, citing "unnecessary, imprudent, and unacceptable growth" in the office.

The attorney general is responsible for asserting and defending the state's legal interests, settling claims involving the public and private sectors, and aiding other law-enforce-

ment agencies in prosecuting and solving cases.

A Republican-backed amendment that would have cut another \$1.5 million from the budget failed on the House floor. Supporters of the amendment said that amount was slipped into the office's base budget after being approved in 1996 as a one-time appropriation to upgrade information systems.

Also failing was an amendment offered by Rep. Todd Van Dellen (R-Plymouth) that would have directed all profits from a potential settlement or jury award in the state's court battle with tobacco companies to a special account for tax relief.

The bill also includes a call for a task force to evaluate the availability, effectiveness, and cost of legal services provided by the office.

Lottery advertising

House members voted against expanding lottery advertising as part of the government finance bill.

A separate bill (**HF3104**) sponsored by Rep. Mike Delmont (DFL-Lexington) had been rolled into in the omnibus bill by the House Ways and Means Committee, but the plan was deleted on the House floor.

The proposal would have increased the amount of revenue the lottery is allowed to spend on advertising and permitted holiday-themed ads.

But another amendment, which would have all but eliminated lottery advertising, failed to garner enough support from lawmakers.

Community-based planning

A controversial plan to expand a state advisory council on community-based planning has withstood several attempts to remove it from the omnibus bill.

The plan was originally proposed in a separate bill (**HF3609**), sponsored by Rep. Dee Long (DFL-Mpls). It would expand membership on an existing advisory council as well as extend the life of the council for six months until Dec. 31, 1998. It would not provide additional funding for the council.

The council's purpose is to set up voluntary land-use planning projects between state and local government units.

But many Greater Minnesota lawmakers say that idea scares them for one reason: They don't believe it will remain voluntary for long.

"Sure, now it's voluntary, but we've heard that with every other project that soon became mandatory," said Rep. Mike Osskopp (R-Lake City).

Osskopp introduced an amendment on the House floor that would have asserted that private-property rights would be respected by the advisory council.

But that amendment failed, as did one by

Rep. Bruce Anderson (R-Buffalo Township) that would have eliminated the six-month extension of the council.

Baseball leases

A contested baseball provision is back in the omnibus bill approved by the House.

Saying they were sick and tired of baseball-related issues, members of the House Governmental Operations Committee had earlier struck a six-line section that would have prohibited the Metropolitan Sports Facilities Commission from signing any future lease with a professional baseball team for less than seven years.

But the section was re-instated by the Ways and Means Committee Feb. 27, and an amendment to remove it failed on the House floor.

Rep. Phyllis Kahn (DFL-Mpls) spoke in favor of the proposal, saying it would send a message to major-league baseball.

"When the Twins canceled their lease early, they threw a hardball into the process," she said. "We're picking up that hardball and sending it back to them."

State spending

Several other funding provisions remained intact when the House passed **SF3354**, including:

- \$3.85 million to help update state computer systems to address problems associated with the advent of the year 2000;
- \$1.2 million for the first year of a two-year study on large animal feedlots;
- \$500,000 in grants to public television stations to help them convert to a digital broadcasting signal, as mandated by the federal government;
- \$315,000 to Pioneer Public Television to build a tower in Otter Tail County. That area is currently the only part of the state that cannot receive a public television signal;
- \$100,000 for Minneapolis and St. Paul to develop computer facilities in public parks for low-income residents;
- \$44,000 to make the state register and guidebook to state agencies available on the Internet free of charge;
- \$25,000 for the Council of State Governments to set up meetings between Minnesota legislators and members of the Manitoba and Ontario parliaments to discuss boundary disputes; and
- \$20,000 to install a portrait of Gov. Arne Carlson in the Capitol.

If you have Internet access, visit the Legislature's web page at:
<http://www.leg.state.mn.us>



HEALTH

'Critical access' hospitals



Closures and financial problems at rural hospitals nationwide have created concern in Minnesota, where up to 60 percent of the rural hospital patient population is on Medicare.

Effective Feb. 26, 1998, a new state law allows state designation of rural nonprofit or public hospitals and facilities as "critical to access." Such facilities can be certified by the state as necessary providers of health care services to residents in the area.

Necessary providers can be those 20 miles from the nearest hospital, those that are the sole hospital in a county, or those that meet certain federal criteria.

There is the potential for 39 such hospitals in the state to receive the special designation.

Under federal law, critical access hospitals receive enhanced reimbursement and regulatory flexibility in exchange for limiting their inpatient services while maintaining emergency medical services.

A study by the Agency for Health Care Policy and Research, part of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, indicates traumatic injuries are more common in rural areas. Rural areas also have a larger percentage of elderly people than urban areas and higher poverty rates, according to the agency.

The small, rural hospitals designated as "critical access" facilities will retain patients only for a limited time, but the hospitals will be able to arrange for transfers and referrals when longer hospital stays are required.

The bill was the first introduced by Rep. Mary Ellen Ottremba (DFL-Long Prairie), who won a special election last fall to replace her late husband, Ken.

Sen. Dallas Sams (DFL-Staples) sponsored the legislation in the Senate.

The new law also calls for the development of a rural health plan within the current level of funding.

HF2550*/SF2261/CH257



HOUSING

Tenant security deposits



A new law, effective Aug. 1, 1998, would extend the current interest rate paid by property owners on tenant security deposits.

Current law sets the rate at 3 percent until 1999, and after that time the rate was to be increased to 4 percent. The rate increase was supposed to parallel an increase in interest rates generally; however, interest rates have remained low.

Property owners said that after 1999 they would be paying a higher rate to hold deposit funds than most financial institutions would pay.

The new law would change the date of the increase to 4 percent from May 1, 1999, to May 1, 2001.

The new law, sponsored by Rep. Loren Jennings (DFL-Harris) and Sen. James Metzen (DFL-South St. Paul), was signed by the governor March 4.

HF2590*/SF2122/CH266

Floor visit



Eleven-month-old Tommy Workman takes a break from playing with his toy trucks during a visit to the House chamber with his father, Rep. Tom Workman.



HUMAN SERVICES

Health, human services bill

Salaries for employees at nursing homes in Minnesota would rise 4.25 percent as part of a \$59.7 million health and human services omnibus bill advancing in the House.

The price tag on the wage increase would be \$12.6 million dollars, and it was not part of the governor's budget proposal.

The bill (**HF2868/SF3346***) also includes food assistance for legal immigrants, funds for a Fetal Alcohol Syndrome public awareness program, and measures related to partial birth abortions.

The bill, sponsored by Lee Greenfield (DFL-Mpls), is on its way to the House floor.

The nursing home spending is part of an effort to stabilize the workforce at nursing facilities. Low wages among most nursing home employees, coupled with bountiful job opportunities in other fields in the current booming economy, have made it difficult for nursing homes to attract and keep workers.

The omnibus spending bill for fiscal year 1999 reflects reduced caseloads and expenses that resulted in \$129 million returned to the general fund from the Department of Human Services. The caseload for long-term care is down 5 percent, for example. Cost and caseloads for the elderly and disabled and those on Medical Assistance are also down.

Another crucial element of the spending portion of the bill that cleared the House Ways and Means Committee March 2 includes \$10 million that would create statewide uniformity in child protective services. Minnesota is one of 10 states in which child protective services are provided by the county rather than the state.

It has been determined that these services currently vary widely among the counties.

Another element of the bill would address legal immigrants who were eliminated from the federal food stamp program in September 1997.

Nearly \$9 million would establish a state-funded program for these noncitizens who would otherwise no longer be eligible for food stamp benefits and the Minnesota Food Assistance program. This was also not part of the governor's recommendation.

Also in the funding bill is \$3.5 million that would be allocated to establish Fetal Alcohol Syndrome prevention, intervention, and education initiatives, an issue that has been deeply supported by Minnesota first lady Susan Carlson.

The governor's total spending proposal for health and human services was just under \$31.7 million for fiscal 1999, but Carlson's

plan did not include the nursing home wage increase. Another \$13.7 million not in the governor's budget would cover the funding of battered women's shelters.

In fiscal year 1999, the authority to pay per diem costs for the shelters was to transfer from the General Assistance program to the Department of Corrections, under the governor's recommendations. But under the House bill, the expense would not transfer. (General Assistance is a state program that offers help to those in poverty who do not qualify for other state or federal welfare programs.)

Nursing homes

The state pays nursing homes a per diem for each resident based on location, property costs and taxes, case mix, and other operating costs. Case mix is determined by the extent of care needed for each patient.

Under the bill, the per diem for salaries would rise 4.25 percent, with the appropriated money to pay nursing home workers who provide direct care to patients, perform house-keeping, and handle other nonadministrative duties.

Greenfield, chair of the Health and Human Services Finance Division, told the Ways and Means Committee March 2 that nursing homes "are having a great deal of difficulty attracting and keeping qualified staff, and part of our job as state representatives is to help with that problem."

Nursing home workers have testified to legislators this session that their work is emotionally stressful and often leads to occupation-related injuries such as back problems, the result of lifting patients.

Legislators were also told that understaffing leads to distress for patients and problems that include malnutrition, which can result from insufficient staff to handle all patients at meal times.

The increase in the per diem rate would take effect July 1, 1998.

The bill also would direct the commissioner of human services, in discussions with nursing homes and other affected parties, to implement a performance-based system by July 1, 2000, to replace the current method of setting the per diem operating cost payments. It would also direct the commissioner to implement a performance-based system at intermediate care facilities for mental retardation.

Help for legal noncitizens

At the beginning of the session, Greenfield said during a committee hearing, "I think it always was the legislative intent to address the food stamp issue." The omnibus bill does just that.

Nearly \$5 million would be used to create the Minnesota Food Assistance Program. As of July 1, 1998, the program would provide food assistance to legal noncitizens not on Minnesota Family Investment Plan-Statewide (MFIP-S), which allows families to accept lower-paying jobs and receive some state aid while working toward the goal of getting off public assistance.

Those entering the one-year food assistance program would have to meet all other eligibility requirements for the federal food stamp program.

The federal Welfare Reform Act of 1996 made noncitizens ineligible for the federal food stamp program, but the federal 1997 Emergency Supplemental Appropriations Act gives states the option to purchase food stamp benefits for those who are ineligible because they are not citizens.

That option requires states to pay for the value of the food stamp benefits, plus the federal government's cost for providing the option.

Counties would use the same income, budgeting, and benefit allotment regulations for the state program as for the federal food stamp program.

Twelve other states currently provide similar assistance.

Another nearly \$3.8 million would help extend the food supplement to legal noncitizen families on MFIP-S, the state's main welfare reform initiative.

A cash benefit equal to \$63 a month, which was designated to replace the value of the food stamps lost when noncitizens became ineligible for the federal food stamp program, was scheduled to end June 30, 1998. This bill would extend the benefit and also make eligible legal noncitizen families who are on MFIP-S, regardless of whether they became state residents as of July 1, 1997, as current law stipulates.

It is estimated about 4,700 legal noncitizens are eligible for this program, and another 500 noncitizens annually would lose eligibility for federal food stamps and shift onto this plan.

A third food program provision included in the bill would set aside a little over \$4 million for fiscal year 1999 to include food stamp cost of living increases in the food portion of the MFIP-S grants and to fund other modifications to MFIP-S.

The 1997 Legislature reduced the food portion of the MFIP-S grant by \$30 for households receiving public housing subsidies. The full \$30 reduction does not comply with the federal food stamp regulations. Food stamp regulations would permit only a \$10 monthly reduction.

The omnibus bill would authorize \$2.3 million to buy back this \$10 of the \$30 reduction

per household. About \$1.75 million would go toward the cost of living increase.

Partial birth abortions

The bill would make a person who knowingly performs a partial-birth abortion guilty of a felony that carries a sentence of not more than 15 years or payment of a fine of not more than \$50,000.

A partial-birth abortion is one in which the fetus is killed after being partially delivered.

The prohibition would not apply to a partial-birth abortion that is performed as a last resort to save the life of the mother because her life was endangered by a health condition, including a life-threatening condition arising from the pregnancy.

Fetal alcohol syndrome

Fetal Alcohol Syndrome is a series of birth defects that can result from alcohol consumption during pregnancy. The Journal of the American Medical Association reports Fetal Alcohol Syndrome is the leading known cause of mental retardation.

Susan Carlson was co-chair of the Governor's Task Force on Fetal Alcohol Syndrome, which estimated the disease costs Minnesota taxpayers at least \$45 million annually in health, judicial, and social services costs.

The \$3.5 million included the House funding bill is \$1.5 million less than the governor's request for this program.

A total of \$500,000 would help the commissioner of human services expand the maternal and child health social services program, and \$600,000 would help to implement a public awareness campaign.

Another \$300,000 would be used to develop a statewide network of regional Fetal Alcohol Syndrome diagnostic clinics. The legislation designates \$150,000 to help train health care providers. According to the National Organization on Fetal Alcohol Syndrome, less than 10 percent of medical schools require completion of a course on diagnosis.

The launching of a Fetal Alcohol Syndrome coordinating board would use another \$200,000. The board would review and coordinate existing state programs and integrate state and local prevention and intervention programs. It would report to the governor biennially.

A total of \$700,000 of the remaining funds is for a Fetal Alcohol Syndrome community grant program. The commissioner of health would administer the program to fund work by community organizations on prevention and intervention of the syndrome.

Child protective services

In January 1998, the legislative auditor found that child protective services varied widely among Minnesota's 87 counties and that no external evaluation of cases exists. The auditor suggested the system be reformed.

Rep. Matt Entenza (DFL-St. Paul) sponsored a bill (**HF2985**) that would work to create consistency in child protection investigations statewide, focus on the prevention of child abuse and neglect, and implement several other auditor's recommendations.

Earlier this session, the House Health and Human Services Committee approved the policy part of the bill, which awaits action on the House floor. Greenfield's finance division approved a \$10 million appropriation for the child protection initiatives, and that amount is now in the omnibus bill.

The governor also called for \$10 million for child welfare services in his budget.

The money for child protection would be transferred from the state's federal Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) block grant to the state's Federal Title XX block grant, which provides grants to states for social services. The state, in turn, passes the money to the counties for community social services.

Federal law permits states to transfer specified percentages of their TANF block grant to Title XX, and to the state's childhood development fund.

The TANF block grant replaced the Aid to Families with the Dependent Children (AFDC), Emergency Assistance, and Job Opportunities and Basis Skills (JOBS) programs.

Each state is guaranteed a share of TANF funds, which may be used for any purpose authorized under AFDC or JOBS programs. Specified purposes include cash assistance, child care, educational activities designed to increase self-sufficiency, job training, and work activities.

Consumer health assistance

If you can't get referred to a chiropractor under your current health plan, where do you turn? Minnesota health plan companies and health care professionals are governed by more than 20 boards and oversight bodies.

People confused or unhappy about their health plan would have a one-stop place to call, under a \$200,000 provision in the bill that would go to establish an office of health care consumer assistance.

The office would have no regulatory power, but it would have a broad range of duties. It would assist consumers who have complaints or questions about their health plan or health care provider. It would also help them understand their legal rights and get appropriate health care referrals.

The governor would appoint an executive director, and the office would have at least nine consumer advocates to perform the duties of the office.

The original bill (**HF2649**), sponsored by Rep. Linda Wejcman (DFL-Mpls), requested \$700,000 for the program. There was no budget recommendation on this from the governor.

Preceding this legislation was a 1997 state law, the Patient Protection Act, which aimed

Rotunda read-a-thon



Kay Smith, principal at Parkview Center School in Roseville, reads a Dr. Seuss book to some of her first and second graders in the Capitol rotunda March 2 to celebrate reading and to recognize the 94th anniversary of Dr. Seuss' birth. More than 260 schools around the state participated in the daylong event to promote reading with children.

to prevent health plan companies from interfering with the medical professional-patient relationship, and to provide patients with accurate information about their health plan and health plan companies.

Welfare to work

Under Minnesota's traditional welfare program, a family left welfare when its income reached 85 percent of the poverty level. Some state officials said that too often discouraged people on welfare from getting a job, because families who worked had the income deducted from their welfare check.

Under the new MFIP-S employment and training program, welfare recipients are to be evaluated and put into a job search or provided with education and training, if necessary, and moved into the workforce quickly.

But the argument was made before and among legislators this year that pushing some MFIP-S recipients toward low-paying jobs was in the long run hurting the state and some individuals.

Testimony heard this session depicted numerous situations in which people nearing completion of postsecondary degrees that would lead to jobs paying a livable wage were told to quit school and find employment or lose state benefits.

Part of the omnibus bill would allow those within 12 months of attaining a degree, or 18 months if remedial education is needed, to retain benefits while continuing their education.

Job counselors would emphasize the education and training opportunities available — an emphasis determined to be inconsistent statewide — and decide if a lack of proficiency in English is an employment barrier. If it is, an English as a second language program would have to be in the participant's employment plan as long as the participant makes satisfactory progress and the lack of proficiency is a continued employment barrier.

The cost of the change would be just under \$1.1 million, with another \$400,000 requested for child care services.

Another change would require that each participant's language and math skills be assessed. If a participant has basic math skills at or below the eighth-grade level, the person would be allowed to enroll in adult basic education as part of the job search.

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INDUSTRY

Industrial hygiene, safety

People hired to make work environments safer would need to meet certain requirements if they wish to use titles such as "industrial hygienist," under a bill that passed the House March 2. The vote was 110-21.

Sponsored by Rep. Alice Seagren (R-Bloomington), the bill would provide legal recognition to the industrial hygiene and safety profession, and would prevent individuals who have not met certain requirements from using specific titles.

Organizations for industrial hygienists — who work to control workplace environmental factors that may cause illness — have been around for at least 60 years. But it is a field that has received increasing attention in recent years.

The bill (**HF668**) would prescribe the conditions under which a person can use the titles of industrial hygienist, industrial hygienist in training, certified industrial hygienist, certified safety professional, associate safety professional, or construction health and safety technologist.

Two states have adopted similar legislation, and it is being considered in four others, according to the American Society of Safety Engineers (ASSE).

Anyone practicing industrial hygiene would not be allowed to use the professional titles listed above unless he or she attended an accredited college or university and received the proper certification, under Seagren's bill. A certified industrial hygienist, for instance, would have to pass a test by the nonprofit American Board of Industrial Hygiene and maintain that license in order to use the title.

Individuals would also have to meet certain work experience conditions.

The ASSE, founded in 1911, claims as little as \$225 can buy a lifetime certification containing the titles the legislation would protect. The ASSE also argues there are other groups who supply documentation and photo identification containing these titles, but the groups require no experience or education.

More stringent accrediting organizations, such as the Board of Certified Safety Professionals, require testing and scheduled recertification. This board has found instances of individuals falsely using their title designations.

The restrictions would not apply to properly supervised apprentices, or those employed by the state of Minnesota. It was argued that employees of the state are already subject to stringent standards, and it would be onerous

to place another stipulation upon them. The bill now moves to the Senate.



MILITARY

NATO expansion resolution



A new law requires the state to send a resolution asking President Clinton and Congress to support the admission of Poland, the Czech Republic, and the Republic of Hungary to NATO. The measure became law without the governor's signature March 5.

A NATO expansion to include the three countries is anticipated in April 1999, pending U.S. approval. President Clinton supports the expansion and the U.S. Senate Foreign Relations Committee approved a measure March 3 calling for admitting the three former Soviet-bloc nations to the international peace-keeping organization.

Within the next few weeks, the issue is expected to come before the full U.S. Senate, where a three-quarters majority is needed to approve the resolution.

The Minnesota proposal was originally sponsored by Rep. Mike Jaros (DFL-Duluth), who spent about two months translating for NATO troops in northeastern Bosnia last summer.

"My idea is that every country should join NATO, and then once everybody is joined in support of peace, we won't need any more armies," he said.

Sen. Larry Pogemiller (DFL-Mpls) sponsored the measure in the Senate.

HF2417*/SF2055/Res.5



TAXES

Omnibus tax bill

A plan to provide a new property tax rebate in October 1998 is included in the early version of the omnibus tax bill, discussed March 4 by the House Taxes Committee.

The Taxes Committee is expected to approve the omnibus bill in time for the legislation to go to the House floor before mid-March.

With the state's projected budget surplus of \$1.9 billion, the current incarnation of the bill includes several provisions for either tax cuts or tax rebates.

Other provisions in the bill would provide an expanded senior citizens' property tax deferral program, cuts in sales, and additional funds for the state's budget reserve.

Most provisions in the 200-page bill have

had hearings in the committee's Property Tax and Tax Increment Division or Sales and Income Tax Division this session, and most proposals were forwarded to the full committee without recommendation.

Under the bill, homeowners and renters would get a rebate next year equal to 20 percent of their property taxes paid in 1998, up to a maximum of \$1,500. Current law provides such a rebate on property taxes paid in 1997, except there is no maximum on the amount of the rebate.

The bill also calls for homeowners and renters to get an additional rebate in October 1998 equaling 50 percent of the rebate they received on property taxes paid in 1997, up to a maximum of \$750.

The bill also includes some permanent property tax reform measures. The bill would increase the top value of homes in the first property tax tier — taxed at the lowest rate — from \$75,000 to \$78,000 by 2001. Also, the tax rate the second tier of residential property would fall from 1.85 percent to 1.7 percent by 2001.

Property taxes on farms also would be decreased. The tax on the first \$115,000 of such property would go from 0.4 percent to 0.35 percent by 2001. The rate on the value in excess of \$115,000 would go from the current 0.9 percent to 0.8 percent by 2001.

Property tax rates also would be cut for commercial and industrial property and apartment buildings.

Under the bill, senior citizens with an annual income of up to \$40,000 would qualify for the senior property tax deferral program. Current law allows only those with an income up to \$30,000.

Some sales taxes also would be reduced. The sales tax on farm machinery, logging equipment, and "aqua culture" production equipment would go from 2.5 percent to 1.5 percent in 1998. Sales tax on these items would be eliminated in 1999.

Public libraries would see sales taxes eliminated on all their purchases.

Finally, the bill would increase the state's budget reserve to \$582 million. It's now at \$522 million.

The Taxes Committee heard testimony on the bill March 5, and was to begin taking amendments from members March 6. The bill is expected get to the House floor sometime during the week of March 9.



TRANSPORTATION

Sirens and flashing red lights



A new law signed by the governor March 4 will reinstate a safety requirement for ambulances.

Effective Aug. 1, 1998, the new law will require all medical emergency vehicles to both sound an audible signal and activate red emergency lights while responding to emergencies. Medical vehicles that are transporting patients in non-emergency situations will not be required to sound their alarms.

Last session, legislation to exempt law enforcement officers from the requirement to sound audible signals while responding to emergency calls included language that also exempted emergency medical vehicles.

Rep. Al Juhnke (DFL-Willmar), House sponsor of the new measure, said that after the 1997 law was approved, insurance carriers began telling owners of emergency medical vehicles that rates for coverage would rise if both audible and visible signals were not used while responding to emergencies.

Proponents argued that it is safer for ambulance drivers, other motorists, and pedestrians to have the audible warning in addition to flashing red lights.

Sen. Dallas Sams (DFL-Staples) sponsored the measure in the Senate.

HF2576/SF2028*/CH263



VETERANS

Gulf War veterans' bonuses



A new law effective Feb. 26 allows the state's Department of Veterans Affairs to consider documents other than a veteran's military discharge form in determining an applicant's eligibility for a state bonus program for Persian Gulf War veterans.

In 1997, the Legislature passed a law setting aside \$17 million to give Minnesota's approximately 44,000 Persian Gulf War veterans a bonus for their military service in Desert Storm. Veterans receive bonuses at three levels: Approximately 13,000 who served within a war zone are eligible to get \$600. Another 30,500 who were preparing to be shipped overseas can get \$300, and the families of the nine Minnesota soldiers killed in the war each are eligible for \$2,000.

Problems arose when the process used by the veterans affairs department to determine eligibility was causing benefit delays of up to six months.

Under the new law, the department can use — in the place of military discharge forms — other reliable documentation proving military service. The documents must be approved by the department.

Minnesota veterans who served in the military between Aug. 2, 1990, and July 31, 1991, are eligible. Applications will be accepted until June 30, 1999, and are available through groups such as the American Legion and the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

Chief sponsors of the legislation were Rep. Betty Folliard (DFL-Hopkins) and Sen. Jim Metzen (DFL-South St. Paul).

HF2338*/SF2167/CH258

That's more like it



A week after near record high temperatures were reached, winter returned to the Capitol with snow and temperatures more appropriate for early March.

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Rep. Kevin Knight . . .

Three-term legislator eyes office of state treasurer

By Matt Wetzel



When Rep. Kevin Knight (R-Bloomington) first ran for the House, he spoke in favor of term limits and vowed he would serve no more than four terms.

Now, as he eyes an opportunity to run for state treasurer, Knight has announced he will step down after just three terms. And he's already talking about what kind of state treasurer he would be.

"I'd like to take my own approach to investment issues and make that standard," Knight said. "I have a strong interest in the pension system."

The state treasurer receives and issues receipts for all payments to the treasury and controls money held in state bank accounts. The office maintains records, provides accounting services, and directs principal and interest payments on bond accounts and certificates of indebtedness.

The thing that the 40-year-old Chicago native is most proud of from his legislative career is his work to protect the state's financial well-being.

"Myself and others have brought a perspective on things relating to spending and brought a firm hand to the bottom line," he said.

In 1995, he and some other legislators, known as the "fiscal conservative caucus," worked to suggest reductions in state spending. The result was a report published in January 1996 that laid out specific recommendations for spending cuts.

"We found that \$1 billion of the spending [during that biennium] was classified as wasteful spending," he said. However, few of the group's suggestions were adopted.

Notable legislation that Knight helped sponsor includes a 1997 "corporate welfare" measure calling for the formation of a commission to study incentives given to corporations by cities to attract them and their jobs.

Knight said he was struck by the irony that in every year since 1988, the Legislature had done something to help reform welfare. But nothing had been done about "corporate welfare," which Knight defines as "the unequal distribution of money and benefits to one corporation at the expense of another corpo-



Rep. Kevin Knight, a third-term lawmaker known for his fiscal conservatism, is leaving the House to run for state treasurer.

ration, for no meaningful social purpose."

Knight made news recently by traveling to North Carolina after the failure of proposals to build a new baseball stadium here for the Minnesota Twins.

Team owner Carl Pohlad earlier signed a statement of intent to sell the team to North Carolina businessman Don Beaver, who said he intended to move the team there after the 1998 season. A vote to build a stadium here would have nullified the Beaver deal. The failure of the stadium legislation left an uncertain future for professional baseball in Minnesota.

But Knight said there didn't seem to be an enthusiastic sense of welcome for a new baseball team in North Carolina, and there was not clear support for building a new baseball stadium there. Knight concluded the Twins would not be moving there any time soon.

"There is not strong political support in Charlotte".

He added that the Twins are back where they started and that the only thing that will fix things is new ownership.

Knight, who lives in Bloomington with his

wife, Bonnie, and their three children, grew up on Chicago's south side, then the heart of the late Richard J. Daley's Democratic machine, run by the longtime mayor of that city.


Friends and acquaintances of Knight's family worked for the Daley administration, and Knight said he learned some important lessons from observing them.

"[Politics] was a people business. It was fixing potholes; it was patrolling certain blocks. It gives you an appreciation for public service," he said.

So how did a youngster who grew up in a heavily Democratic area become an outspoken Republican?

"As I got older, I wanted to make my own decision on what political affiliation I'd follow," he said.

As he prepares to campaign for state treasurer, Knight said he'll miss the people in the Legislature.

"But if I'm fortunate enough to win in November, I'll still get to see them," he said. "I was fortunate being able to represent people in Bloomington." 

A people without a government . . .

Border battles precede birth of Minnesota Territory

On May 29, 1848, Wisconsin became a state and the settlers who lived in the area between the St. Croix and Mississippi rivers became a people without a government.

The region had formerly been St. Croix County, the westernmost county of the Wisconsin Territory. And with the Wisconsin state government forming with somewhat smaller boundaries, the territorial government ceased to exist.

Two years earlier in 1846, Morgan L. Martin, a Wisconsin territorial delegate in the U. S. House of Representatives, introduced a bill to create the separate territory of "Minasota" in the area between the Mississippi and St. Croix rivers. Illinois Congressman Stephen A. Douglas of the House Committee on Territories amended the proposed name to the "Itaska Territory." Members of Congress also suggested the names Jackson, Washington, and Chippewa for the proposed territory.

On March 3, 1847, after the name "Minnesota" was selected, the legislation to create a new territory stalled. The measure was tabled after a senator suggested that the region was just too sparsely populated to be a territory, especially if that meant an appropriation for a territorial government.

Later that year, Congress passed enabling legislation that allowed Wisconsin to begin organizing as a state. The legislation included prescribed borders that followed Wisconsin's current state boundaries.

When the Wisconsin constitutional convention met in December 1847, a small minority of the delegates convinced fellow Wisconsinites that they should extend the western boundary further than was allowed by the enabling federal legislation. They decided the western border ought to run from the mouth of the Rum River northeast to the rapids of the St. Louis River. Had that been allowed to remain, much of what is now the Minneapolis-St. Paul metropolitan area would be in Wisconsin.

Leaders from St. Croix County were opposed to any change to the borders that Congress prescribed. Joseph R. Brown, Franklin Steele, and William R. Marshall, foreseeing a future Minnesota, lobbied Congress to leave the borders where they were in the enabling legislation.

Brown and others argued that the new border set by the Wisconsin convention would be unfair to any new territory created in the region. The border proposed by the Wisconsin



Map courtesy *Minnesota History*, by Theodore C. Blegen and Theodore L. Nydahl

sinites had been placed up river from St. Anthony Falls, and no river traffic could proceed past that point. Under such conditions, the territory of Minnesota, if it was created, wouldn't have had a single Mississippi River landing suitable for commercial use.

Brown and his cohorts were counting on the fact that Congress would side with them on the border issue, effectively leaving St. Croix County without a government. Congress would be forced to designate the region as the Minnesota Territory.

Congress reinstated the boundaries that had been in the initial enabling act and granted Wisconsin statehood. However, Congress failed to act on the issue of St. Croix County, leaving the area an unorganized region.

In other situations where reorganization created a "no-man's-land," such as was once the case for northeastern Iowa, an adjacent territory was given jurisdiction over the region. States, however, cannot extend authority beyond their state lines. Neither Iowa to the south nor Wisconsin to the east could extend legal jurisdiction into the former St. Croix County.

Residents of the area were confronted with the lack of a civil authority to bind business transactions, civil marriages, and other official proceedings.

Civic leaders met in Stillwater on May 29, 1848, to discuss their plan of action. An interesting legal argument emerged from their discussions. Since portions of the Wisconsin Territory were not included in the organization of the state of Wisconsin, the area left over remained a territory, they believed. The state of Wisconsin and the territory of Wisconsin could exist side by side, each a distinct political entity.

Henry H. Sibley was elected by the convention and later by a general election "to proceed to Washington City to best tend to effect the early organization of the Territory of Minnesota." He was to go to Washington to be seated in Congress as a territorial delegate from the Wisconsin Territory. If for some reason Congress didn't buy the territorial argument and refused to seat Sibley, he was to remain in Washington to lobby for the new territory.

On Dec. 4, 1848, Sibley's certificate of election as a delegate of the territory of Wisconsin was moved before the U.S. House of Representatives and referred to the Committee on Elections.

Sibley, who had studied law but made his living in the trading business, argued before the committee that the residents of the new territory of Wisconsin were accorded the rights of the Ordinance of 1787, which created the

Northwest Territory. These rights could not be arbitrarily withdrawn, he claimed.


Sibley won the recommendation that he be seated; however, Congress did not officially recognize a territorial government.

In the early part of 1849, political pressure mounted to create territorial governments in California, Nebraska, and New Mexico, as well as Minnesota. Democrats, Sibley among them, argued for increased expansion into the West, especially considering the development of a transcontinental railroad, which would provide even greater access to these lands. Whigs sought to delay the process so their newly elected president, Zachary Taylor, could

appoint the executives of these new territorial governments.

Having recently been elected to the Senate, Stephen Douglas was able to get a Minnesota bill through the Whig-controlled House by linking it to the creation of the Department of the Interior, a measure the Whig Party greatly desired.

On March 3, 1849, the last day of his term, President James Polk signed the law creating the territory of Minnesota; however, President Taylor would make all the territorial appointments. The territory included the present state of Minnesota and the portions of North Dakota and South Dakota east of the Missouri River.

Throughout the territorial debate in Washington, population estimates of the region were exaggerated by Douglas and Sibley to emphasize the point that the area needed to have its own territorial government. Douglas claimed that Minnesota had between 8,000 and 10,000 occupants. He argued that Iowa and Oregon had been made territories under similar conditions. When the 1850 census was completed, records showed that the Minnesota Territory contained only six thousand residents, the smallest number of any state or organized territory at the time. 

continued from page 4

alties for contributing to the delinquency of a juvenile. Another provision would create a civil penalty for this crime requiring a person found liable for the delinquency of a juvenile to provide restitution to victims.

The bill also would make it easier to get juveniles who are participating in prostitution into the state's child protection system.

Protecting police officers

Several provisions in the bill seek to make it easier and safer for police officers to do their job.

One such provision comes as a result of an incident where two Richfield police officers were accused of sexual assault. Although the allegations were proven false, the incident greatly disrupted the criminal justice process, not to mention the lives of the two officers involved.

The provision would make it a criminal violation to harass police officers because of the performance of official duties. This provision would also add police officers to a list of judicial officials who are protected from retaliatory harassment under current law.

Another provision would authorize officers to conduct pat-down searches on juveniles taken into custody.

Under current law, pat-down searches can be performed only on adult offenders. Proponents of the change argued that police officers need to be protected from juveniles, as well as adults, carrying concealed weapons.

In addition, the omnibus bill would make it easier to prosecute people who interfere with officers making an arrest by expanding the legal definition of obstruction of justice.

Reporting crime

Several provisions within the bill require reports to the Legislature regarding crime in Minnesota.

One provision would direct the legislative auditor to study the cost of crime in the state, including direct costs to state and local governments for criminal justice and indirect costs placed on individuals, businesses, and neighborhoods.

The bill also would require cities of the first class to provide data on criminal justice by neighborhood, and proposals for an integrated criminal justice information system which would report occurrence and prosecution of crime within each city.

Another provision seeks more accurate information on prostitution in Minneapolis and St. Paul. The bill would mandate that city attorneys in the two cities and county attorneys in Hennepin and Ramsey counties report on investigation and prosecution of prostitution within these jurisdictions.

Financing justice

The bill contains \$7.3 million in supplemental appropriations, a majority of which would go to the Department of Corrections, the Department of Public Safety, and the state courts.

Of the total amount, \$3.3 million would be recouped in revenue from increased criminal justice fees and criminal fines.

The Department of Corrections would receive \$2.8 million, much of which would go to reducing the caseload for probation officers. Grant programs which fund community corrections would also be funded through these dollars.

The Department of Public Safety would be appropriated \$1.8 million. Of these funds, the office of the Crime Victim Ombudsman would receive \$125,000 to fund its services; the Bureau of Criminal Apprehension would receive \$133,000 to add forensic scientists to its crime lab; and the department would get \$300,000 for law enforcement and community crime prevention grants.

The state fire marshal would receive \$170,000 of public safety money for the creation of an arson data system. The database would contain only basic information at the state level but would provide links to local criminal justice agencies for more detailed information on specific cases of arson.

The bill would appropriate \$1.3 million to the state courts for law clerk salaries. The state public defender would receive \$451,000 for defense attorney salaries. Another \$500,000 would be given to Legal Aid to provide legal service to low-income individuals.

Where to find information

House Public Information Office

175 State Office Building
(612) 296-2146 or 1-800-657-3550

This nonpartisan office provides committee meeting schedules, legislator information, publications including the *Session Weekly* newsmagazine, educational brochures for all ages, and member directories. All information is available at no charge.

Most publications can be viewed on the Legislature's World Wide Web page. To connect, point your web browser at:
<http://www.leg.state.mn.us>

Senate Information Office

231 State Capitol (612) 296-0504

This office is responsible for all information about the Senate, including the committee schedule, bill status, legislator information, and the distribution of bill copies.

Senate Media Services

B-44 State Capitol (612) 296-0264

This bipartisan office produces television programs, multi-media production, scriptwriting, photography and graphics. It offers live coverage of the Senate floor sessions and some committee hearings.

'I wonder how I did it' . . .

Mrs. Agnes Jensen's career spanned seven chief clerks

By LeClair G. Lambert and Nicole Wood

Back in 1941, when the current chief clerk of the House, Edward A. Burdick, began his lengthy career, the only other employee in the chief clerk's front office was his immediate supervisor, Mrs. Agnes Jensen.

In a recent interview in her New Hope apartment, Jensen, who turned 100 in July 1997, reflected on her many years as the head bookkeeper under seven different chief clerks.

"It's funny about that Legislature," Jensen said. "You just love it."

Jensen, who has five grandchildren and one great-grandchild, is quick to share her stories about the Legislature and her delicately crafted scrapbooks with visitors, particularly the largest book, which holds cards and snapshots from her 100th birthday party.

"I have had three main things in my life: working at the state banking department where I met my husband, the church where I belonged for 60 years, and the Legislature," Jensen said.

Jensen's career in state government began in the early 1920s. When her guardian, former Gov. J.A.O. Preus (*See Reflections, page 2*), took office in 1921, Jensen joined him at the Capitol as secretary to the commissioner of banking. It was here that she met her late husband, Guy, who was a vice president of the Produce Bank.

Next, Jensen joined the temporary staff of the House of Representatives. At first, she commuted to St. Paul by train and trolley from Mound, she said. When she married and moved to south Minneapolis, she rode the streetcar to work.

"Mrs. Jensen's job was very important," Burdick said recently. "There were no other offices or departments such as administrative services like the House has today."

An inscription in one of Jensen's scrapbooks reads: "I loved every minute of that job. I started in December to get the office organized and paid all the bills, all the salaries for



100-year-old Agnes Jensen, a former House staffer, holds a portrait of herself taken when she was 24.

both employees and House members, etc., etc., etc. Then stayed a month after the session to clean up everything."

She also supervised the stenographers and the typing pool, decades before the arrival of computers and duplicating machines.

"When I look back at those days, I wonder how I did it," Jensen said. "But I was young."

Jensen recalled the one time she was put in a bind. The chief clerk had instructed her to hold all copies of a new directory. A woman from the governor's office called to request 20 copies moments later. Jensen is still able to mimic the voice on the other line scolding her when she refused the request: "Mrs. Jensen, this is the *governor's* office calling."

"It's the only time I ever cried [at work]," Jensen said. "That girl was so horrid to me."

Jensen's starting wage was \$5 per day, she said. When she retired in 1955, she was earning \$22.50 per day.

"They were awfully good to me — they

should have been because I worked awfully hard," she said.

Jensen also shared her memories of Burdick as a young man.

"Ed came to my office when he was in his 20s," she said. "But I'm telling you, he was the smartest kid you ever saw. He loved the Legislature."

In 1943, Hazel Johnson, the first female page in the Minnesota Legislature came to work for Jensen.

Johnson retired in 1989, after serving many years as Burdick's desk clerk.

"Ed and Hazel still come to see me," Jensen said. "He is an awfully nice boy and he worked his way up, too!"

The admiration is mutual.

"I learned a lot from her," Burdick said. "She instilled in her employees the importance of working hard and holding down state expenses." 🐾

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St. Paul, MN 55155-1206

Rep. Mark Mahon . . .

Trip to Ireland tops legislator's retirement agenda

By Jim Thielman



The clover leaf pressed into a picture frame on Rep. Mark Mahon's desk was picked by his son at the Mahon homestead in Ireland. Now that Mahon is retiring after six years in the House, a trip to Ireland is high on his agenda — an agenda that's been fairly full for nearly 50 years.

Mahon spent four years in the Air Force, another 35 years at Case International Harvester, 17 years as a local union officer, and 17 in city government. Add to that six years as a state representative.

"You add all those up and I should be 100 years old," Mahon (DFL-Bloomington) said.

Well, maybe 75. Of course, some of those experiences were concurrent, but to stuff all that experience into Mahon's 67 years seemingly would require a shoehorn.

Mahon plans to stay active in a public role he hasn't yet defined, but he does not deny feeling a twinge of melancholy about leaving state government.

"I think anybody we send out of here who says they don't miss it is not being true to themselves. This has been a real rewarding experience. I made a lot of good friends," Mahon said. "I know what people have often thought of politicians, but along with my days at Case, I can't say that I ever worked with a group of more dedicated people."

His margin of victory has increased in each of his three elections, and some urged him to chase a fourth term, but Mahon said, "Sooner or later you have to let go, and it just seemed like it was the right time."

Mahon considered waiting until the end of the session to announce his retirement, but decided that was unfair to voters and candidates. At least three Republicans have announced candidacy for his District 40A seat, and word is as many Democrats will be part of the mix.

Another consideration for Mahon is his wife, Florence, who is recovering from surgery to remove a benign brain tumor. She coordinated all his political campaigns. While the recovery seems smooth, the incident suggests it might be time to focus more on his family, Mahon said.

Mahon serves on the House Local Government and Metropolitan Affairs, Financial Institutions and Insurance, and Transportation and Transit committees. He's vice chair of the Transportation and Transit Finance Division.

It was during a transportation finance meet-



After a long career of public service, Rep. Mark Mahon is leaving the House after this term, but the Bloomington resident plans to stay active in public affairs.

ing this session that Mahon introduced a bill pertaining to a new category of collector license plates for cars from the mid-70s that left the hearing room resonating with laughter. Legislators were inclined to think the plates would end up on cars more rusty than collectible, and the bill failed to get a hearing the previous session.

"I never thought it would get a hearing this year, either," Mahon said later.

The grilling of Mahon, and his responses, took a comic turn. At least three legislators were in tears before discussion concluded, setting up the payoff line from Rep. Bernie Lieder (DFL-Crookston), who chairs the division and who co-sponsored the bill.

"Representative Mahon, is this your re-election bill?" Lieder asked.

When the final round of laughter ebbed, Mahon admitted it was perhaps the first piece of legislation ever laughed to death. Rep. Al Juhnke (DFL-Willmar) was among the culprits.

"Mark came to the Legislature with a lot of experience," Juhnke said. "I think he realized politics is a funny game, and if you take yourself too seriously, you'll drive yourself nuts. He was a good sport about carrying that bill, and I've never seen a committee recess to dry their eyes. That was a lot of fun, and I think that's how we'll all remember him."

While self-deprecating, Mahon has the

knack for trimming to the essence of complicated transportation issues. He's dealt so long with civic issues that his demeanor suggests the competent, workmanlike approach of the local, small-town barber pulling up the window shade and lighting the barber pole for another day's work.

He's balanced that with a knack for long-range planning.

Mahon has championed light rail transit in the metropolitan area for years. He said in committee hearings this year that 20 years ago was the best time to do it.

"This is the second-best time," Mahon said. "If we don't do it with the budget surplus we have now, it will be another 20 years. Frankly, I think if you get a segment of light rail in and operating somewhere, everyone else will be lining up and asking 'when is it going to be our turn?'"

Mahon is also proud of his work during his first term to pass a bill that helped Bloomington get bonding for highway improvements around the Mall of America. The project has contributed to the mall's raging success.

Because Mahon thinks everyone should be involved in public service, he says he has no plans to "go and hide. I'm 67. Not young; not that old. But I've spent 23 years in elective office, and it's hard to remember when I wasn't running for something." 🐾

A partial listing . . .

House Files incorporated into 1998 omnibus bills

If you've lost track of some of the bills you have been following during the session, you may find them on one of these pages. The section includes unofficial listings, as of a certain date, of the House files that are contained in the various omnibus bills and other larger bills.

Ongoing floor and conference committee action may well alter the makeup of these bills before they reach the end of the legislative process. In many cases, the language found in the major bills may not be exactly as it appears in the original House files due to amendments that happen along the way. In addition, the House files that are listed may have been included either entirely or partially.

The list was compiled by the House Public Information Office from a variety of sources, including committee administrators, fiscal analysts, and legislative analysts. In some cases, the Senate companion file number and author are listed along with the House file number and author. Each bill is accompanied by a brief description of its content.

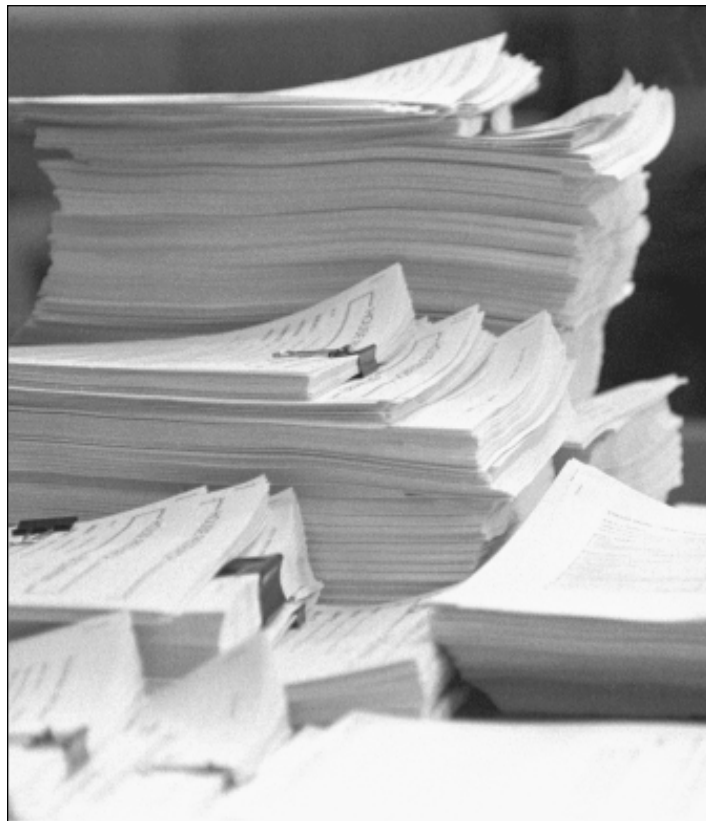
An asterisk after a House or Senate file number indicates the version of the bill that is under consideration.

If you're interested in following conference committee action (and have access to the World Wide Web), point your Web browser to: <http://www.leg.state.mn.us>

You also can stop by the office and pick up a "Today" sheet which provides the daily meeting schedule.

If you have questions, call the House Public Information Office, (612) 296-2146 or 1-800-657-3550 or the Senate Information Office, (612) 296-0504 or 1-888-234-1112.

More bill listings will appear in the next issue of the *Session Weekly*.



A total of 1,579 bills have been introduced in the House of Representatives so far during the 1998 Legislative session. The governor has already signed a few of these. Some will follow, some will not, and many others have been rolled into large omnibus bills that are awaiting their fates.

Commerce

Omnibus Liquor Bill HF 2695 (Tunheim) As of March 2, 1998

- HF 2691 (Huntley) Canosia permitted the off-sale of intoxicating liquor until 10 p.m. Monday through Saturday.
- HF 2799 (Juhnke) Canosia permitted the off-sale of intoxicating liquor until 10 p.m. Monday through Saturday.
- HF 2926 (Tunheim) State universities temporary on-sale liquor licenses authorized.
- HF 2977 (Dawkins) Temporary on-sale liquor license restrictions modified.
- HF 2999 (Molnau) Municipalities with a population of 5,000 or less exempt from certain temporary liquor license restrictions.
- HF 3060 (Rukavina) Virginia authorized to issue an additional on-sale liquor license.
- HF 3105 (Pawlenty) Eagan authorized on-sale liquor licenses increased.
- HF 3139 (Tunheim) Beer brewer and wholesaler agreements regulated, and obligations of successors provided.
- HF 3293 (Kraus) Albert Lea authorized to issue additional on-sale liquor licenses.
- HF 3406 (Boudreau) Local alcoholic beverage sale and possession restriction provisions clarified.

Crime

Omnibus Judiciary Finance and Crime Prevention Bill SF3345 (Murphy, Skoglund)

Content as of March 2, 1998, when the bill passed the House on a 74-56 vote. (Note: The bill descriptions appear as they did when bills were introduced. Changes likely have occurred during the legislative process.)

- HF24 (Weaver)/SF300 (Neuville) Three strikes; mandatory life sentence imposed for persons convicted of a third violent felony offense.
- HF64 (Pawlenty)/SF395 (Robling) Biological specimens required from persons convicted of causing the death of a person while committing criminal sexual conduct.
- HF644 (Skoglund)/SF537 (Junge) Court defendant guilt adjudication refusal provisions clarified.
- HF1002 (Farrell)/SF914 (Wiger) Fire protection industry regulation modified related to apprentice sprinkler fitters, and civil penalty provided.
- HF2285 (Skoglund)/SF2078 (Junge) Firearms offenses provided increased minimum sentences.
- HF2286 (Skoglund)/SF2168 (Johnson, D.H.) Violent crime offense penalty provisions modified, and mandatory sentence provisions recodified.

- HF2288 (Mullery)/SF2809 (Junge) Consecutive sentences allowed when offender commits additional crimes prior to sentencing, and guidelines modified.
- HF2297 (Mullery)/SF2495 (Kleis) 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.
- HF2305 (Mullery)/SF2097 (Kelly, R.C.) Gang-related felony crime penalties increased, mandatory minimum sentences provided for witness tampering, and witness and victim protection fund appropriated money.
- HF2306 (Mullery)/SF2692 (Anderson) Direct and indirect costs of crime studied by the legislative auditor.
- HF2312 (Skoglund)/SF2356 (Johnson, D.H.) Methamphetamine manufacturing provided criminal penalties, and sale, possession, and attempt to sell penalties modified.
- HF2313 (Skoglund)/SF2103 (Novak) Arson investigative data system created, state fire marshal authorized to license private fire investigators, making it a crime to engage in fire investigation activities without a license, and money appropriated.
- HF2329 (Mullery) Individuals on conditional release required to carry a verification card, and criminal penalties imposed.
- HF2330 (Mullery) Peace officers authorized to perform protective pat-down searches on juveniles taken into custody.
- HF2332 (Mullery)/SF2743 (Ranum) Covenant not to allow stolen property in premises required as part of a residential lease.
- HF2352 (Clark, K.)/SF2090 (Berglin) Restorative justice programs authorized, existing program funding provided, and money appropriated.
- HF2375 (Clark, K.)/SF2104 (Berglin) Prostitution offenses committed in a school, park, or public housing zone provided increased penalties.
- HF2376 (Evans)/SF2944 (Anderson) State correctional facilities performance report required to include programming and inmate job placement information.
- HF2381 (Chaudhary)/SF2724 (Betzold) DWI; driver's license reinstatement fee increased to fund the remote electronic alcohol monitoring pilot program, and money appropriated.
- HF2386 (Skoglund)/SF2723 (Betzold) Special registration plate and regular reissue plate fees increased for repeat DWI violators following an impoundment order, and remote electronic alcohol monitoring program funded.
- HF2391 (Jefgerson)/SF1699 (Junge) Persons using children to import controlled substances into the state provided increased criminal penalties.
- HF2395 (Mullery)/SF3236 (Foley) Felony-level offenders failing to appear in court provided increased criminal penalties.
- HF2411 (Mullery) Judges authorized to set release conditions in cases of crimes against the person.
- HF2431 (Paymar)/SF2066 (Anderson) Fair housing initiative established, grants provided for enforcement, education, and outreach, and money appropriated.
- HF2433 (Stanek)/SF2259 (Johnson, D.H.) Conditional release data system established by the Bureau of Criminal Apprehension.
- HF2452 (Mullery) Peace officers authorized to briefly detain persons on conditional release for just cause.
- HF2457 (Mullery) Corrections agencies order issuance authority clarified for persons on conditional release who are in violation or escape, and peace and probation officer authority to detain and release conditional releasees clarified.
- HF2469 (Clark, K.)/SF2089 (Berglin) Burglary accomplice liability clarified.
- HF2471 (Mullery)/SF3234 (Foley) Defendant release following conviction or guilty plea prohibited under certain circumstances, and guilty plea waiver of bail required.
- HF2472 (Mullery) Probation violators community work service authorized, and community work service imposition review by district court provided.
- HF2505 (Delmont)/SF2161 (Krentz) Drive-by shooting at an occupied motor vehicle maximum sentence and severity level increased.
- HF2535 (Stanek)/SF2317 (Higgins) Law enforcement officer property damage compensation responsibility clarified, state compensation and local government reimbursement process established, and money appropriated.
- HF2597 (Skoglund)/SF2238 (Betzold) Indecent exposure while confining or restraining another person deemed a felony, and sex offender registration required.
- HF2606 (Wagenius)/SF 2095 (Ranum) Community right to know act; cities required to collect and maintain information on neighborhood crime statistics, and reports required.
- HF2626 (Boudreau)/SF2273 (Neuville) Faribault state land conveyance authorized.
- HF2679 (Biernat)/SF2587 (Kelly, R.C.) Crimes motivated by involvement with a criminal gang provided expanded enhancement penalties.
- HF2702 (Weaver)/SF3006 (Knutson) Crime of obstructing legal process, arrest or firefighting penalties scope expansion.
- HF2734 (Bishop)/SF2498 (Kelly, R.C.) Sex offender registration law expanded.
- HF2749 (Broecker)/SF2486 (Neuville) Judiciary finance and Department of Corrections supplemental appropriations bill.
- HF2782 (Evans)/SF2438 (Junge) Domestic abuse definition expanded, and order for protection violation penalties clarified.
- HF2806 (Slawik)/SF2545 (Junge) Indecent exposure felons subject to the sex offender registration law.
- HF2853 (Weaver) Concurrent incarceration provisions clarified for separate crimes or behavioral incidents, and concurrent and consecutive sentences specification requirements modified.
- HF2901 (Murphy)/SF2572 (Betzold) CHIPS; child in need of protection or services definition expanded to include certain juvenile petty offenders.
- HF2943 (Murphy)/SF2596 (Ranum) Juvenile dispositional residential treatment facility temporary bed moratorium imposed, and out-of-home placements studied.
- HF2993 (Paymar)/SF2684 (Ranum) Order for protection/minor respondent violations provided criminal penalties, firearm possession prohibited, and harassment restraining order service of notice clarified.
- HF3014 (Pugh)/SF2594 (Foley) Contributing to a child's delinquency, juvenile petty offender status, and need for protection services laws clarified, and penalties imposed.
- HF3023 (Stanek)/SF2695 (Johnson, D.H.) Repeat theft crime penalties clarified.
- HF3035 (Skoglund)/SF2663 (Johnson, D.H.) Harassment and stalking crime expanded to include injury of a peace officer's reputation, and enhanced penalties provided.
- HF3039 (Pawlenty)/SF3022 (Knutson) Subsequent controlled substance conviction provisions expanded to include dispositions under the controlled substance prescription law.
- HF3051 (Biernat)/SF2595 (Foley) Failure to obey certain subpoenas provided felony penalties, and felony offender failure to appear

for criminal proceedings provided increased penalties.

HF3053 (Larsen)/SF3021 (Knutson) Interference with privacy and making obscene or harassing telephone calls exempt from juvenile petty offenses.

HF3059 (Juhnke)/SF2758 (Junge) Juvenile court records made public in certain cases, and annual delinquency disposition reports required.

HF3061 (Chaudhary)/SF2869 (Betzold) Driver's license revocation judicial review petition and judicial expungement order petition content requirements modified.

HF3085 (Peterson)/SF2548 (Betzold) Emergency management division volunteer resources coordination provided, and money appropriated.

HF3163 (Pugh)/SF2836 (Ten Eyck) Public defender law corrections, updates, and clarifications provided.

HF3204 (Pugh)/SF2846 (Kelly, R.C.) Carisoprodol schedule IV controlled substance listing effective date delayed.

HF3357 (Murphy)/SF3246 (Foley) Court surcharge and fine assessment provisions revised and consolidated.

HF3360 (Paymar)/SF2737 (Junge) Recognition of domestic abuse protection orders from other jurisdictions clarified.

HF3506 (Wenzel) Drive-by shooting penalties increased.

HF3515 (McGuire)/SF3033 (Cohen) Ramsey County family court combined jurisdiction pilot project sunset extended.

HF3549 (Pugh)/SF3092 (Metzen) Ephedrine provided prescription status, sale, marketing, and possession restricted, and criminal penalties imposed.

HF3561 (Murphy)/SF3140 (Kelly, R.C.) Commissioner of corrections authorized to contract with counties for placement of juveniles in the serious/chronic program, PREPARE, at Red Wing.

HF3590 (Dawkins)/SF2368 (Spear) Sentencing Guidelines Commission report proposal approved.

HF3703 (Carruthers)/SF3267 (Johnson, D.H.) Hennepin County district court administrator fees modified, and Fourth Judicial District fine distribution studied.

Education

Omnibus Family and Early Childhood Education Finance Bill HF2803/SF2532* (Kinkel)

Content as of Feb. 26, 1998, when the bill passed the House on a 91-42 vote. (Note: The bills listed are included either entirely or partially.)

HF2283 (Delmont) Nonstandard hour child care development grants established, incentives provided, and money appropriated.

HF2406 (Entenza) Nonprofit organization grants for statewide literacy support services provided funding through adult basic education.

HF2459 (Slawik) Start-up and expanding child care provider licensing, assistance, outreach, and training provided, employer licensing requirements modified, and money appropriated.

HF2581 (Delmont) Emergency assistance and transitional housing programs appropriated money.

HF2593 (Juhnke) Child guide prevention program appropriated money.

HF2709 (Sykora) Early childhood and family education programs funded, and money appropriated.

HF2726 (Slawik) Family and community services assistance grant program established, and money appropriated.

HF2748 (Tomassoni) Minnesota family assets for independence ini-

tiative established for education, housing, and economic development purposes, and money appropriated.

HF2780 (Evans) Basic sliding fee child care self-employment exception eligibility for caregivers provided.

HF2803 (Kinkel) Child care program transition year families definition clarified, employment and training assistance eligibility expanded, human services order review provisions modified, program costs funded, and money appropriated.

HF2936 (Wolf) Energy conservation account and liquefied petroleum gas account funds transferred to the commissioner of children, families, and learning for low-income energy programs.

HF2962 (Clark, K.) Lead abatement program appropriated money.

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

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

HF3338 (Mulder) At-home infant care program eligibility provisions modified.

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

HF3396 (McGuire) 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.

HF3422 (Sykora) Direct child care assistance payments modified.

Omnibus Higher Education Supplemental Appropriations Bill SF3297 (Pelowski)

Content as of Feb. 26, 1998, when the House passed the bill on a 104-26 vote.

HF895 (Kinkel) Higher education governing boards.

HF2324 (Carlson) Financial aid modifications.

HF2652 (Opatz) Providing supplemental funding for certain campuses.

HF2741 (Leighton) Regent changes.

HF2955 (Mares) Increasing student funding for certain campuses average.

HF2984 (Tomassoni) Subcommittee initiatives on planning and transitions.

HF3251 (Pelowski) U of M - expand legal assistance program.

HF3691 (Carlson) Grade 13 bill.

Omnibus K-12 Education Finance Bill HF2874 (Kelso)

Content as of March 2, 1998, when the bill was approved by the House Ways and Means Committee. (Note: The bills listed are included either entirely or partially.)

HF820 (Dehler) Guidance/counseling in nonpublic schools.

HF1678 (Biernat) Task Force on K-12 governance/abolish state board.

HF2214 (Murphy) PSEO students allowed to participate in school activities.

HF2276 (Biernat) Mandatory summer school attendance.

HF2318 (Leppik) Accelerated instruction for high achievers.

HF2319 (Greiling) Remove Local Match from Gifted & Talented.

HF2321 (Seagren) Residential academy.

HF2345 (Entenza) School lunch and food storage aid.

HF2348 (Ness) ITV deficiency funding.

HF2349 (Ness) Basic skills summer school.

HF2350 (Ness) Secondary vocational deficiency funding.

HF2359 (Sekhon) Compensatory revenue — equity adjustment factor.

HF2412 (Lieder) Extend flood loss appropriation.

HF2445 (Leppik) Parking fees contingent on bus ridership.

HF2446 (Sviggum) Bus purchase levy for districts with negative balances.

HF2464 (Johnson, A.) Compensatory revenue — equity adjustment factor.

HF2474 (Opatz) St. Cloud (742) Community education site.

HF2501 (Kraus) Albert Lea (241) year-round school/extended week or day Pilot.

HF2522 (Greiling) K-12 policy changes.

HF2611 (Kelso) American Indian language and culture programs.

HF2613 (Luther) At-risk student levy for Osseo (279).

HF2660 (Johnson, A.) Library data access grant.

HF2759 (Mares) Remove local match from gifted and talented.

HF2763 (Wagenius) First grade preparedness.

HF2788 (Dawkins) Remove YouthWorks sunset.

HF2792 (Johnson, R.) Library on-line catalog software.

HF2836 (Opatz) Define home school for extracurricular activities.

HF2839 (Seagren) Minnesota Council on Economic Education.

HF2860 (Erickson) Residential academy.

HF2874 (Kelso) Repeal Education Finance Act of 1992.

HF2875 (Greiling) Special ed reform.

HF2882 (Entenza) Expand all-day kindergarten.

HF2903 (Tomassoni) Regional Public Library System.

HF2915 (Evans) Mounds View (621) Health and safety for new construction.

HF2967 (Rifenberg) Caledonia (299) planning grant.

HF3003 (Wolf) Repeal pre-Labor Day start prohibition.

HF3004 (Wolf) Remove superintendent salary cap.

HF3017 (Entenza) Class size reduction funding.

HF3025 (Entenza) St. Paul bonding authority (element taken from larger bill).

HF3043 (Trimble) Metronet - Minnesota Authors Video Series.

HF3052 (Seagren) Governor's supplemental budget recommendations.

HF3062 (Carlson) Ongoing funding for technology.

HF3090 (Schumacher) Unlimited possibilities grants.

HF3109 (Ness) Crow River, Meeker and Wright facility grant.

HF3127 (Luther) Phase in full day kindergarten.

HF3128 (Siefert) Lynd (415) Fund Transfer (Re-employment and Bus to General).

HF3130 (Koskinen) Compensatory revenue — equity adjustment factor.

HF3154 (Chaudhary) Elementary class size reduction.

HF3197 (Folliard) Model policy on pupil transportation efficiency.

HF3199 (Leighton) Modifying charter school employment and operating provisions.

HF3206 (Lieder) Expand uses of health and safety for Ada-Borup (2854).

HF3212 (Mares) Residential academy.

HF3217 (Kelso) Murphy's Landing and IronWorld historical education programs.

HF3223 (Slawik) Graduation standards implementation revenue.

HF3227 (Murphy) Carlton (93) planning grant.

HF3257 (Larsen) Residential correctional facilities.

HF3263 (Schumacher) Funding for graduation standards/teacher training.

HF3266 (Kelso) Charter school contractual arrangements.

HF3271 (Pugh) South St. Paul (6) and Mankato (77) admin. space

lease levy.

HF3307 (Biernat) Minnesota Learning Resource Center grant.

HF3328 (Entenza) Learn and Earn changes.

HF3329 (Johnson, A.) New Visions remote-site consulting services grant.

HF3374 (Solberg) Permanent levy authority for retired employee health benefits.

HF3397 (Bradley) Rochester special ed services (as amended).

HF3410 (Slawik) Site-based funding for all-day kindergarten.

HF3425 (Anderson I) Modify supplemental revenue.

HF3431 (Kelso) U of M - Office of Educational Accountability.

HF3468 (Entenza) Collaborative urban educator.

HF3520 (Mullery) Nontraditional careers for girls and women.

HF3522 (Hilty) Special education assessments to comply with federal law.

HF3600 (Harder) Jackson County Central Referendum Authority.

HF3608 (Biernat) Repeal of the Education Funding Act of 1992.

HF3610 (Carruthers) Standards-based staff development.

HF3646 (Johnson, A.) School restructuring grant.

HF3655 (Skare) Funding for graduation standards implementation.

HF3664 (Dawkins) In-school suspension revenue.

HF3665 (Dawkins) At-risk student open enrollment incentives study.

HF3681 (Ozment) Teacher training to enhance the graduation rule.

HF3684 (Carlson) Model technology program.

HF3724 (Biernat) Youth athletics demonstration program grant.

HF3736 (Juhnke) Alternative calculation for compensatory revenue.

HF3753 (Dempsey) Hastings (200) School Crossing Guard levy.

HF3768 (Kalis) Maple River (2135) coordinated facilities plan.

HF3774 (Peterson) Ortonville (62) model technology integration grant.

HF3775 (Tunheim) Lake of the Woods (390) model distance learning grant.

HF3782 (Kubly) Enhanced pairing cooperation and combination aid.

Environment

Omnibus Environment, Natural Resources & Agriculture Finance Bill HF3799/SF3353* (Osthoff)

Content as of March 5, 1998, when the House passed the bill on a 68-62 vote.

HF663 (Rukavina) Mineral coordinating committee.

HF1332 (Rukavina) Lakeshore lease.

HF1561 (Finseth) Living snow fences.

HF1690 (Hasskamp) Personal watercraft.

HF2361 (Sekhon) Linwood surface water.

HF2427 (Munger) Frog research.

HF2515 (Bakk) Modifying membership in the Forest Resources Council.

HF2515 (Osthoff) Metro Greenways.

HF2538 (Wagenius) PCA annual report requirements.

HF2668 (Kubly) Passing the farm.

HF2713 (Westfall) Modifying flood control grants.

HF2997 (Knoblach) Task force on cost benefit water quality standards.

HF3018 (Munger) White pine.

HF3076 (Kalis) Quad lakes restoration.

HF3276 (Skare) Beaver damage grants.

HF3321 (Peterson) Ethanol producer payment modifications.

HF3421 (Winter) Market Champ Inc.

HF3441 (Peterson) Feedlots.
 HF3559 (Otremba) Sauk dam.
 HF3572 (Bakk) Timber permits extensions.
 HF3583 (Bakk) Forest Resources Council funds.
 HF3604 (Schumacher) Benton County landfill.
 HF3621 (Wenzel) Mississippi River sediment.
 HF3633 (Wenzel) Repair of state forests.
 HF3687 (Bishop) Individual septic systems.
 HF3699 (Otremba) Milk marketing orders.
 HF3709 (Kahn) Mississippi whitewater trail.

Government

Supplemental State Government Finance Appropriations Bill HF3137/SF3354* (Rukavina)

Content as of March 4, 1998, when the House passed the bill on a 70-61 vote.

HF2444 (Larson) DOER - Study of disabled, temporary workers.
 HF2627 (Winter) Regional development commissions.
 HF2643 (Farrell) Workers' Compensation settlement judges.
 HF2705 (Kahn) Electronic Guidebook/State Register.
 HF2794 (Tunheim) Consumer protection against fraud/AGs Office.
 HF2908 (Kahn) High Definition Television.
 HF2814 (Tomassoni) Health plan companies/durable medical equipment.
 HF2958 (Otremba) Public TV translator tower in Otter Tail County.
 HF3075 (Anderson, I.) Public Employees Insurance Program (PEIP).
 HF3104 (Delmont) Minnesota State Lottery.
 HF3137 (Rukavina) Changes in debt collection act.
 HF3241 (Pelowski) Voter registration/Secretary of State's Office.
 HF3450 (Anderson, I.) Meetings with Manitoba and Ontario parliaments.
 HF3464 (Hilty) Construction Codes Advisory Council.
 HF3497 (Rukavina) Access to technology for the blind.
 HF3601 (Solberg) Budget and finance reporting changes (Supplemental bill contains language, but HF3601 is actually on House floor).
 HF3609 (Long) Community-based planning changes.

Health

Omnibus Health and Human Services Supplemental Finance Bill HF2868 (Greenfield)

Content as of March 2, 1998, when the bill was approved by the House Ways and Means Committee.

HF885 (Greenfield)/SF303 (Lourey) Physical therapy board established, and license requirement provided.
 HF2233 (Pugh)/SF1984 (Wiener) Kidney transplants; post kidney transplant maintenance drug payment provided, and money appropriated.
 HF2334 (Clark, K.)/SF2108 (Berglin) Blood lead analysis reports and data requirements.
 HF2398 (Goodno)/SF2589 (Hottinger) Personal care services termination standards set, transition plans required, recipients provided appeal rights, and temporary stays of termination allowed.
 HF2413 (Lieder)/SF2058 (Moe) FEMA; Federal Emergency Management Agency mental health care grants extended, and money appropriated.

HF2447 (Chaudhary)/SF2720 (Novak) Columbia Heights nursing facility special property payment rate setting procedure established.
 HF2503 (Bradley)/SF2653 (Morse) Region 10 quality assurance commission appropriation carryover authorized.
 HF2517 (Murphy)/SF2189 (Lourey) Carlton County tax-forfeited land sale terms modified.
 HF2531 (Murphy)/SF2188 (Lourey) Carlton County nursing home licensure and certification moratorium exception approval extended.
 HF2573 (Huntley)/SF2027 (Sams) Emergency medical services. communications needs assessment conducted outside the seven-county metropolitan area.
 HF2607 (Rukavina)/SF2184 (Janezich) Spend-up limit exemption and additional reimbursement for real estate taxes provided to a certain nursing facility completing a moratorium exception project.
 HF2649 (Wejcman)/SF2146 (Morse) Office of health care consumer assistance, advocacy, and information created, HMO enrollee complaint system modified.
 HF2651 (Greenfield)/SF2093 (Berglin) Housing with services establishments licensing requirements modified.
 HF2662 (Bradley)/SF2391 (Kiscaden) Medical assistance and general assistance medical care eligibility requirements modified, and MinnesotaCare provisions modified.
 HF2664 (Delmont)/SF2194 (Sams) Study. Health plan company equal access requirements clarified, and direct access to chiropractors, optometrists, and advanced practice nurses provided.
 HF2677 (Entenza)/SF240 (Anderson) Home visiting program grant requirements specified, and money appropriated.
 HF2684 (Koskinen)/SF2425 (Hottinger) Nursing home staffing ratios and facilities reimbursement modified, nursing facility salary adjustments per diem provided, and unionization cost use for setting payment rates prohibited.
 HF2723 (Entenza)/SF2277 (Kiscaden) Child welfare reform.
 HF2737 (Goodno)/SF2340 (Stevens) Welfare reform; work first and other programs modified, and nonresidential child care program licensure modified.
 HF2778 (Huntley)/SF2605 (Piper) Governor authorized to enter into agreement with the United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission.
 HF2781 (Jennings)/SF2509 (Hottinger) County crisis nursery technical assistance program established, and money appropriated.
 HF2793 (Hilty)/SF2190 (Lourey) Mash-Ka-Wisen treatment center youth alcohol treatment wing construction provided, and money appropriated.
 HF2843 (Rifenberg)/SF2452 (Kiscaden) Southeastern Minnesota crisis intervention project provided funding for developmentally disabled persons in home and community-based services.
 HF2859 (Huntley)/SF2157 (Sams) Medical assistance and general assistance medical care ambulance services payments increased.
 HF2868 (Greenfield)/SF2633 (Berglin) Omnibus HHS Supplementary Appropriations Bill.
 HF2870 (Greenfield)/SF2634 (Berglin) Health care cost information system provisions modified, filing fee established, and money appropriated.
 HF2883 (Kubly)/SF2467 (Johnson, D.E.) Granite Falls project turn-about appropriated money.
 HF2913 (Koskinen)/SF2673 (Hottinger) Human services home-sharing program appropriated money.
 HF2917 (Weaver)/SF2601 (Foley) Anoka County land conveyance authorized.

HF2943 (Murphy)/SF2596 (Ranum) Juvenile dispositional residential treatment facility temporary bed moratorium imposed, and out-of-home placements studied.

HF2953 (Otremba, M.)/SF2547(Dille) County grants provided for children's mental health services, and money appropriated.

HF2990 (Huntley)/SF2567 (Berglin) Welfare programs providing an education choice provisions modified.

HF3006 (Carlson)/SF2400 (Berglin) Rule 80 nursing facilities rate setting formula modified.

HF3022 (Johnson, R.)/SF2639 (Ten Eyck) Sexually transmitted disease prevention initiatives appropriated money.

HF3047 (Knoblach) Nursing home bed certification moratorium exception provided.

HF3049 (Greenfield)/SF2620 (Terwilliger) Reimbursements modified for certain nursing facilities in Hennepin, Ramsey, and Brown counties.

HF3072 (Greenfield)/SF2628 (Berglin) Health maintenance organizations, community integrated service networks, and non-profit health service plan corporations one-time premium tax adjustment.

HF3175 (Rest) Residential hospice advisory task force established to study facility licensure.

HF3221 (Skare) Breast and cervical cancer control program funding for screening of low-income women provided, and money appropriated.

HF3231 (Bradley)/SF2772 (Kiscaden) Prepaid medical assistance program expansion and county-based purchasing provisions modified.

HF3246 (Lieder) Ada disaster loan guarantee provided for damaged public health care facility operating losses.

HF3259 (Greenfield)/SF2521 (Samuelson) 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.

HF3326 (Greenfield) Home care bill of rights modified relating to the office of the ombudsman for older Minnesotans.

HF3327 (Anderson, I.) Reimbursement rate exemption extended for a certain nursing facility.

HF3343 (Sykora)/SF3004 (Berglin) Fetal alcohol syndrome campaign implemented, statewide network of FAS diagnostic clinics and grant programs established.

HF3409 (Knoblach)/SF3219 (Fischbach) Stearns and Sherburne county ICFs/MRs provided reimbursement for field audit disallowances, spend-up limit exemptions provided, and money appropriated.

HF3513 (Haas)/SF3200 (Kiscaden) Children ineligible for MinnesotaCare provided payments for employee share of employer-subsidized insurance under the state children's health insurance program, and funding plan required.

HF3642 (Entenza)/SF3153 (Berglin) Indian family preservation act primary support funded, and money appropriated.

Law

Omnibus Data Practices Bill

HF1626 (McGuire)

As of Feb. 16, 1998

HF2271 (Mullery) Motor vehicles; allowing requester of certain motor vehicle registration information, sought on behalf of community-based organization, to have access to certain private data on individuals.

HF2371 (Mullery) Data practices; attorney general data; modifying certain access to certain consumer complaint data.

HF2534 (Stanek) Data practices; authorizing release of pawn shop data to members of criminal justice agencies for specified law enforcement purposes.

HF2688 (Macklin) Tax disclosure.

HF2767 (Entenza)/SF2275 (Kiscaden) Human services; modifying the Data Practices Act.

HF2815 (McGuire)/SF2554 (Betzold) Providing for data privacy for certain audit information.

HF2886 (Biernat)/SF2583 (Betzold) Economic security; modifying provisions on collection of data.

HF3067 (Paymar)/SF2795 (Ranum) Data practices; clarifying certain law enforcement data.

HF3313 (Skoglund) Legislative subpoena; providing certain immunity for a witness who responds to a legislative subpoena; permitting a legislative committee to make certain disclosures.

HF3489 (McGuire) Modifying the definition of parking space leasing data.

Transportation

Omnibus Transportation Finance Bill

HF3057/SF3298* (Lieder)

Content as of Feb. 26, 1998, when the bill passed the House on a 121-7 vote.

(Note: The bills listed are included either entirely or partially.)

HF2265 (Marko) Motor vehicle registration law compliance pilot project established, and money appropriated.

HF2270 (Winter) Air ambulance registration exemption provided.

HF2557 (Juhnke) Truck tractor wheel flaps required, vehicle axle weight restrictions regulated, and technical changes provided.

HF2720 (Mares) Emergency and road maintenance vehicles blue light use studied, and money appropriated.

HF2796 (Lieder) Dealer licensing and motor vehicle registration enforcement task force established.

HF2873 (Molnau) Transportation and public safety supplemental appropriations bill.

HF2960 (Stanek) Minnesota state patrol additional helicopter flight time provided, and money appropriated.

HF3057 (Lieder) Omnibus transportation supplemental appropriations bill.

Wangberg report reflects on lieutenant governorship

It's a fact!

It could have been idealism or vision that drove young Lt. Gov. Lou Wangberg to write a 10-page report on the significance of his office as he prepared to move into the Capitol in 1978.

Wangberg and Gov. Al Quie barely knew each other as they began their term in office. But Wangberg, the former Bemidji school superintendent, had done his homework.

Then 37 years old, Wangberg assessed his new office in a report to Quie entitled "Reflections on the Lieutenant Governorship." It was perhaps an ideal time to do so because there was a new path to ponder.

Quie and Wangberg made up the third pairing under Minnesota's new governor-lieutenant governor model. A constitutional amendment in 1972 permitted the Senate to choose its own presiding officer. That made the lieutenant governor a full-time official of the executive branch.

So Wangberg reviewed the functions of the office, compared the duties of the officerholder before and after the change, and described an expansion of duties for the lieutenant governor.

"There seems to have been an attempt to 'manufacture' assignments for the office in order to justify expansion to full time," Wangberg wrote.

In preparing the report, Wangberg con-



Lou Wangberg, left, barely knew Al Quie when Quie chose the then-37-year-old as his running mate roughly 20 years ago.

tacted some of the boards of which the lieutenant governor was supposed to be a member under the official duties of the office. He discovered officials for some of the boards could not even name the previous two lieutenant governors.

With diplomacy, Wangberg deemed many of the listed activities "important," but added that some "lack the substance that helps the governor make stronger decisions, nor do they offer deep or broad training to prepare the lieutenant governor for a future role of substance."

The goal Wangberg illuminated in his "reflections" was to meld "symbolism and substance." He wanted to couple "ceremonial responsibilities" with "something more substantive."

Wangberg said recently that he does not

recall his 20-year-old report, or what prompted him to write it. Perhaps it was because he and Quie were nearly strangers. Quie had not chosen a running mate. He left the decision open to the convention.

"We had met maybe twice," Wangberg said from his Ft. Lauderdale, Fla., home, "but Al was always searching for the best answer, and I thought we had a great working relationship. I even served as his chief of staff for a time."

Despite Wangberg's hope to perhaps redefine the office, he couldn't overcome the universal stigma attached to being No. 2.

A 1979 newspaper article claimed Wangberg was given more responsibility by Quie than any lieutenant governor under the new model. But by 1980, Wangberg was considered by some newspaper columnists to have "drifted into obscurity."

Even Wangberg voiced frustration with the office.

He called it "the strangest government office ever invented."

Quie, made vulnerable by a fiscal crisis, did not run again. Wangberg took up the task, but he was soundly defeated by Wheelock Whitney in a GOP primary.

Wangberg moved into the private sector to work for Jostens, and later became owner of a group of for-profit colleges in Florida. He currently chairs the colleges, which offer two-year associate degrees in respiratory therapy.

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1998 Legislative Members by District

Dist.	Mem.	Phone 296-	Room*	Dist.	Mem.	Phone 296-	Room*	Dist.	Mem.	Phone 296-	Room*
1A	Rep. Jim Tunheim (DFL)	9635	509	24A	Rep. John Dorn (DFL)	3248	571	47A	Rep. Darlene Luther (DFL)	3751	581
1B	Rep. Tim Finseth (R)	9918	377	24B	Rep. Ruth Johnson (DFL)	7065	567	47B	Rep. Phil Carruthers (DFL)	3709	463
1	Sen. LeRoy A. Stumpf (DFL)	8660	G-24 Cap.	24	Sen. John C. Hottinger (DFL)	6153	120 Cap.	47	Sen. Linda Scheid (DFL)	8869	317
2A	Rep. Bernie L. Lieder (DFL)	5091	515	25A	Rep. John Tuma (R)	4229	301	48A	Rep. Bill Haas (R)	5513	201
2B	Rep. Edgar Olson (DFL)	4265	565	25B	Rep. Lynda Boudreau (R)	8237	327	48B	Rep. Alice M. Johnson (DFL)	5510	539
2	Sen. Roger D. Moe (DFL)	2577	208 Cap.	25	Sen. Thomas M. Neuville (R)	1279	123	48	Sen. Don Betzold (DFL)	2556	306 Cap.
3A	Rep. Irv Anderson (DFL)	4936	563	26A	Rep. Bob Gunther (R)	3240	337	49A	Rep. Charlie Weaver (R)	1729	261
3B	Rep. Loren A. Solberg (DFL)	2365	445	26B	Rep. Henry J. Kalis (DFL)	4240	543	49B	Rep. Luanne Koskinen (DFL)	4231	411
3	Sen. Bob Lessard (DFL)	4136	111 Cap.	26	Sen. Tracy L. Beckman (DFL)	5713	124G Cap.	49	Sen. Leo Foley (DFL)	4154	G-9 Cap.
4A	Rep. Gail Skare (DFL)	5516	431	27A	Rep. Ron Kraus (R)	8216	279	50A	Rep. Kathleen Sekhon (DFL)	2439	451
4B	Rep. Tony Kinkel (DFL)	2451	537	27B	Rep. Rob Leighton (DFL)	4193	527	50B	Rep. Kathy Tingelstad (R)	5369	295
4	Sen. David J. Ten Eyck (DFL)	4913	G-24F Cap.	27	Sen. Pat Piper (DFL)	9248	G-9 Cap.	50	Sen. Paula E. Hanson (DFL)	3219	328 Cap.
5A	Rep. Tom Rukavina (DFL)	0170	471	28A	Rep. Doug Reuter (R)	5368	241	51A	Rep. Mike Delmont (DFL)	4226	433
5B	Rep. David J. Tomassoni (DFL)	0172	593	28B	Rep. Steve Sviggum (R)	2273	267	51B	Rep. Ray Vandever (R)	4124	255
5	Sen. Jerry R. Janesich (DFL)	8017	328 Cap.	28	Sen. Dick Day (R)	9457	117	51	Sen. Jane Krentz (DFL)	7061	235 Cap.
6A	Rep. Thomas (Tom) Bakk (DFL)	2190	575	29A	Rep. Jerry Dempsey (R)	8635	251	52A	Rep. Satveer Chaudhary (DFL)	4331	507
6B	Rep. Thomas Huntley (DFL)	2228	533	29B	Rep. Mike Osskopp (R)	9236	329	52B	Rep. Geri Evans (DFL)	0141	413
6	Sen. Douglas J. Johnson (DFL)	8881	205 Cap.	29	Sen. Steve Murphy (DFL)	4264	301 Cap.	52	Sen. Steven G. Novak (DFL)	4334	322 Cap.
7A	Rep. Willard Munger (DFL)	4282	479	30A	Rep. Fran Bradley (R)	9249	233	53A	Rep. Philip Krinkie (R)	2907	303
7B	Rep. Mike Jaros (DFL)	4246	559	30B	Rep. Dave Bishop (R)	0573	343	53B	Rep. Sherry Broecker (R)	7153	321
7	Sen. Sam G. Solon (DFL)	4188	303 Cap.	30	Sen. Sheila M. Kiscaden (R)	4848	135	53	Sen. Linda Runbeck (R)	1253	107
8A	Rep. Mary Murphy (DFL)	2676	557	31A	Rep. William Kuisle (R)	4378	375	54A	Rep. Mary Jo McGuire (DFL)	4342	379
8B	Rep. Bill Hilty (DFL)	4308	525	31B	Rep. Gregory M. Davids (R)	9278	371	54B	Rep. Mindy Greiling (DFL)	5387	553
8	Sen. Becky Lourey (DFL)	0293	G-9 Cap.	31	Sen. Kenric J. Scheevel (R)	3903	129	54	Sen. John Marty (DFL)	5645	326 Cap.
9A	Rep. Kevin Goodno (R)	5515	369	32A	Rep. Gene Pelowski Jr. (DFL)	8637	549	55A	Rep. Harry Mares (R)	5363	239
9B	Rep. Robert L. (Bob) Westfall (R)	6829	225	32B	Rep. Michelle Rifenberg (R)	1069	215	55B	Rep. Betty McCollum (DFL)	1188	501
9	Sen. Keith Langseth (DFL)	3205	122 Cap.	32	Sen. Steven Morse (DFL)	5649	G-24 Cap.	55	Sen. Charles W. Wiger (DFL)	6820	325 Cap.
10A	Rep. Bud Nornes (R)	4946	357	33A	Rep. Arlon Lindner (R)	7806	227	56A	Rep. Mark William Holsten (R)	3018	345
10B	Rep. Hilda Bettermann (R)	4317	243	33B	Rep. Rich Stanek (R)	5502	351	56B	Rep. Peg Larsen (R)	4244	307
10	Sen. Cal Larson (R)	5655	153	33	Sen. Warren Limmer (R)	2159	127	56	Sen. Gary W. Laidig (R)	4351	141
11A	Rep. Roxann Daggett (R)	4293	253	34A	Rep. Steve Smith (R)	9188	353	57A	Rep. Nora Slawik (DFL)	7807	551
11B	Rep. Mary Ellen Otremba (DFL)	3201	545	34B	Rep. Todd Van Dellen (R)	5511	291	57B	Rep. Sharon Marko (DFL)	3135	439
11	Sen. Dallas C. Sams (DFL)	297-8063	328 Cap.	34	Sen. Gen Olson (R)	1282	119	57	Sen. Leonard R. Price (DFL)	297-8060	235 Cap.
12A	Rep. Kris Hasskamp (DFL)	4333	453	35A	Rep. Carol L. Molnau (R)	8872	287	58A	Rep. Joe Mullery (DFL)	4262	359
12B	Rep. Stephen G. Wenzel (DFL)	4247	487	35B	Rep. Becky Kelso (DFL)	1072	415	58B	Rep. Richard Jefferson (DFL)	8659	577
12	Sen. Don Samuelson (DFL)	4875	124 Cap.	35	Sen. Claire A. Robling (R)	4123	132D	58	Sen. Linda I. Higgins (DFL)	9246	227 Cap.
13A	Rep. Torrey Westrom (R)	4929	273	36A	Rep. Eileen Tompkins (R)	5506	245	59A	Rep. Len Biernat (DFL)	4219	429
13B	Rep. Doug Peterson (DFL)	4228	569	36B	Rep. Dan McElroy (R)	4212	259	59B	Rep. Phyllis Kahn (DFL)	4257	367
13	Sen. Charles A. Berg (IND.)	5094	G-95	36	Sen. David L. Knutson (R)	4120	133	59	Sen. Lawrence J. Pogemiller (DFL)	7809	235 Cap.
14A	Rep. Steve Dehler (R)	7808	203	37A	Rep. Dennis Ozment (R)	4306	317	60A	Rep. Dee Long (DFL)	0171	443
14B	Rep. Doug Stang (R)	4373	223	37B	Rep. Bill Macklin (R)	6926	349	60B	Rep. Myron Orfield (DFL)	9281	521
14	Sen. Michelle L. Fischbach (R)	2084	151	37	Sen. Pat Parisseau (R)	5252	109	60	Sen. Allan H. Spear (DFL)	4191	120 Cap.
15A	Rep. Al Juhnke (DFL)	6206	531	38A	Rep. Tim Commers (R)	3533	217	61A	Rep. Karen Clark (DFL)	0294	503
15B	Rep. Gary W. Kubly (DFL)	4346	423	38B	Rep. Tim Pawlenty (R)	4128	231	61B	Rep. Linda Wejman (DFL)	7152	407
15	Sen. Dean E. Johnson (R)	3826	147	38	Sen. Deanna L. Wiener (DFL)	297-8073	303 Cap.	61	Sen. Linda Berglin (DFL)	4261	309 Cap.
16A	Rep. Joe Opatz (DFL)	6612	473	39A	Rep. Thomas W. Pugh (DFL)	6828	583	62A	Rep. Lee Greenfield (DFL)	0173	381
16B	Rep. Jim Knoblach (R)	6316	207	39B	Rep. Bob Milbert (DFL)	4192	579	62B	Rep. Wes Skoglund (DFL)	4330	477
16	Sen. Dave Kleis (R)	6455	143	39	Sen. James P. Metzner (DFL)	4370	303 Cap.	62	Sen. Carol Flynn (DFL)	4274	120 Cap.
17A	Rep. Sondra Erickson (R)	6746	247	40A	Rep. Mark P. Mahon (DFL)	7158	401	63A	Rep. Jean Wagenius (DFL)	4200	437
17B	Rep. Leslie J. Schumacher (DFL)	5377	517	40B	Rep. Kevin Knight (R)	4218	229	63B	Rep. Edwina Garcia (DFL)	5375	417
17	Sen. Dan Stevens (R)	8075	105	40	Sen. Dave Johnson (DFL)	9261	111 Cap.	63	Sen. Jane B. Ranum (DFL)	297-8061	306 Cap.
18A	Rep. Jim Rostberg (R)	5364	311	41A	Rep. Alice Seagren (R)	7803	315	64A	Rep. Matt Entenza (DFL)	8799	421
18B	Rep. Loren Geo Jennings (DFL)	0518	591	41B	Rep. Ken Wolf (R)	5185	387	64B	Rep. Michael Paymar (DFL)	4199	529
18	Sen. Janet B. Johnson (DFL)	5419	G-9 Cap.	41	Sen. William V. Belanger Jr. (R)	5975	113	64	Sen. Richard J. Cohen (DFL)	5931	317 Cap.
19A	Rep. Mark Olson (R)	4237	323	42A	Rep. Ron Erhardt (R)	4363	237	65A	Rep. Andy Dawkins (DFL)	5158	409
19B	Rep. Bruce Anderson (R)	5063	281	42B	Rep. Erik Paulsen (R)	7449	221	65B	Rep. Carlos Mariani (DFL)	9714	403
19	Sen. Mark Ourada (R)	5981	145	42	Sen. Roy Terwilliger (R)	6238	115	65	Sen. Sandra L. Pappas (DFL)	1802	120 Cap.
20A	Rep. Robert "Bob" Ness (R)	4344	289	43A	Rep. Tom Workman (R)	5066	335	66A	Rep. Tom Osthoff (DFL)	4224	585
20B	Rep. Tony Kielkucki (R)	1534	313	43B	Rep. Barb Sykora (R)	4315	389	66B	Rep. Alice Hausman (DFL)	3824	449
20	Sen. Steve Dille (R)	4131	103	43	Sen. Edward C. Oliver (R)	4837	121	66	Sen. Ellen R. Anderson (DFL)	5537	G-24 Cap.
21A	Rep. Marty Seifert (R)	5374	213	44A	Rep. Betty Folliard (DFL)	3964	523	67A	Rep. Jim Farrell (DFL)	4277	491
21B	Rep. Richard Mulder (R)	4336	283	44B	Rep. Jim Rhodes (R)	9889	309	67B	Rep. Steve Trimble (DFL)	4201	597
21	Sen. Arlene J. Lesewski (R)	4125	131	44	Sen. Steve Kelley (DFL)	297-8065	321 Cap.	67	Sen. Randy C. Kelly (DFL)	5285	323 Cap.
22A	Rep. Ted Winter (DFL)	5505	459	45A	Rep. Ron Abrams (R)	9934	209				
22B	Rep. Elaine Harder (R)	5373	277	45B	Rep. Peggy Leppik (R)	7026	393				
22	Sen. Jim Vickerman (DFL)	5650	226 Cap.	45	Sen. Martha R. Robertson (R)	4314	125				
23A	Rep. James T. Clark (R)	9303	211	46A	Rep. Ann H. Rest (DFL)	4176	485				
23B	Rep. Howard Swenson (R)	8634	331	46B	Rep. Lyndon R. Carlson (DFL)	4255	365				
23	Sen. Dennis R. Frederickson (R)	8138	139	46	Sen. Ember R. Junge (DFL)	2889	205 Cap.				

*All rooms are in the State Office Building, St. Paul, MN 55155 except where noted; Minnesota Capitol, St. Paul MN 55155

Bill Introductions

HF3807-HF3834

Thursday, Feb. 26,

HF3807—Johnson, A. (DFL)
Taxes
Coon Rapids authorized to impose an additional sales and use tax.

Friday, Feb. 27

HF3808—Milbert (DFL)
Judiciary
Hunting and fishing rights confirmed and constitutional amendment proposed.

HF3809—Leighton (DFL)
Judiciary
Hunting and fishing rights confirmed and constitutional amendment proposed.

HF3810—Solberg (DFL)
Judiciary
Hunting and fishing rights confirmed and constitutional amendment proposed.

HF3811—Winter (DFL)
Judiciary
Hunting and fishing rights confirmed and constitutional amendment proposed.

HF3812—Kinkel (DFL)
Judiciary
Hunting and fishing rights confirmed and constitutional amendment proposed.

HF3813—Finseth (R)
Judiciary
Hunting and fishing rights confirmed and constitutional amendment proposed.

HF3814—Knight (R)
Rules & Legislative Administration
Two-thirds legislative majority required to establish or raise a tax or license fee, and constitutional amendment proposed.

HF3815—Olson, E. (DFL)
Taxes
1997 flood loss replacement aid provided to counties, and money appropriated.

HF3816—Abrams (R)
Taxes
Omnibus tax bill and money appropriated.

HF3817—Delmont (DFL)
Judiciary
Hunting and fishing rights confirmed and constitutional amendment proposed.

Monday, March 2

HF3818—Olson, M. (R)
Financial Institutions & Insurance
Seat belt use automobile insurance premium reduction provided.

HF3819—Paulsen (R)
Ways & Means
Tobacco litigation proceeds deposited in a special account in the general fund and used only for attorney fees and tax relief.

HF3820—Milbert (DFL)
Taxes
Electric utility personal property tax exemption provided, utility replacement aid provided to local governments, regulated utilities rate reduction required, local bond obligation state guarantee provided, and money appropriated.

Wednesday, March 4

HF3821—Van Dellen (R)
Taxes
Individual income tax rates, general education levy, and property tax class rates reduced, property tax rebate provided, and money appropriated.

HF3822—Mares (R)
Judiciary
Hunting and fishing rights confirmed and constitutional amendment proposed.

HF3823—Mulder (R)
Judiciary
Hunting and fishing rights confirmed and constitutional amendment proposed.

HF3824—Stang (R)
Judiciary
Hunting and fishing rights confirmed and constitutional amendment proposed.

HF3825—Wenzel (DFL)
Taxes
Sales and use tax and motor vehicle sales tax rate reduced.

HF3826—Biernat (DFL)
Judiciary
Debtor and creditor mediation regulated, nondisclosure privilege provided, and mediator testimony regulated.

HF3827—Bakk (DFL)
Environment & Natural Resources
Underwater video camera use for the purpose of taking fish moratorium imposed.

HF3828—Long (DFL)
Taxes
Property tax rebate allowed for taxes payable in 1998.

Thursday, March 5

HF3829—Carlson (DFL)
Capital Investment
Capitol Square Building tenants immediate relocation provided, and money appropriated.

HF3830—Olson, E. (DFL)
Ways & Means
Agriculture, bureau of criminal apprehension, corrections, human services, labor and industry, natural resources, and revenue departments appropriated money for payment of claims against the state.

HF3831—Haas (R)
Financial Institutions & Insurance
Health care plans required to cover care provided by any licensed provider willing to serve the insurer's enrollees.

HF3832—Milbert (DFL)
Taxes
Health club membership sales tax repealed.

HF3833—Boudreau (R)
Judiciary
Hunting and fishing rights confirmed and constitutional amendment proposed.

HF3834—Erickson (R)
Judiciary
Hunting and fishing rights confirmed and constitutional amendment proposed.

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.

House Index Department
211 State Capitol (612) 296-6646

The House Index Department, a part of the Chief Clerk's Office, has a computerized index available for public use. House Index lists bills by committee, topic, author, file number, and other categories. The office can also give you the current status of legislation.

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Schedule is subject to change.

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MONDAY, March 9

9 a.m.

The House meets in session.

3 p.m. or After Session

Civil & Family Law Division/JUDICIARY

Basement Hearing Room

State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Andy Dawkins

Agenda: HF326 (Holsten) Hunting and fishing
rights affirmed and constitutional amendment
proposed.

HF3808 (Milbert) Hunting and fishing rights
confirmed and constitutional amendment
proposed.

HF3809 (Leighton) Hunting and fishing rights
confirmed and constitutional amendment
proposed.

HF3810 (Solberg) Hunting and fishing rights
confirmed and constitutional amendment
proposed.

HF3811 (Winter) Hunting and fishing rights
confirmed and constitutional amendment
proposed.

HF3812 (Kinkel) Hunting and fishing rights
confirmed and constitutional amendment
proposed.

HF3813 (Finseth) Hunting and fishing rights
confirmed and constitutional amendment
proposed.

HF3817 (Delmont) Hunting and fishing rights
confirmed and constitutional amendment
proposed.

HF3822 (Mares) Hunting and fishing rights
confirmed and constitutional amendment
proposed.

HF3823 (Mulder) Hunting and fishing rights
confirmed and constitutional amendment
proposed.

HF3824 (Stang) Hunting and fishing rights
confirmed and constitutional amendment
proposed.

Additional bills may be added.

After Session

CAPITAL INVESTMENT

5 State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Henry Kalis

Agenda: To be announced.

WAYS & MEANS

10 State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Loren Solberg

Agenda: Omnibus tax bill.

Additional bills may be added.

TUESDAY, March 10

9 a.m.

The House meets in session.

After Session

CAPITAL INVESTMENT

5 State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Henry Kalis

Agenda: To be announced.

WAYS & MEANS

10 State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Loren Solberg

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.

HF2983 (Tunheim) Minnesota residential
mortgage originator and servicer licensing act
adopted.

HF2970 (Kahn) Salary increase provided for
judges, and employee and employer contribution
rates for certain judges retirement plans
modified.

HF3830 (Olson, E.) Claims.

HF2532 (Chaudhary) Youth-oriented driver
improvement clinics and graduated licensing
system established, driving privileges restricted
for permit and provisional license holders, and
violation-free period required prior to
advancement to next license stage.

HF2389 (Entenza) DWI; maximum allowable
blood alcohol level lowered for operation of
motor vehicles and while hunting.

Additional bills may be added.

WEDNESDAY, March 11

9 a.m.

The House meets in session.

After Session

CAPITAL INVESTMENT

5 State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Henry Kalis

Agenda: To be announced.

WAYS & MEANS

10 State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Loren Solberg

Agenda: HF3314 (Anderson, I.) Tobacco
litigation proceeds deposited in the general fund
and subject to appropriation.
Additional bills may be added.

THURSDAY, March 12

9 a.m.

The House meets in session.

After Session

CAPITAL INVESTMENT

5 State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Henry Kalis

Agenda: To be announced.

FRIDAY, March 13

8:30 a.m.

Subcommittee on Topic Selection/ Legislative Audit Commission

125 State Capitol

Chr. Sen. Deanna Wiener

Agenda: Review and begin narrowing down list
of suggested topics for study.

9 a.m.

The House meets in session.

After Session

CAPITAL INVESTMENT

5 State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Henry Kalis

Agenda: To be announced.

Where to find information

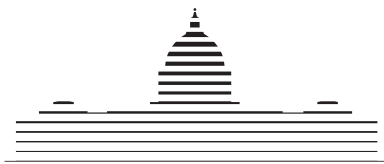
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175 State Office Building

(612) 296-2146 or 1-800-657-3550

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

Speaker of the House: Phil Carruthers
Majority Leader: Ted Winter
Minority Leader: Steve Sviggum

MINNESOTA INDEX

Help for at-risk students

Minnesota eighth graders receiving a passing score of at least 70 percent on 1996 basic skills reading test, as percent	63
Math test	76
Eighth graders receiving a passing score of at least 75 percent on 1997 basic skills reading test, as percent	59
Math test	70
Students who took the state's basic skills tests in February 1998	100,000
Eighth graders taking the tests for the first time	65,000
Percent of Minnesota's K-12 enrollment that received remedial education at some time during the 1996-1997 school year	24
Percent of elementary school enrollment	33
Percent of middle school enrollment	26
Percent of high school enrollment	19
Percent of K-12 enrollment in 1996-1997 that needed remedial services but did not get them	2
Growth in state aid for remedial education from 1989 to 1997, as percent	83
Growth in federal aid, as percent	35
Percent of Minnesota high schools offering remedial services through extended-day programs, 1996-1997	46
Through summer school programs	66
During the regular school day	91
For every percentage point increase in the rate of attendance, average 1997 reading and math test scores increased, as percent	0.08
For every percentage point increase in the rate of students receiving subsidized lunches, average 1997 reading and math test scores decreased, as percent	0.1
State and federal funds for fiscal year 1997 remedial education programs in Minnesota, in millions	\$255
State compensatory funding — distributed on the basis of subsidized lunch program counts — approved for 1998-1999, in millions	\$360
Increase over previous biennium, in millions	\$100
States that — unlike Minnesota — mandate remedial help for students not meeting state standards	18

Sources: Minnesota Department of Children, Families and Learning; *Remedial Education*, January 1998, Office of the Legislative Auditor; and *Laws of Minnesota*, 1997.

For more information



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