

SESSION WEEKLY

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Reflections

In the House Chief Clerk's Office, Chief Clerk Edward A. Burdick and his staff of 26 full-time employees and five temporary workers are responsible for receiving all bills introduced in the House. They also provide and disseminate information about legislative proceedings, record legislative history, and provide assistance to the speaker and other members on legal and parliamentary requirements of the lawmaking process.

The chief clerk's staff plays a pivotal role in the Legislature. Some employees maintain records of all bills and proceedings and keep copies on file of all documents, including pending bills and journals of the preceding day.

Other staff members print agenda calendars, bills, and amendments for floor discussions, record results of floor proceedings, and prepare the House Journal. Information systems personnel place legislative proceedings on the Internet and troubleshoot for any legislative computer problems that may arise.

The clerks at the main desk of the chief clerk's office, found in the House chamber, are the most visible. During session, even after 10 hours or more of debate by members, you will see them at their stations managing the flow of bills, amendments, committee reports, messages from the Senate, the calendar agenda, and many other duties not mentioned.

When Al Mathiowetz, first assistant clerk, receives an amendment, for example, he or clerk Debra Fastner file it, make sure that all members receive a copy, and make it available to the public. The amendment then goes to the speaker, who passes it to the chief clerk to be reported to the members.

Then the second assistant clerk, Gail Romanowski, places the name and number of the document on the message board by her computer, and continues to stay tuned to the order of business. She also receives committee reports and copies of bills placed in the hopper. Bills are given a number and then passed on to leadership for review.

After the chief clerk calls the roll and a vote is taken on the merits of the legislation, Journal Editor Pat Murphy records all activity. Also, he and the chief clerk anticipate any debate decisions such as a ruling by the speaker, in order to have researched proof of prior journal entry available upon request.

Once legislative action is taken, Fastner reports it to the documents staff and the general public via Internet, and Romanowski receives a paper copy of the vote within 15 seconds after the voting board is closed.

As an indication of the propensity of some of the work by staff at the desk, the clerks recorded 1,352 roll calls, and 3,884 House bill introductions in the 1997-98 legislative session.

Burdick said he would not trade his main desk staff for any other legislative staff in the country. "You just cannot beat 142 years of collective legislative experience as we have at the main desk," he said.

—LeClair Grier Lambert

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On the cover: A scene from the second floor of the Capitol.

—Photo by Tom Olmscheid

First Reading

MinnesotaCare . . .

Tobacco bucks may replace health care provider tax

By Paul Wahl

Mention Minnesota's health care provider tax in a room full of doctors and you may need the services of one of them before you can beat a hasty exit.

The 2-percent tax appeared on the books in 1992, part of a strategy to finance landmark health care reform, including MinnesotaCare, a plan to extend insurance coverage to low- and moderate-income Minnesotans.

From the outset, the so-called "sick tax" has been the target of much debate and impassioned pleas to surgically remove it from the tax landscape.

A bill that would repeal the tax was approved Feb. 10 by the House Health and Human Services Finance Committee. The bill (HF35) is sponsored by Rep. Bill Haas (R-Champlin).

In addition to repealing the provider tax,

in the early 1990s. An income tax surcharge was also suggested, but that mechanism was also being eyed as a way of plugging a projected \$291 million budget deficit.

Proponents of MinnesotaCare argued that health care was as much a right of state residents as education and should be funded accordingly. Legislation to provide an optional state-run insurance program with a low-cost benefits package was originally passed by the Legislature in 1991; however, then-Gov. Arne Carlson vetoed the plan.

Carlson's diagnosis was that the plan was too expensive. He also favored a bill that would increase access to the private insurance market, instead of putting the state in the insurance business.

When the gavel fell to open the 1992 session, the race was on to see how quickly a health care reform prescription could find its

for calendar years 1998 and 1999, with an option to continue the lower rate in 2000, should sufficient revenue be available to fully fund the program.

That reduction was expected to save hospitals and health care providers about \$54 million.

By the beginning of this year's session, the state's health care access fund — to which the provider tax is a major contributor — was running a surplus of nearly \$190 million after reserves. One estimate produced in 1996 revealed that the surplus could have been as high as one-half billion dollars.

Supporters pointed to the abundant surplus in the fund to justify the cut. Others argued the tax generated sufficient revenue to decrease the rate even more.

Haas' bill to eliminate the tax and replace it with tobacco settlement money is one of the most sweeping attempted reforms of the 1992 legislation.

Under terms of the state's settlement with tobacco companies, Minnesota will receive a total of \$6.1 billion in total revenue over the next 25 years, including one-time settlement payments and annual payments to continue in perpetuity.

Haas proposes using those ongoing payments, estimated to level at \$204 million by 2004, to fund MinnesotaCare.

A waiting room full of health care activists appeared to give the bill a glowing diagnosis before the Health and Human Services Committee.

"The 'sick tax' is an expensive tax and is contributing to health care costs," said Dr. Judith F. Shank, president of the Minnesota Medical Association. "The most troubling aspect of the tax is the cost to patients, both sick individuals and those who are trying to stay well."

Shank said her group supports MinnesotaCare, but noted that since all Minnesotans benefit from it, everyone should help finance it appropriately.

Representatives of business and insurance groups also lauded the proposed "taxectomy."

Even Rep. Lee Greenfield (DFL-Mpls), one of the architects of the original legislation, agreed that the time may have arrived to kill some of the taxes outlined in the bill.

However, Greenfield and others were concerned about the permanence of the tobacco



A health care provider tax would be abolished under a bill approved Feb. 10 by the House Health and Human Services Finance Committee. The tax currently helps fund MinnesotaCare, the state's health insurance program for the disadvantaged. The bill would substitute funds from tobacco settlement payments.

the bill aims to axe the 1-percent premium tax on nonprofit health plan companies and the 2-percent premium tax on indemnity health insurers.

In place of the revenue generated by the taxes, Haas proposes to substitute \$204 million the state expects to receive annually from the tobacco settlement.

Ironically, a hefty tax on cigarettes was the original suggestion for funding MinnesotaCare, then called HealthRight, back

way to the governor's desk. Carlson signed the legislation on April 23, 1992.

In addition to MinnesotaCare, the legislation also set forth goals for containing costs and implemented insurance reforms.

Although there have been nearly annual revisions of the original legislation, the provider tax remained a constant until 1997.

Then, with a significant balance building in the funds designated for MinnesotaCare, the Legislature reduced the tax rate to 1.5 percent

revenues. Under terms of the settlement, the payments may go down if the number of smokers in the state decreases and the cigarette manufacturers' ability to make a profit evaporates.

Susan Stout, a representative of the Minnesota Nurses Association, said her group opposes the bill because it doesn't contain a solid plan to keep MinnesotaCare healthy, while allowing for growth and expansion.

She pointed out that despite the program's efforts, the level of uncompensated care being provided continues to rise. The nurses group was one of the earliest and strongest proponents of MinnesotaCare.

Greenfield also pointed out that the bill has a long course ahead, even if it is eventually approved by the full House. Gov. Jesse Ventura has gone on record in favor of using tobacco settlement money for health care endowments. And the Senate may have other plans.

Greenfield succeeded in amending Haas' bill to include a provision that if the tax is removed, the savings would be passed directly back to the people who paid originally, through reductions in premiums and charges.

The bill moves to the House Taxes Committee. 🐼

Where to find information

House Public Information Office

175 State Office Building
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The House Public Information Office is a nonpartisan office that provides committee meeting schedules; legislator information; and publications, including the *Session Weekly* news magazine, educational brochures for all ages, and member directories. All information is available at no charge.

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

Clarification

The Feb. 5 edition of the *Session Weekly* included a story about **HFI**, the \$1.5 billion tax rebate bill passed by the House. The story mentioned an amendment adopted on the House floor calling for about \$400 million in property tax rebates, in addition to the roughly \$1.1 billion the bill would provide for income tax rebates. The property tax rebate amendment was offered by Rep. Ron Abrams (R-Minnetonka), who is chief sponsor of the rebate bill, and won bipartisan support.

As times change, so do committee names



A few changes were made in the names of House committees between the 1998 and 1999 sessions. For instance, the former House Economic Development and International Trade Committee is now the House Jobs and Economic Development Policy Committee.

But those changes pale in comparison to those that have occurred over the past century.

Glancing back at the changing monikers of House committees can reveal a picture of how times have changed. In past decades, committee names have reflected important issues of the times.

Many committees have evolved to cover a broad area instead of a particular issue. Today, there is no Voice Mail, Fax Machine, or Internet committee, unlike 60 or 70 years ago when there was a House Telephones and Telegraphs Committee.

In the 1950s and 1960s, some committees still had the word "communications" in the name, but now such issues are dealt with in the Regulated Industries Subcommittee of the House Commerce Committee.

The transportation committees of today have also evolved from panels that in the past covered several separate but related issues. Over the years, transportation issues were divided into quite specific areas.

The 1929 House dealt with transportation in four separate panels: the Aircraft and Airways, Motor Vehicles and Motor Vehicle Tax Laws, Public Highways, and Railroad and State Motor Transportation committees. The names changed slightly over the next 10 years. In 1939, similar House panels were called the Aviation, Commercial Transportation, Motor Vehicles, and Public Highways committees. Variations of those committees were around until the 1970s, when all were fused into one transportation panel.

Liquor — or the lack thereof — has been important enough in past years to merit its own committee. Liquor licensing and related issues are among those that are dealt with in today's Commerce Committee. But in past decades, the issues have been dealt with in House committees with names like the Temperance Committee (1929), the Liquor Control Committee (1939), and

the Temperance and Liquor Control Committee (1949 and 1959). By 1969, no such committee existed.

Issues relating to municipalities have been addressed by many different committees. Some committee names have referred to cities of first, second, or third classes — which are based on population. Other variations of those committee names have been Local and Urban Affairs, Metropolitan and Urban Affairs, Municipal Affairs, and Towns and Counties. In 1999, the House only has one such committee, the House Local Government and Metropolitan Affairs Committee.

Other former House committee names include Claims, Engrossment and Enrollment, Printing and Publishing, and State Development and Immigration committees.

Between the 1998 and 1999 sessions, some single House committees were divided into two separate panels, making them more similar to the Senate's committees. For instance, issues covered in 1998 by the House Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture Finance Committee are now divided between the House Agriculture and Rural Development Finance Committee and the House Environment and Natural Resources Finance Committee.

Others, like the House State Government Finance Committee, had been a division of another committee in previous years. And last year's House Education Committee and its three finance divisions are now four separate committees: Education Policy, Family & Early Childhood Education Finance, K-12 Education Finance, and Higher Education Finance.

The opposite is true of the Commerce Committee, which is a combination of three committees from the previous session: Commerce, Tourism and Consumer Affairs; Financial Institutions and Insurance; and Regulated Industries & Energy. Today's Commerce Committee also has a Regulated Industries Subcommittee.

Although many committee names have changed, several others reflect a consistent focus throughout Minnesota's history. The Agriculture, Education, Judiciary, Taxes, and Ways & Means committees are a few that have been consistently prominent in the Legislature. 🐼

Highlights



BUSINESS

Booksellers seek tax cut

E-commerce — business transacted on the World Wide Web — is writing an unpleasant chapter for many of Minnesota's independent booksellers.

A volume of them appeared to testify in support of a bill (**HF365**) that would exempt all book sales in the state from sales tax to help "level the playing field."

Sponsored by Rep. Margaret Anderson Kelliher (DFL-Mpls), the bill would expand the current sales tax exemption for newspapers and subscription magazines to include magazines and periodicals sold "over the counter" and would also exempt all book purchases.

Previously, exemptions were allowed for textbooks purchased by students. "We exempt food and clothing now," Kelliher said. "Let's consider books food and clothing of the mind."

Kelliher told members of the House Taxes Committee that book sales on the Internet now account for 20 percent or more of all book sales in the U.S. She noted that books are rapidly becoming the fastest-selling item on the Web through large corporate sites, such as Amazon.com and others.

Web entities aren't required to collect sales tax. They do charge for shipping and handling, but consumers don't seem to mind that as much as they do a tax.

Kelliher said purchasing books online was often a first-time experience in e-commerce for the curious. She said that if fewer people were given reasons to purchase books online, they might not make other purchases, also not subject to state tax.

Rep. Ron Abrams (R-Minnesota), chair of the Taxes Committee, said the federal government has imposed a three-year moratorium on states taxing Internet sales while a comprehensive approach is examined.

Susan Walker, who heads the Upper Midwest Booksellers Association, said the sales tax has begun cropping up in conversation with customers who wonder why they should shop locally when they can avoid the tax on the Web.

As to the tax revenue the state would lose under the bill — estimated at \$49 million over the next biennium — she pointed out that if



David Unowsky, owner of the Hungry Mind Bookstore in St. Paul, tells members of the House Taxes Committee Feb. 11 that his store faces stiff competition from Internet booksellers. He spoke in support of a bill that would exempt books from sales taxes.

the sales weren't being made here, there wouldn't be any tax collected anyway. And if small booksellers are forced out of business, the state won't have property tax or income tax revenue, either.

David Unowsky, owner of Hungry Mind Bookstore in St. Paul, said the 52 employees at his store are "at-risk" because of e-commerce and consolidation in the world of books.

Rep. Tom Rukavina (DFL-Virginia) questioned whether the sales tax is the problem or whether it is the fact the larger operations can sell their books cheaper.

Noting that the amount of lost revenue would be considerable, Abrams said that the bill would be considered for possible inclusion in the omnibus tax bill.

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CRIME

Protecting calls for help

A law frequently used to prosecute domestic assault offenders would be expanded under a bill approved Feb. 5 by the House Crime Prevention Committee.

Under current law, prosecutors can charge a person who interferes with a phone call to a 911 dispatcher with a gross misdemeanor crime. This law is often used against domestic assault offenders who try to prevent their victims from calling the police for help.

The bill (**HF193**), sponsored by Rep. Michael Paymar (DFL-St. Paul), would expand the law to include all emergency calls to police, ambulance services, or fire departments, not just calls placed through 911.

Steven Schleicher, assistant attorney for Winona County, described a domestic assault case that he said demonstrates the need for the bill. In the case, a woman called police when her husband became abusive. The husband grabbed the cordless phone and threw it against the wall.

When police arrived, they saw the broken phone and arrested the husband for both domestic assault and interference with a 911 call.

However, because the woman had dialed the seven-digit phone number for the local police department, the suspect could not be charged under the interference law.

Schleicher said the interference law is an effective tool against domestic assault offenders. He estimated that his office prosecutes about 25 cases a year.

"Prosecution under this statute as it exists is probably as common as prosecution for domestic assault," he said.

The bill now goes to the House floor.



DEVELOPMENT

Big money, small payoff

Economic development programs in Minnesota generally provide large subsidies that result in low-wage jobs. That was the message from Greg LeRoy of Good Jobs First to members of the House Jobs and Economic Development Policy Committee Feb. 11.

LeRoy's group released a study this month that examined 550 economic development

disclosure reports totaling more than \$176 million in loans, grants, and tax-increment financing.

"Overall, we found high costs, low wages, and no standards," he said.

LeRoy said his group looked at Minnesota's economic development practices because the state's subsidy accountability law passed in 1995 provides excellent data. That law requires local governments and state agencies to report the goals and results of each deal to the Minnesota Department of Trade and Economic Development.

According to the study, the economic development deals often involve very high dollar amounts for the number of jobs created. The study found that 123 deals studied cost the state more than \$35,000 per job, and that 38 of the subsidies investigated cost the state more than \$100,000 per job.

The study found that wages — both promised and actually paid — were generally low compared to existing wages. About half of the deals studied reported low actual wages — 20 percent or more below market levels for their industries. But on the positive side, the report points out that almost one-fourth of the companies report actual wages above existing levels.

The study states that the low wages are somewhat surprising considering two-thirds of the companies studied are in industries that typically offer high-wage jobs.

Although the 1995 law does require companies to refund subsidies if they fail to meet targets within two years, the study found no cases where companies were required to return funds.

Like with other government programs, the report states, policy-makers should revise economic development subsidies to lower costs and improve benefits.

The report recommends creating wage floors based on the local labor market and subsidy caps related to the number of jobs created. The study also advises clarifying the current subsidy law to provide ways to improve compliance and to make the law more effective for agencies, companies, and workers.

LeRoy told the committee that state-funded economic development efforts need to focus more on quality job creation as opposed to simple job creation.

Rep. Dan McElroy (R-Burnsville) said lawmakers should put some of the report's findings in perspective. He said that the study only provides a "snapshot" of wages in the two-year period since the reporting requirement was instituted, and those wages may simply be starting wages.

"I would argue that some of this data isn't as accurate as I'd like it to be," he said.

McElroy also said that the report doesn't

take into consideration the fact that there are three different tax-increment financing programs, and that those programs need to be evaluated separately, keeping their specific goals in mind.

For example, McElroy said, some programs seek to redevelop polluted areas, and to evaluate those programs simply for job creation does not reflect the whole picture.



ENVIRONMENT

Cleaning up river spills

A bill that aims to improve response times to hazardous spills in the Mississippi River was approved Feb. 9 by the House Environment and Natural Resources Policy Committee.

The bill (HF288) would provide money to equip and train members of 14 local fire departments to serve as first responders to oil spills. It would appropriate \$225,000 from the state's petroleum tank fund to pay for the equipment and training for departments from northern Hennepin County to the Mississippi's headwaters.

Companies that have underground fuel tanks in Minnesota pay fees into the petroleum tank fund, which is used for pollution cleanup projects.

Rep. Jim Rostberg (R-Isanti), sponsor of the bill, said it would be the third phase of a program, called the Mississippi River Defense Network, that has focused on the Mississippi River north of the Twin Cities.

The purpose of the program is to establish a comprehensive plan to clean up spills upstream of the Twin Cities. It is funded through the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the state.

Rostberg said he hopes the program can be copied and expanded to include all of Minnesota's rivers.

Facilities that have the potential for spilling oil are also required to have employees or contractors who are trained to clean up an oil spill, said Steve Lee, supervisor of the emergency response team at the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA). But most contractors are located in the Twin Cities, so it would take them several hours to respond to a spill in outstate areas, he said.

Lee said the MPCA already trains members of local fire departments to take some precautions after an oil spill, such as evacuating an area. But the bill would give local crews the equipment and training to do the initial cleanup. Lee said members of some departments have been receptive to the proposal.

An oil spill in a river is particularly difficult to clean up, said David Brostrom, coordinator

of the Mississippi River Defense Network. On average, only about 10 percent of spilled oil is cleaned up. The rest evaporates, is absorbed by plants, or stays in the water.

"Unless you can get there very quickly, you might as well forget it," Brostrom said.

Lee added that nearly all of the oil was cleaned up from a recent spill in South St. Paul because of a fast response. However, fast responses are nearly impossible if a spill occurs in an outstate area because of a truck or railroad accident.

The bill now moves to the House Commerce Committee.



GOVERNMENT

Boosting building budgets

Gov. Jesse Ventura's plan to address what some call the looming iceberg of state building maintenance was presented Feb. 9 to members of the House Capital Investment Committee.

Lee Mehrkens, an official from the Minnesota Department of Finance, said the governor would like the current gap between what agencies need for building maintenance and what they are currently spending to be tightened by about 5 percent.

The Statewide Facilities Management Group, a consortium of agency building managers, estimates that state agencies would have to spend \$500 million over the two-year budget cycle to properly keep up with maintenance needs. The group reports that agencies are currently spending a total of \$87 million every two years for building upkeep.

Mehrkens said that the governor is recommending an additional \$36 million to assist with the problem. He said the idea is to keep up with maintenance so the state doesn't have to pay for major projects.

"The hope is that you can intercede early and solve the problem at a less expensive phase," Mehrkens said.

He also said that the governor wants a law passed that would require state agencies to establish separate repair and replacement accounts. The accounts would be part of the agencies' operating budgets.

"We think it is a major step forward to separate these accounts from the rest of the budget," he said.

Currently, agencies budget for building maintenance. However, the funds are often used for other purposes and maintenance is sometimes neglected.

Mehrkens said that the change would make agencies more accountable for building main-

tenance and would be the first step in a coordinated statewide policy for dealing with the issue.

Last year, the Legislature enacted a law requiring the University of Minnesota and Minnesota State Colleges and Universities (MnSCU) to set up separate repair and replacement accounts.

The governor's recommendations follow a report issued in February 1998 by the Office of the Legislative Auditor. That report offers several approaches for strengthening and coordinating the maintenance programs for state facilities. The report also suggests creating a funding formula to deal with the problem in individual agency budgets.

Altogether, the higher education institutions and state agencies oversee more than 4,800 state-owned buildings with about 73 million square feet of space. The replacement value for all state buildings would exceed \$7 billion, according to the auditor's report.

The committee took no action on the proposal.

Returning trade program funds

The House passed a bill (HF184) Feb. 8 that would return money to the general fund that had been intended for Minnesota's participation in the United Nations' Global Trade Point Network. The vote was 128-0.

The U.N. program was designed to create a network for global trade, which includes several hubs, called Secure Electronic Authentication Links (SEAL). The University of Minnesota would have been the SEAL for North America.

Since 1996, the Legislature has appropriated \$1.3 million for costs related to the program. Those funds have been mostly distributed to various sources, including the Minnesota Office of Technology, the University of Minnesota, and the World Trade Center.

But the program stalled in 1998, and then Gov. Arne Carlson froze spending for the program.

The bill, sponsored by Rep. Phil Krinkie (R-Shoreview), would return the unused portions of that money to the general fund.

The Office of Technology has proposed restarting the program through Bemidji State University. But Krinkie said the bill would ensure that funds are not spent until the Legislature has investigated the issue.

The bill now moves to the Senate.

Roll call of sorrow



Lisa Brannan of Minneapolis listens to the roll call of women and children who were killed by their spouses, parents, or companions in 1998, during the annual Battered Women's Action Day at the Capitol Jan. 8.

higher — by 101 to 125 percent — than those for similar coverage in the private market. But revenue from the premiums still does not cover the costs of claims.

The state funding partially offsets the difference. However, the industry makes up the remaining deficit by charging higher premiums for traditional health plans, Haas said. Because many large companies are self-insured, those higher premiums fall mainly on the shoulders of small businesses that provide benefits to employees, he said.

Lynn Gruber, MCHA's president, said premiums provide about half the funding needed for MCHA to break even. Losses in 1997 were \$47.8 million. Estimated losses for 1998 were \$50 million, \$15 million of which will be paid by the state for a net loss of \$35 million.

Haas' bill (HF208), would continue the state's \$15 million appropriation, plus provide up to \$20 million more to pay 50 percent of the remaining deficit.

The bill would also repeal a related sunset provision of a 1997 law. That law forbids the state Medical Assistance or General Assistance Medical Care programs from keeping people with severe illnesses on MCHA and paying MCHA's premiums instead of the more costly claims.

People insured under the comprehensive pool sometimes become eligible for Medical Assistance or General Assistance Medical Care, which are jointly funded by the state and federal governments to cover lower-income families who cannot afford insurance.

Haas estimated that keeping a person on MCHA coverage and out of the other programs had increased the pool's deficit by as much as \$10 million before the 1997 law halted that practice. But that provision is scheduled to sunset June 30, 1999. The bill would make the provision permanent.

The bill now moves to the House Health and Human Services Policy Committee.

INSURANCE

Funds for health plan

A statewide insurance pool for people with chronic health conditions would receive increased state funding under a bill approved Feb. 4 by the House Commerce Committee.

Rep. Bill Haas (R-Champlin), the bill's sponsor, said the state currently pays \$15 million per year to the Minnesota Comprehensive Health Association (MCHA), which provides insurance to Minnesotans who can't otherwise get coverage because of chronic health conditions.

State law requires health insurers and health maintenance organizations to operate MCHA, Haas said. The association's premiums are

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Cities seek a cut of penalties

Minnesota's cities and counties are battling over a proposal to change the method by which penalties and interest collected on property taxes are distributed.

Under existing law, penalties and interest are split evenly between the county in which the property is located and the school districts within that county.

But cities, especially smaller cities, should be entitled to a portion of those funds, said Rep. Loren Solberg (DFL-Bovey).

Solberg is sponsoring a bill (HF220) that

would distribute the money to all units that levy taxes on the property in proportion to the levy imposed in the year the penalties and interest are collected.

Solberg told the Property Tax Division of the House Taxes Committee Feb. 8 about a ski resort in his district that fell upon hard times and did not pay property taxes for five years, causing financial hardship to nearby Hill City. To aggravate matters, once the penalties and interest on the back taxes were paid, the city didn't share in the windfall.

Rep. Kris Hasskamp (DFL-Crosby) agreed that cities should receive at least some of the penalties and interest collected.

"How can you justify not giving up a portion of this money just from a pure fairness issue?" she asked.

But Joe Harris, a Dakota County commissioner representing the Association of Minnesota Counties, said counties suffered additional costs associated with collecting delinquent taxes and thus shouldn't have to share.

The committee took no action on the matter, but will consider the bill for possible inclusion in this year's omnibus tax bill.

Freeing funds for projects

A bill that would eliminate spending caps for cities contributing money to certain local projects was approved Feb. 8 by the House Local Government and Metropolitan Affairs Committee.

The bill (**HF371**), sponsored by Rep. Doug Stang (R-Cold Spring), would eliminate the \$2,000 per year spending limit for cities funding local historical preservation efforts.

It would also allow cities to contribute municipal dollars to senior citizen and youth centers. Under current law, cities may only fund recreational activities for the centers. Stang's bill would eliminate that provision and allow cities to donate money for any purpose connected with those centers.

The bill originally covered only senior centers until Rep. Tom Rukavina (DFL-Virginia) offered an amendment to include youth centers as well.

A group of residents from Paynesville told the committee about how a transportation program connected with their city's 9-year-old senior citizen center needs funding. But because the transit program is not considered recreational, the city cannot fund it under current law.

In addition, Paynesville residents noted that there are historical projects that the city could fund more adequately without the spending caps.

Some lawmakers voiced concern over eliminating the limits completely.

Rep. Loren Jennings (DFL-Harris) said there should be a mechanism in place so city governments don't overuse tax dollars for projects voters have not approved.

Although no amendments were offered to add spending limits, Stang said he would consider adding language to accommodate his colleagues' concerns.

HF371 now moves to the House floor.



SPORTS

Report jabs boxing board

The head of the Minnesota Board of Boxing defended his agency before a House committee Feb. 8, following a recent recommendation that the board be eliminated or placed under another agency's authority.

James O'Hara, executive secretary of the Board on Boxing, told the House Jobs and Economic Development Finance Committee that his agency is responsible for Minnesota's reputation as a safe place to box.

"Minnesota is respected throughout the nation and internationally," he said. "They used to call our state a sissy state because we don't want any injuries."

The recommendations concerning the board were included in a report on occupational regulation by the Office of the Legislative Auditor. The auditor found that overall the state's policy on regulating occupations is inconsistent, and that oversight of the regulatory agencies needs to be improved.

The auditor's report specifically names the Board of Assessors, the Board of Private Detectives and Protective Agents, and the Board

of Boxing as regulatory agencies that should be reviewed by the Legislature.

The auditor's report points out that the boxing board is exempt from the law requiring boards to be funded through licenses and other fees. The report also notes that all other professional and amateur sports are regulated by private organizations.

O'Hara said that boxing should be overseen by people who know the sport, not "clerks" in a state agency. He also said that the board has kept its fees low because it tends to serve underprivileged and disadvantaged youth, and that the board makes sure that every boxer in the state is insured.

The Board of Boxing, located in the Golden Rule Building in downtown St. Paul, regulates boxing, full contact karate, and kick boxing. Annual licenses for referees, managers, and boxers range from \$2 to \$25. The board issued 183 such licenses in 1998.

The committee took no action on the recommendations.



TAXES

Incentive for insurance

Auto, homeowner, life, and health insurance premiums are common expenses for most Minnesota families. Long-term care insurance isn't.

Rep. Roxann Daggett (R-Frazee) would like to change that. She is sponsoring a bill (**HF378**) that would significantly increase the state's income tax credit for purchasing long-term care policies.

Citing the need to begin preparing now for

Student march



Students from state universities, community colleges, and technical colleges rally for more state aid and lower tuition increases than called for in Gov. Jesse Ventura's proposed budget. The students marched to the Capitol and rallied on the front steps Feb. 10.

the eventual swell of state residents who will need nursing home care, Daggett urged her colleagues on the House Taxes Committee Feb. 9 to raise the credit five-fold.

Under a 1997 law, the credit is set at \$100 or 25 percent of the amount paid per beneficiary, with a maximum credit of \$200 annually on a joint return or \$100 for other filers.

The bill would increase the maximum credit to \$500 per person or \$1,000 per joint return.

Daggett said the \$3.4 million price tag to provide the credit to an estimated 16,000 filers over the next biennium should be viewed as a long-term investment in the solvency of the state.

Daggett said when today's baby boomers age, they will need taxpayer-supported nursing home care in record numbers. And there will be fewer workers to pay taxes to help cushion those costs, estimated now at \$39,000 per patient annually.

However, the amount the state would have to pay would decrease substantially as more people purchase long-term care insurance.

"We need a carrot to save tax dollars in the long run," Daggett said.

The bill would also make the credit refundable and would eliminate a provision of the 1997 law that required policies to have an automatic benefits inflation clause in order to qualify for the credit.

That provision would bring state law into conformity with federal law. The Internal Revenue Service requires insurance plan sellers to offer the inflation-adjusted policy, which is roughly twice the cost of a regular policy.

Rep. Loren Jennings (DFL-Harris) said he does not believe there is a need for a tax credit because people will buy the policies anyway to protect their assets. Before most people can qualify for state and federal nursing home aid programs, they must deplete their personal financial capacity.

Daggett said many people purchase the policies to assure they have choices if nursing home care becomes inevitable. She noted that most states around Minnesota have similar tax credits and that the numbers of policies sold in those states far exceeds the number sold in Minnesota.

Considering that the state could "save a fortune" over the long run, Rep. Kris Hasskamp (DFL-Crosby) questioned whether the tax credit Daggett is proposing is sufficient. Hasskamp suggested upping the ante and including something for family members who assist with the care of an elderly loved one, thereby putting off the need for nursing home care.

The bill was laid over for possible inclusion in the omnibus tax bill.

Farmer bugged by policy

If you raise insects for a living, are you considered a farmer? Not under state statutes that define agricultural property and how it's taxed.

That fact so dismayed Gordon Vadis of Ham Lake that he decided to do something about it. And he convinced Rep. Tom Hackbarth (R-Cedar) to sponsor a bill (HF235) that would expand the state's definition of agricultural products to include "insects primarily bred to be used as food for animals" in determining if property qualifies for the agricultural property classification.

Vadis told the Property Tax Division of the House Taxes Committee Feb. 8 that he has been raising crickets for the past nine years, each year claiming the agricultural property tax classification.

But after a recent visit to his 50-acre farm from the Anoka County assessor, he was told the law had changed and that classification now applied only to those who raised food for human consumption. Vadis does not qualify.

Rep. Ron Abrams (R-Minnetonka), who chairs the Taxes Committee, said he aims to incorporate the change into this year's omnibus tax bill.

"This is a prime example of someone who has done nothing wrong but is being rung up by the system," Abrams said.

And, he said, it is decisions like this one that foster public mistrust and resentment of the state's revenue department.

"Someone had to have looked long and hard to determine this property doesn't qualify," added Rep. Bob Milbert (DFL-South St. Paul).

Rep. William Kuisle (R-Rochester) said the committee may also want to consider broadening the scope to include those insects raised to eat other insects, an increasingly popular method of decreasing the amount of insecticide used in raising farm crops.

Vadis said insect farming is a growing industry nationwide. He produces about 325,000 crickets weekly on his farm. They are used for a variety of purposes.

The Minnesota Department of Revenue has determined the bill would have no fiscal impact. The committee took no action on the bill.

Cities seek revenue hike

The formulas under which the state provides direct revenue to cities are complicated, and some municipalities don't believe they're treated fairly.

Bills requesting additional money for two cities – Pine Island (HF102) and St. Francis (HF104) – were discussed Feb. 8 in the Property Taxes Division of the House Taxes Committee.

Pine Island is seeking \$102,000 in additional aid, and St. Francis wants \$300,000. If the funds are awarded, that amount would be subtracted from the next round of money to be distributed to all qualifying cities.

Steve Bjork, planner and coordinator for St. Francis, told the committee his city has struggled for years to provide adequate services. He presented a chart that showed St. Francis receiving \$61,556 in local government aid for fiscal year 1999, while cities of similar size received about \$330,000 each.



Rep. Ron Erhardt, center, and his staff don bug antennae during a Feb. 8 discussion of a bill that would allow insect farmers to receive new agricultural property tax classification. Also pictured are Committee Administrator Margaret Amundson, left, Legislative Assistant Michelle Boulay, second from right, and Legislative Assistant Erin Buie, right.

He noted that part of the crunch in his city is caused by the St. Francis School District, which operates four schools with 5,200 students, district offices, and busing operations inside the city limits. The student population causes a heavier drain on public services than would be expected in a town of 4,000. Additionally, all of the school-owned property in the city is exempt from paying city taxes.

Bjork, one of three employees at St. Francis City Hall, said that although the town has grown from 2,463 in 1990 to an estimated 4,600 in 1998, its ability to tax hasn't kept pace with needs.

Many residents are in the low- and moderate-income bracket. He said only eight miles of 25 road miles in the city are paved and the remainder are gravel.

Pine Island's story is similar. For years it has received less local aid than its neighbors of similar size and less than average.

Pine Island city administrator Elmer Broucker said the city actually receives less local government aid from the state today than it did in 1990.

Despite the low funding level, the city has managed to accommodate rapid growth and to cut taxes, said Rep. Mike Osskopp (R-Lake City), sponsor of **HF102**.

"And they're being penalized for their success," Osskopp added.

Abraham Algadi, executive director of the Pine Island Economic Development Authority, said the city faces a number of development hurdles in the next few years. Completing them would be difficult without an injection of state funds.

The bills would raise St. Francis' per capita aid base from \$6.79 to \$86 and Pine Island's from \$83 to \$129.

Rep. Tom Hackbarth (R-Cedar) is sponsoring **HF104**.

Both bills were laid over for possible inclusion in the omnibus tax bill.

ated money for a local government Y2K loan fund.

The Y2K bug is a problem that may occur in many computers that were not programmed to handle the switch to the year 2000. Many older programs use only the last two digits to track the year, and at the end 1999, those programs will roll to 00. That means some computers will think it's 1900, which could cause major technical malfunctions and create troubles industries such as airline travel, banking, and utilities.

Several legislators voiced concern over the liability and debt service issues in the bill, and some said the measure was too broad in its scope.

Rep. Bill Hilty (DFL-Finlayson), the bill's sponsor, said that under normal conditions his bill would not be considered good legislation because of its scope.

"This is one very unusual and unprecedented circumstance," he said.

However, Hilty encouraged members to approve the bill, saying that if the Legislature does not take steps to address potential problems, the level of Y2K hysteria could get out of hand.

"We're going to foster very irrational behavior," he said.



TRANSPORTATION

Report reveals rail options

The Twin Cities area has the capacity to support a six-line commuter rail system at a cost of \$1.4 billion, according to a study produced by the Minnesota Department of Transportation.

The report was discussed Feb. 9 by the House Transportation Policy Committee.

Now in its second phase, the study was directed by the 1997 Legislature for the purpose of determining whether a commuter rail system would be a cost-effective option for mass transit in the seven-county metropolitan area. Projected population growth has led various organizations to estimate a substantial growth in traffic congestion during the next two decades.

In 1998, the study presented possible rail lines that would run into downtown Minneapolis or St. Paul originating from six cities: Bethel, Northfield, Norwood-Young America, Elk River, Hastings, and Forest Lake. There could also be a Minneapolis-St. Paul connector route.

This year's update includes cost and ridership estimates, and a suggested plan for implementation. Another part of the study seeks to

measure the level of support for a commuter rail system.

According to the report, 90 percent of people surveyed showed support for the concept of commuter rail.

About 18,000 people would use commuter rail, and department officials said that could decrease traffic congestion by 2 to 7 percent.

Most train trips would not significantly differ from car travel times, but many would be shorter than a bus trip. Depending on the length of the trip, ticket prices would range from \$2 to \$5.75.

Commuter rail lines would operate on existing freight railroad lines using passenger cars. The trains would run primarily during rush hours and would serve a mostly suburban population. Chicago, Boston, and Los Angeles have commuter rail systems.

The concept is different from light-rail transit, which is used primarily for shorter trips in urban areas.

In 1998, the Legislature allotted \$40 million for light rail construction in the Hiawatha Corridor in Minneapolis. The U.S. Congress followed with a \$120 million appropriation. Construction for that project, which is under the Metropolitan Council's direction, could begin as early as 2000.

Although no plans were presented, department officials said it would be possible for commuter and light-rail systems to co-exist in the metro area.

The committee took no action on the report.

Long waits for driving tests

The lines are too long and the license plates are running out, said Katherine Burke Moore of the Driver and Vehicle Services Division of the Minnesota Department of Public Safety.

Moore presented the governor's budget recommendations for her department Feb. 8 to members of the House Transportation Finance Committee.

She said waiting times at driver's license testing centers are the longest they've ever been. In the summer of 1998, 40 percent of the state's testing sites exceeded the standard two-week appointment wait times.

A proposed biennial increase of \$1.9 million would pay for 18 new driver's license examiners, testing machines, and a 24-hour hotline to book appointments. The division also has plans to add five languages, including Vietnamese, Somali, Hmong, and Russian, to its written test format.

In addition, Moore said the state will likely run out of license plates by April 1. The governor's budget includes an emergency



TECHNOLOGY

No OK for Y2K plan

A bill that aims to provide some damage control for the so-called Y2K bug was rejected Feb. 8 by the House Local Government and Metropolitan Affairs Committee.

The bill (**HF73**) would have protected some types of Y2K information from civil liability and would have authorized the governor to declare a state of emergency based on problems associated with the bug.

It would have also allowed cities to incur debt for spending to address year 2000 problems without voter approval and appropri-

supplemental appropriation of \$629,000 to keep up with current demand plus additional funding for the biennium.

Moore said the increase was caused by a 4 percent growth in vehicles on the road, which surpassed the division's estimates. More cars than usual are receiving a third set of plates, too. The state requires license plates be replaced every seven years.

The division's budget also calls for \$580,000 to fund a pilot program for Internet and telephone vehicle registration over the next two years.

The committee took no action on the issue.



VETERANS

Extending deadline for bonuses

A bill that would extend the deadline for Persian Gulf War veterans to apply for a bonus was approved Feb. 8 by the House Governmental Operations and Veterans Affairs Committee.

The 1997 Legislature allocated \$17 million for bonuses and related administration costs, but fewer Persian Gulf War veterans than expected have applied for a bonus through the Minnesota Department of Veterans Affairs.

The law apportions bonuses at three levels. About 13,200 veterans who are eligible for the Southwest Asia Service Medal — essentially those who served in the war zone — can receive \$600 each. Another 30,500 veterans who were preparing to be shipped overseas can each receive \$300. The families of the nine Minnesota soldiers killed in the war are each eligible for \$2,000.

The bonuses are similar to those paid to veterans of the Vietnam War, except that families who lost a loved one during that war received \$1,000.

Rep. Jim Rostberg (R-Isanti), sponsor of the bill (**HF136**), said only about half of the \$17 million has been claimed by Gulf War veterans. The bill would extend the deadline to apply for a bonus from June 30, 1999, to June 30, 2001, in hopes of allowing more veterans to claim the money.

The bill now moves to the House State Government Finance Committee.

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

Preventing homelessness



Cindy Murphy Kelley, *right*, executive director of the Learning Center for Homeless Families, is accompanied by three of her students as she testifies Feb. 5 before the House Jobs & Economic Development Finance Committee concerning homeless prevention programs available for children and their families.

Profile of Learning fails test in the House

The House passed a bill (**HF15**) Feb. 11 that would repeal the state's Profile of Learning. The vote was 92-35.

The bill would do away with all provisions of the profile and create a "rigorous academic standards" plan that would incorporate basic skills testing and required subject areas, but leave the implementation and curriculum up to school districts.

The Profile of Learning is half of the state's Graduation Standards initiative, together with the basic skills tests. The program was designed to ensure students could apply knowledge on real-world tasks.

In order to graduate from high school, students must complete 24 content standards in 10 learning areas. The profile has been criticized by some educators, parents, and legislators as a set of mandated curricula with a burdensome system of record-keeping.

The version of the bill that passed contained significant changes from the original bill introduced by Rep. Tony Kielkucki (R-Lester Prairie).

The original measure would have reduced the Profile of Learning's required learning areas and content standards, added a standardized test, and eliminated performance packages, which are curriculum and assessment plans used by teachers to measure student achievement.

Kielkucki said the amended version was drafted in response to constituent concerns

and what he heard during long hours of public testimony in the House Education Policy Committee.

"It supports the responsibility of education and puts it back where it belongs — with our parents, our teachers, and our schools," Kielkucki said.

The bill calls for a foundation of reading, writing, and math, and would establish 15 subject areas that school districts must offer. Under an amendment offered by Rep. Mary Ellen Otremba (DFL-Long Prairie) and approved on the House floor, abstinence-based sex education would also be required in school health classes.

Rep. Gene Pelowski (DFL-Winona), a strong supporter of the bill, said it would end an eight-year cycle of "bashing public education" under former Gov. Arne Carlson.

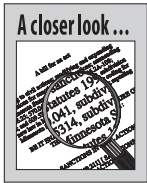
Many DFLers objected to the bill, saying it goes too far in setting new standards that could create problems similar to those that teachers currently have with the Profile of Learning. "We are not fixing it by gutting it," said Rep. Leslie Schumacher (DFL-Princeton). "We are not fixing it by shoving politics down our children's throats."

Others said teachers, administrators, and parents were not given enough time to respond to the amended version of the bill, and should have been brought in for committee testimony.

HF15 goes to the Senate.

Task force creates plan to allow studs, fix trail damage

By Jon Fure



Repealing the statewide ban on metal traction devices — or studs — for snowmobiles was a high priority for several House members this session.

The House passed a bill Jan. 21 that would repeal the ban, with bill supporters citing potential losses in tourism revenue and other problems with the 1998 law.

Damage to state-funded paved trails was one of the main factors that led to the ban. Although stud use was already prohibited on paved trails, some felt that a statewide ban of stud use on all state surfaces — including public lands, unpaved trails, and roads — was necessary to curb the ongoing, illegal use of studs on paved trails.

The ban is set to go into effect July 1, and snowmobilers who use studs this winter are required to pay a special fee.

Repairing the damage to state trails has been estimated at \$1 million, with damage to local and county trails bringing the estimate up to \$3 million.

Proponents of the bill (**HF6**) vowed to find solutions to trail damage and other stud-related problems in separate legislation, and the Outdoor Recreation Task Force was formed to study those issues in more detail.

“We wanted to fast track that bill because we want to get the tourism back,” said Rep. Tom Hackbarth (R-Cedar), task force chair and sponsor of **HF6**. “But we wanted more public input on those other issues, so that’s why we created the task force.”

A bill has been drafted, but not yet introduced, that incorporates the findings of the House task force. The bill would require snowmobilers who use studs to help pay for damage to paved trails.

Minnesota residents who wish to use snowmobile studs would be able to purchase a \$10 sticker to be displayed on their machine, similar to the state licenses required for all snowmobiles. Revenue from the sticker would go to the snowmobile trails and enforcement account in the state’s natural resources fund, and it could only be spent on repairing publicly owned paved trails.

Those provisions aim to address what many see as a problem with the 1998 law. That measure requires snowmobilers to purchase a \$50 sticker if they want to use metal studs until the ban becomes effective later this year. But the law does not include a mechanism to



A wide-reaching ban on snowmobile studs would be repealed under a bill already passed by the House, but a second measure expected to be introduced would make snowmobilers financially responsible for damage done to paved trails resulting from illegal use of the metal studs.

spend that money on trail repairs or the like.

The task force proposal would raise money to repair trails over the next five years, instead of trying to repair all the damage in one year.

The Minnesota Department of Revenue has provided estimates of the revenue from the \$10 stickers, assuming there are 277,000 registered snowmobiles in the state. If 30 percent of those registered snowmobile users were to buy a sticker, \$831,000 would be raised. If 40 percent use the sticker, more than \$1.1 million would be generated, and \$1.39 million would be generated if 50 percent of registered snowmobiles use the sticker.

The department also noted that keeping the ban means the state would lose sales tax revenue from the sale of snowmobile studs.

Hackbarth said Feb. 10 that the task force will not continue meeting. He said he plans to present a bill and a report on the task force’s findings to the chair of the House Environment and Natural Resources Policy Committee, Rep. Dennis Ozment (R-Rosemount).

Hackbarth’s proposal would not charge a fee to non-Minnesota residents. Task force member Rep. Tom Bakk (DFL-Cook) said tourism in outstate areas has already suffered from the stud ban, and that excluding non-residents from the fee would be like “extending an olive branch” to welcome snowmobilers from Wisconsin and other neighboring states.

Snowmobiling on Minnesota’s lakes and trails has brought in millions of dollars in tourism revenue, according to the Minnesota

Office of Tourism. A 1996 survey of registered snowmobile owners estimated that Minnesotans spent almost \$104 million related to snowmobile use. Snowmobilers from outside the state spent an estimated \$43.8 million that year, according to the survey.

Hackbarth said the looming stud ban has already caused people from other states to avoid snowmobiling in Minnesota.

“I’ve gotten calls from Illinois, Iowa, South Dakota, and North Dakota,” Hackbarth said. “They’ve said, ‘Why should I go to Minnesota this year or ever again?’ We’ve already taken a big, big hit.”

Not only has Hackbarth heard from people outside the state, but, he said, metro-area snowmobilers have said they are choosing to take their snowmobiles to northern Wisconsin or Michigan to avoid having to take the studs off their machines or pay additional fees.

Since passing the House, **HF6** has moved to the Senate. It was approved by the Senate Environment and Natural Resources and State Government Finance committees and now moves to the Senate floor.

The Senate amended the bill to include fines for snowmobilers caught using studs on paved trails. The first offense would be a \$50 fine, the second offense would be no more than \$300, and subsequent offenses would be no more than \$600. Under the 1998 law, second or subsequent violations of the stud ban are punishable by confiscating the violator’s snowmobile. **HF6** would repeal that penalty. 🐾

Minnesotan cast crucial vote to save Andrew Johnson

By Grant Martin

When Minnesota's Republican Legislature sent Daniel S. Norton to Washington, D.C. to serve as U.S. senator, legislators expected him to tow the party line.

Norton, however, chose to follow his own path, including casting a crucial vote for acquittal at President Andrew Johnson's impeachment trial.

Norton served as a state senator from Winona from 1863 to 1865. In his first election bid, he failed to receive the Republican endorsement at the district convention. So he briefly joined with the Democratic Party and won the election. While serving in the state Senate, he quickly went back to calling himself a Republican.

Norton was elected to the U. S. Senate in 1865. After a desperate fight to gain the Republican caucus endorsement, Norton didn't even attend the full vote by a joint session of the Minnesota Legislature. Elected 46-12 over the Democratic nominee, Mr. Norton was off to Washington.

In the years leading up to the 1868 impeachment, Republicans both nationally and in Minnesota had been dissatisfied with their Democratic president.

Johnson, a former slave owner who had served as the military governor of Tennessee under Union occupation, became president following President Abraham Lincoln's assassination in April 1865.

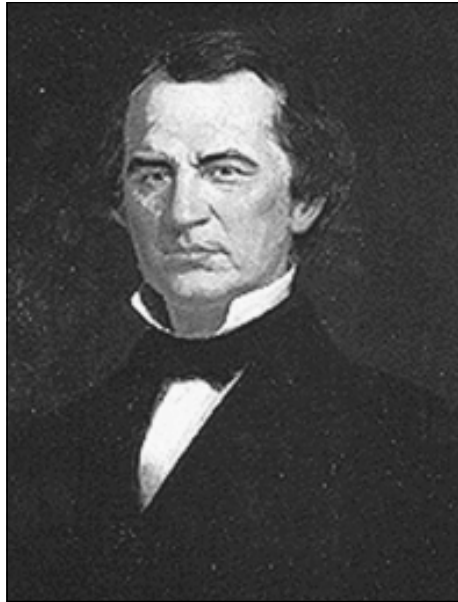
Johnson's presidency was defined by his continual battle with the Republican-controlled Congress, primarily over the issue of how to bring the 11 states of the Confederacy back into the Union.

Johnson believed that the former Confederate states should be brought back to the Union as quickly as possible. Republicans, however, wanted several safeguards put into place to ensure that the South would not rise again. Norton went against his Republican colleagues and sided with Johnson on such issues.

In 1866, Norton voted against the Republican civil rights bill and the supplementary Freedman's Bureau bill. Both bills were later vetoed by Johnson.

Norton voted against the attempt to override the veto of the civil rights bill, and later voted against the joint resolution to send the Fourteenth Amendment of the Constitution to the state legislatures.

Norton's votes went unnoticed in Minne-



President Andrew Johnson survived an impeachment trial thanks in part to the support of Daniel S. Norton, a U.S. senator from Minnesota.

sota for the most part. However, William Pitt Murray, a Democrat serving in the state Senate, was keeping an eye on Norton's activity in Congress. At the close of the 1866 session, Murray offered a resolution thanking Norton for his statesmanship and his recent votes in Congress.

Republicans in the Minnesota Senate, thinking Murray's resolution a concession to one of their own, gladly supported his decree, and it was adopted.

That very day, Norton was casting a vote against a Republican bill that would have excluded southern senators and representatives from serving in Congress until the members approved their admissions.

In June 1866, Johnson, who had grown tired of fighting the Republicans Congress, called for the creation of a new party, which he christened the National Union movement. Johnson hoped to combine the political support of Democrats and conservative Republicans.

In Washington, Republicans claimed that Johnson's actions were simply a way to win support for Democrats, and promised to run out of the party any Republicans who participated. Norton officially endorsed Johnson's National Union movement.

H. P. Hall, the Republican editor of the *St. Paul Press* at the time, felt that Norton's primary purpose in siding with Johnson had to do with political advantage.

"Here Norton saw, or thought he saw, his

opportunity," Hall wrote. "Johnson was notoriously exchanging patronage for support, and, to Norton's vision, his becoming a supporter of the president would enable him to dispense all the patronage of Minnesota. He accordingly Andy Johnsonized as a full-fledged Democrat."

When the Minnesota Legislature met in 1867, Norton's activity soon became the subject of debate.

The Minnesota House passed a resolution declaring that Norton had "wickedly betrayed and renounced fidelity to his former expressed principles." The resolution suggested that he should resign his office as senator. The Minnesota Senate passed a similar decree.

From that point on, Norton considered himself excommunicated from the party, and he voted consistently with the Democrats.

The final straw for the Republican Congress came when Johnson attempted to fire Edwin M. Stanton from his position as the Secretary of War. The House of Representatives impeached Johnson in February 1868, based on Johnson's violation of the Tenure of Office Act. That law, passed over Johnson's veto, required the president to seek permission from Congress to fire a cabinet member.

The Minnesota Legislature passed a joint resolution March 6, 1868, giving hearty support to Congress' efforts to impeach Johnson.

On May 16, Johnson held on to the presidency by a single vote, 39-16. Most noticeable, seven radical Republicans voted against their caucus, and for acquittal.

When the votes for impeachment were listed in the papers, the Republican's names were listed in Roman letters, and Democrats were listed in italics. Norton's "not guilty" vote was listed in italics. Hall wrote that Norton's vote on impeachment came as a surprise to no one.

"Mr. Norton, though elected by a Legislature overwhelmingly Republican, was not regarded as a traitor to his party in his vote against impeachment," Hall wrote. "He had long since gone over to the Democrats, and his name simply appeared in the impeachment voting list in italics. Even the Minnesota Republican papers did not criticize Norton then."

In a speech to a Democratic rally in 1869, Norton defended his departure from the Republican ranks. "I saw that the course of a man who desired to restore his country and bring in to its olden-time reunion and glory did not lie with that party and with the prosecution of its measure and what it proposed," he said. "So I left it."



Speaker gives education on future of online learning

By Paul Wahl



If you can earn a degree in front of your computer at home, why venture out into the cold and snow to sit in a classroom?

And what's in store for Minnesota's higher education programs given the proliferation of learning opportunities on the World Wide Web?

Those were key questions that Michael Dolence asked legislators and others to consider in a presentation Feb. 11 at the Minnesota History Center.

Dolence, a consultant and education researcher, said a "new learning landscape" was emerging, requiring greater flexibility in higher education and innovative planning and legislation.

The speech was part of the Capitol Forum Series, an annual series of lectures sponsored by the McKnight Foundation and Minnesota Technology, Inc.

In a presentation filled with statistics, Dolence painted a challenging picture for traditional higher education.

He said there are about 76 million learners nationwide in adult education programs — over half of them for work-related purposes and almost as many for personal enrichment.

Of the 40 million who undertook work-related learning, only 20 percent were enrolled in traditional post-secondary education. The bulk were part of education programs sponsored by businesses.

Dolence said that the country's Big Three auto companies each spend nearly a billion dollars apiece on "corporate universities." That's \$3 billion that ordinarily would be spent at the nation's colleges and universities. It's not being spent there, he said, primarily because the companies could not find the educational packages they needed for their workers.

Companies have told Dolence that learning in the 21st century is so important to their bottom line and their worldwide competitiveness that they have established corporate universities in order to advance their learning goals at a more rapid rate than competitors and thereby seize their strategic position for the future.

Meanwhile, traditional higher education programs are worrying about how much time a student spends in a classroom and about hurtful assessment processes.

"We place learners in an environment where



Michael Dolence, a higher education consultant, tells lawmakers and staff that computer technology will soon revolutionize educational programs. Dolence spoke Feb. 10 at the third event of this year's Capitol Forum Series.

they feel they can't learn," Dolence said. "Do we care more about learning and building a learning environment or keeping students in seats? Sixty-five percent of 40 million students come self-funded and we've let it go because of our rules.

"If we cannot build a system, if you as a legislators cannot enable higher education to respond to that kind of blossoming need, then we are going to give up all of that learning to commercial operations."

Dolence, who has taught extensively and is currently a business owner, said that's dangerous because it means a competitive disadvantage for labor supply purposes.

Noting that states can't legally restrict the flow of information across state lines, Dolence said the colleges of the future will have to be prepared to compete globally.

"The minute that happens, the state purview over education policy becomes diminished," he said. "It's not because we don't have a commitment to fund education, it's because no matter what we do to curriculum in the state, nimble competitors from outside our state can now steal students from our own universities."

Dolence lauded Minnesota's commitment to education as among the best "on the planet," but added one caveat.

"It's great now, but everyone on the planet is after it," he said. "They want to leapfrog over

you to seize high ground by capitalizing on early acknowledgement that the rules have changed."

Dolence believes there's little time to waste. Forty states, including Minnesota, have already adopted virtual university strategies, and more than 17,000 courses are already offered online. Some entities have created "credit banking," which allows students to pick and choose online courses that best suit their needs and gather them under one umbrella for degree-granting purposes.

He said eventually the federal government will adapt its educational loan and grant programs to cover Internet-based learning, which should facilitate a giant burst in popularity of that format.

Dolence admitted that not everything can be taught online. He said there will always be a need for the traditional classroom.

"What online sets us is a more fluid learning system to combine both, and the state has to protect both," he said.

In response to a question about Minnesota's Profile of Learning, Dolence said the program is commendable because it moves away from measuring students by how much time is spent in a seat and bases performance measurements instead on how much a student learns.



For new DFLer, thoughtfulness is the name of the game

By Jon Fure

The 1998 election was a satisfying one for Rep. Ann Lenczewski (DFL-Bloomington). Not only did she win as a DFLer in a tradition-



Rep. Ann Lenczewski

ally Republican district, she was the only member of her party statewide to gain a seat that was last held by a Republican.

And she did it with a name that doesn't exactly lend itself to catchy slogans.

"People have said for years that I should change my name," she said. "But I like my name. I think it's interesting."

Her husband's name is Nels Erickson, and Lenczewski said her decision to keep her surname was not some sort of statement. She would have been just as happy to be known as Ann Erickson, but she's learned to like having a name that makes her stand out in a crowd.

"I talked to him and said I was thinking about keeping my name, and he said, 'That's fine, just don't ask me to take it,'" she recalled. "But if he had had a problem with it, I would have changed it."

Bloomington residents have gotten used to seeing and hearing Lenczewski's name. She had been on the city council there for five years. Still, she had her name spelled phonetically (len-CHESS-key) on her campaign signs so her supporters could all pronounce the name they checked on the ballot.

As a city council member, Lenczewski also

stood out because she was always the only Democrat, but that never bothered her.

"I'm not a very partisan person," she said. "I'm used to working with Republicans."

Her main goals as a House member are to study hard and make informed, logical decisions — instead of having a biased agenda or making a decision before listening to the debate.

"I love public policy," she said. "I enjoy the debate of public policy. And being on the council heightened my awareness, seeing how much the state was influencing what we tried to accomplish as a council."

She became interested in holding public office when she began serving on some local advisory commissions and task forces.

"I looked at the elected body and said to myself, 'I could do that,'" she said. "It always looks like an easier job from the outside."

She got into politics to do what she can to improve people's lives.

"I know that sounds corny, but that's been my experience with elected officials, both Republicans and Democrats," she said. "No matter how conservative or liberal you are, you really are trying to make things better for people. I know people don't always believe that, but I really have found that to be true most of the time."

She credits her parents for influencing her interest in public policy. Her mother was valedictorian at the College of St. Catherine and later earned a graduate degree in a time when not many women attended to college. Her father earned several graduate degrees and

taught in the Edina school district, so education and related issues were frequent topics of discussion at the Lenczewski dinner table.

Lenczewski has a bachelor's degree in psychology from the College of St. Benedict and studied at the University of Minnesota's Hubert H. Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs.

She is a lifelong Bloomington resident, a graduate of Thomas Jefferson Senior High School, and she has four children ages 2, 6, 8, and 9.

As a member of the House Taxes Committee, Lenczewski said she is proud to have been a part of the bipartisan effort to fast track HF1, a tax rebate bill passed by the House Feb. 4. She said she feels fortunate to be on the tax panel, which is an uncommon assignment for a freshman lawmaker.

With returning the state tax surplus to residents being in the forefront at the Legislature this year, Lenczewski said she has been told the taxes committee is working at a faster pace than usual. She also serves on the Property Taxes Division of the Taxes Committee, as well as the House Governmental Operations and Veterans Affairs, Transportation Finance, and Transportation Policy committees.

District 40B

1995 population: 32,499

Largest city: Bloomington

County: Hennepin

Location: southwestern metro

Top concern: "To work as bipartisanship as possible in a very partisan environment, and to stay in touch with people in my district."

— Rep. Ann Lenczewski

NOTES

"Anybody got a soldering gun?" asked Rep. Sherry Broecker (R-Vadnais Heights), popping up from behind the sound system control panel with a pen knife in one hand and tape in the other.

Unfortunately, the lawmakers and lobbyists waiting for the start of the House Crime Prevention Committee meeting Feb. 9 just shrugged their shoulders. Broecker, acting as committee chair while Rep. Rich Stanek (R-Maple Grove) recovered from surgery, couldn't start the meeting because of a short in the system that records the meetings. Broecker finally got the system working with the help of a page who held the wires together throughout the meeting.

Gov. Jesse Ventura has announced that he will give his State of the State Address at noon March 2 in the House chamber.

Traditionally, governors have made their speeches nearer the beginning of the legislative session, but Ventura, who ad-libbed his brief inaugural speech, has been slow in committing to a date. Perhaps he has been preparing some notes on the \$23 billion budget he released a couple weeks ago.

The governor will address members of the House and Senate, and there is limited seating for members of the public in the House gallery.

During a Feb. 11 hearing on a bill that would exempt tickets for Minnesota State High School League events from sales taxes, several members of the House Taxes Committee wondered what the league would do with the money saved.

David Stead, the league's executive director, assured the committee the money would be returned to member schools.

"I think I can guarantee that they won't use it to raise the salaries for referees," said the bill's sponsor, Rep. Loren Solberg (DFL-Bovey), noting the presence of House Speaker Steven Sviggum, who has been a referee for events sponsored by the league over the years.

Sviggum said he was pleased to hear that and added he supported the bill.

For Cassell, helping schools supercedes other concerns

By Sarah Hallonquist

Rep. George Cassell (R-Alexandria) used to be a cowboy, but when it came to running for the Legislature, it was Cassell who had to be roped in for the job.



Rep. George Cassell

He was barely a year into his retirement as a school superintendent when Alexandria community leaders asked him if he'd consider running for the House seat vacated by former Rep. Hilda Bettermann.

Cassell, 63, had been looking forward to a less public lifestyle and initially wasn't sure if he was up for a legislative career. But after talking it over with family members and doing a lot of thinking, Cassell and his wife, Carol, decided to accept what they considered another call to serve the public.

For now, he's put off work on his 80-acre hobby farm outside Alexandria, and stays in a rented apartment in downtown St. Paul during the week.

The former Wyoming cowboy keeps a cowboy hat with a snakeskin band hanging in his office, and he jokingly threatens to wear his spurs onto the House floor if he needs to dig in his heels during debate. His well-worn boots sit waiting near the cowboy hat.

Carol works alongside her husband almost every day. Behind a laptop computer and seated at a table stacked with papers, she helps him stay organized and efficient.

She's used to the task, having moved with him between various teaching and superintendent positions from Minnesota to Idaho to Wyoming and back to Minnesota. Married in 1955, the couple has three grown children — Susan, George Jr., and Robert — and nine

grandchildren. Two more grandchildren are on the way.

After retiring from education in 1997, Cassell thought he'd have some time to travel and get away from life in a fishbowl.

He was superintendent of the Alexandria schools for 10 and one-half years. Before that, he held two other superintendent positions, directed a special education center, led an elementary school as a principal, coached track and basketball, and worked as a school administrator while teaching middle school students.

Less than a full month after his retirement, Cassell received a request to be an interim superintendent in Herman, Minn. He took the part-time position, unwilling to refuse the call for help.

The Cassell family has almost always had a busy schedule. Right out of high school in Tomahawk, Wis., George traveled to Wyoming to work on a ranch. After nearly a year, he received a draft notice, so he returned to Wisconsin and joined the Coast Guard.

The Cassells were married in 1955 and spent the last three years of George's tour of duty together. Their first child was born in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., just before they were transferred to Rhodes, Greece, and their second child was born in Africa just before they returned to the United States. After his discharge, Cassell worked for his father while going to college to begin his career in education. The couple's third child was born during Cassell's first year in college.

Although they've often yearned to live a quieter life, the Cassells have resolved to embrace whatever comes their way.

"We just try to enjoy life and make the best out of whatever we're doing," Carol said.

Cassell's legislative priorities reflect his experience and thoughtful approach to his job.

He is sponsoring a bill (HF355) that would repeal a law requiring some businesses to pay their sales taxes in June. The law was passed in the 1980s when the state needed the early payments to balance its budget, but Cassell said the law is not necessary anymore. He also supports lowering property taxes, a system that he believes is regressive.

Cassell earned his degrees — all the way up to a doctorate — at universities, but he also believes practical experience can help educators as much as anything when they are learning the trade.

Between three states, Cassell has 35 years in education under his belt. Minnesota's system is one of the best, he said.

He supports local control of schools and firmly believes teachers have the best perspective on solutions to classroom problems.

As a superintendent, he said he tried to allow teachers to seek creative solutions to classroom problems, rather than addressing them with top-down mandates.

"I think we've ignored that principle in many of the recent innovations we have attempted in education," he said.

Cassell said his philosophy as a superintendent was that "great things happen when we work together and do not care who gets the credit." And, he said, that philosophy has followed him to the House.

District 10B

1995 population: 34,942

Largest city: Alexandria

Counties: Douglas, Pope, and Stearns

Location: west-central Minnesota

Top concern: "The two major issues are the rapidly accelerating property taxes and assuring there is local control of education."

— Rep. George Cassell

Frequently called numbers

(all numbers are area code 651)

Secretary of the Senate

231 Capitol 296-0271

Voice mail/order bills 296-2343

Chief Clerk of the House

211 Capitol 296-2314

Index, Senate

110 Capitol 296-2887

Index, House

211 Capitol 296-6646

Information, Senate

231 Capitol 296-0504

Information, House

175 State Office Building 296-2146

Committee Hotline, Senate 296-8088

Committee Hotline, House 296-9283

Sergeant at Arms, Senate

Senate Chamber 296-7159/6-1119

Sergeant at Arms, House

45 State Office Building 296-4860

Legislative Reference Library

645 State Office Building 296-3398

Revisor of Statutes

700 State Office Building 296-2868

Governor's Office

130 Capitol 296-3391

Attorney General's Office

102 Capitol 296-6196

Secretary of State's Office

180 State Office Building 296-9208

Capitol Security

B-4 Capitol 296-6741

Emergency 296-2100

TTY*, Senate 296-0250

Toll free 1-888-234-1112

TTY*, House 296-9896

Toll free 1-800-657-3550



How to get here

Location

The Capitol complex is north of I-94, just minutes from downtown St. Paul. It is accessible from the east and west on I-94, and from the north and south on I-35E.

I-94 eastbound: Exit at Marion Street. Turn left. Go to Aurora Avenue and turn right. Go one block, cross Rice Street, and enter Parking Lot D.

I-94 westbound: Exit at Marion Street. Turn right. Go to Aurora Avenue and turn right. Go one block, cross Rice Street, and enter Parking Lot D.

I-35E northbound: Exit at Kellogg Boulevard. Turn left. Go to John Ireland Boulevard and turn right. Metered parking spaces line both sides of the boulevard.

I-35E southbound: Exit at University Avenue. Turn right. Go to Rice Street and turn left. Go one block and turn left to enter Parking Lot D.

Visiting the Minnesota State Capitol complex can be a rewarding and educational experience for everyone. There are buildings to explore and tours to take almost any time you choose to visit. And when the Legislature is in session during the first part of every year, there are floor sessions to observe, committee meetings to attend, and legislators to meet. Remember that this is your state Capitol, and you are always welcome.

Parking

Public metered parking is available in Lot Q, north of the Capitol at Cedar Street and Sherburne Avenue; Lot D, next to the State Office Building off Rice Street on Aurora Avenue; Lot F, directly behind the Transportation Building; Lot K, across from the Armory on Cedar Street (enter from 12th Street); and on the orange level of the Centennial Office Building Ramp at Cedar Street and Constitution Avenue. All-day metered parking is available in Lot Q. Capitol Security personnel will issue tickets for expired meters.

All-day parking permits may be purchased for \$3.50 from Plant Management on the third floor of the Ford Building. Cash or checks are accepted and correct change is appreciated. For more information, call (651) 297-3993.

Outdoor handicapped parking is available in Lot O, which is on the northeast side of the Capitol, and in Lot F.

Indoor handicapped parking is available on the lower level of the State Office Building Ramp (use the call box at the ramp entrance to gain entry); on the blue level of the Centennial

Office Building Ramp; and on the entry level of the Administration Building Ramp (two stalls).

There are two handicapped entrances to the Capitol. One is on the northeast side of the building, just off Lot O; the other is a drop-off entrance under the south main steps at the front of the building.

Since parking is limited during legislative sessions, busing may be easier. Freeway express bus service is available. Bus number 94B takes you to the Capitol and the State Office Building. Call the Transit Information Center at (651) 349-7000 for schedule and route information.

What to do

Tours

Tours of the Capitol are offered through the Capitol Historic Site Program of the Minnesota Historical Society.

Tour guides lead the 45-minute tours on the hour Mondays through Fridays between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. (last tour leaves at 4 p.m.); Saturdays between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. (last tour leaves at 3 p.m.); and Sundays between 1 p.m. and 4 p.m. (last tour leaves at 3 p.m.). The tours are free of charge and begin at the Capitol's information desk at the end of the corridor to the right of the main entrance. Brochures in about 20 foreign languages also are available there.

Tour participants may request customized tours that emphasize either the building or state government.

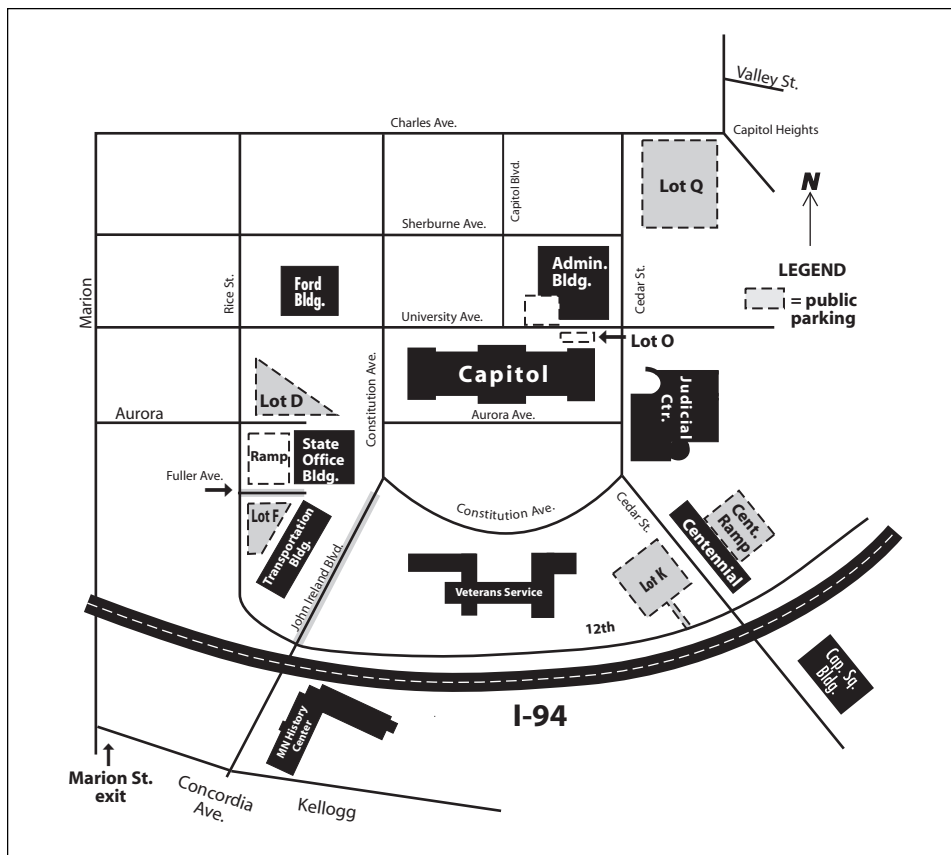
Historical society officials ask that groups of 10 or more call at least two weeks in advance to reserve a tour time.

The society offers "Voice of the People: Your Role in Minnesota Government," a half-day session for students in grades 9-12.

Also, special tour events are scheduled monthly throughout the year. Some of these events entail admission fees; others are free. A special events guide is available upon request.

For a recorded message regarding tours and events, call (651) 297-3521.

For more information about the tours or to reserve a time, call the Capitol Historic Site Program, (651) 296-2881.



Legislative sessions

Members of the House of Representatives and the Senate debate bills when the Legislature is in session.

At the beginning of a legislative session, the pace of floor sessions is generally slow as new bills are assigned to committees and non-controversial items are discussed. At about the session's midpoint, however, the legislative pace quickens.

The House usually meets at 2:30 p.m. Mondays and Thursdays, and the Senate meets at 11:30 a.m. Mondays and at 9 a.m. Thursdays during the first few weeks. House floor sessions are scheduled for the afternoon because committees meet in the morning and early afternoon. As the session nears the end, however, both bodies may meet several times a day, often into the night.

All House and Senate floor sessions are open to the public. Visitors interested in observing these sessions may call the House Chief Clerk's Office, (651) 296-2314, or Senate Information, (651) 296-0504, with questions. Spectators may sit in the galleries of either chamber.

Committee meetings

Visitors wanting to attend a committee meeting may call the committee hotlines for prerecorded messages with the meeting times and agendas for each day: House, (651) 296-9283; Senate, (651) 296-8088. Printed agendas for the week also appear in each issue of the *Session Weekly* and the *Senate Briefly*.

Committee meetings are open to the public. When a public hearing is scheduled, the committee may listen to comments from the audience (when time permits) in addition to the scheduled speakers. Committees have different policies on hearing testimony depending upon their size and workload. Informational handouts that committee members receive during meetings or hearings are considered public information and are available to the audience on a first-come, first-served basis.

Major proposals often have several public hearings so committee members may listen to all arguments for and against a bill.

Each committee has a chair, vice chair, administrator, and legislative assistant. A list of committees and members is available in the House Public Information Office in Room 175, State Office Building or the Senate Information Office in Room 231, State Capitol.

Groups and individuals wishing to testify before a committee should call the appropriate committee's legislative assistant well in advance of the meeting and ask to be placed on the agenda. Committees prefer requests one week in advance but will accept later notification when unexpected issues appear on the committee schedule. A brochure containing tips on testifying at legislative committee hear-

ings is available from the House Public Information Office.

Dining

Most buildings in the Capitol complex have their own cafeterias. The small State Office Building cafeteria is usually open only when the Legislature is in session, but it will remain open year-round during the restoration of the Capitol cafeteria, due to be completed in 2000. A large, year-round cafeteria is available in the Transportation Building.

Also, there are many restaurants within walking distance. On Rice Street, there is Benjamin's Restaurant and Lounge located inside the Kelly Inn, Cafe Capitol, the Lagoon Vietnamese Restaurant, White Castle, and El Bravo Mexican Restaurant. On University Avenue, there is McDonald's, Burger King, Mai Village, and other restaurants. There also are dozens of restaurants only minutes away in downtown St. Paul. Bus rides downtown cost 25 cents. Bus stops are located Constitution Avenue.

Group visits

Sometimes groups plan a "legislative day" at the Capitol in order to express a particular viewpoint to legislators.

Rooms for special conferences or speakers can be reserved by calling the State Office Building room scheduler at (651) 296-5408 or the Capitol room scheduler at (651) 296-0866.

If group members want to meet with their individual legislators or testify before a committee (see "Committee meetings"), arrangements should be made at least a week in advance.

Often such groups have members wear a distinctive name tag or badge to indicate their concern about a particular issue.

Groups planning a trip to the Capitol should remember that seating is fairly limited in some committee rooms — particularly when the topic is controversial.

E-mail schedules

Anyone with e-mail can receive both House and Senate committee schedules. To receive the House schedule, send a message to:

listserv@hsched.house.leg.state.mn.us
Leave the subject line blank, and in the body of the message, enter:

subscribe h-schedules

To receive the Senate schedule, send a message to:

listserv@senate.leg.state.mn.us

Leave the subject line blank, and in the body of the message, enter:

subscribe sen-schedules

Where to find information

House Public Information Office

175 State Office Building
(651) 296-2146 or 1-800-657-3550

The House Public Information Office is a nonpartisan office that provides committee meeting schedules; legislator information; and publications, including the *Session Weekly* newsmagazine, educational brochures for all ages, and member directories. All information is available at no charge.

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

House Television Services

216C State Capitol (651) 297-1338

House Television Services is responsible for live coverage of House floor sessions and some committee hearings. Such coverage is aired in the Twin Cities area on KTCI-TV, Channel 17. The House also broadcasts via satellite statewide. Outstate residents should check with local cable operators for time and channel information or the office's Web site at: <http://www.house.leg.state.mn.us/htv/htv.ssi>

All televised floor sessions and committee hearings are close-captioned for people with hearing impairments.

Chief Clerk's Office

211 State Capitol (651) 296-2314

The Chief Clerk's 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 (651) 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.

Senate Information Office

231 State Capitol (651) 296-0504

The Senate Information 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 (651) 296-0264

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

Bill Introductions

HF530-HF709

Tuesday, Feb. 9

HF530—Orfield (DFL) **Local Government & Metropolitan Affairs**

County commissioners authorized to serve as metropolitan council members, candidate contributions regulated, and study required.

HF531—Orfield (DFL) **Health & Human Services Policy**

Portable wading pools provided public swimming pool regulations exemption, certain day care home use permitted, and health and human services rules amended.

HF532—Orfield (DFL) **Local Government & Metropolitan Affairs**

Metropolitan Council made an elective body, and candidate contributions regulated.

HF533—Orfield (DFL) **Taxes**

Individual income tax rates reduced.

HF534—Hackbarth (R) **Environment & Natural Resources Policy**

Municipal tort liability exclusion provided for special wildlife hunting or trapping season losses.

HF535—Greiling (DFL) **Governmental Operations & Veterans Affairs Policy**

Campaign finance definitions clarified, reporting requirements modified, public subsidy return policy required, and penalties provided.

HF536—Broecker (R) **Crime Prevention**

Carisoprodol schedule IV controlled substance listing effective date delayed.

HF537—Boudreau (R) **Health & Human Services Policy**

Complementary and alternative health care freedom of access act adopted.

HF538—Abrams (R) **Taxes**

Resident definition clarified related to individual income tax.

HF539—Huntley (DFL) **Health & Human Services Policy**

MFIP face-to-face orientation exemption provided for minor parents.

HF540—Mullery (DFL) **Health & Human Services Policy**

MinnesotaCare eligibility requirements exemption provided for persons terminated from continuation coverage.

HF541—Stanek (R) **Civil Law**

Tort liability relief provided to 911 dispatchers giving prearrival medical advice.

HF542—Bishop (R) **Crime Prevention**

Number of district court judges increased.

HF543—Peterson (DFL) **Agriculture Policy**

Cooperatively owned livestock processing plant development program established and money appropriated.

HF544—Anderson, I. (DFL) **Environment & Natural Resources Policy**

Ontario; Office of the United States Trade Representative urged to resolve Canadian international trade agreement violations affecting Minnesota tourism.

HF545—Solberg (DFL) **Crime Prevention**

Sale of tobacco to minors criminal penalties modified.

HF546—Greenfield (DFL) **Health & Human Services Policy**

Federal TANF block grant funds transferred to the child care block grant, Title XX, and MFIP employment and training grants; and money appropriated.

HF547—Greenfield (DFL) **Health & Human Services Policy**

Single adults and households without children MinnesotaCare eligibility expanded.

HF548—Paulsen (R) **Governmental Operations & Veterans Affairs Policy**

Senate and House of Representatives size reduced.

HF549—Lenczewski (DFL) **Governmental Operations & Veterans Affairs Policy**

Former legislators prohibited from lobbying for one year after leaving office.

HF550—Chaudhary (DFL) **Transportation Finance**

Columbia Heights streetscape improvements funded and money appropriated.

HF551—Mulder (R) **Governmental Operations & Veterans Affairs Policy**

Luverne community hospital privatization pension benefit accommodation provided for certain employees.

HF552—Chaudhary (DFL) **Transportation Finance**

Northstar corridor joint powers board grant provided for Fridley commuter rail station planning and design, and money appropriated.

HF553—Carruthers (DFL) **Jobs & Economic Development Policy**

Volunteer firefighters allowed unpaid leave to perform duties.

HF554—Chaudhary (DFL) **K-12 Education Finance**

General education basic formula allowance inflationary increase provided and money appropriated.

HF555—Dorn (DFL) **Commerce**

Homeowner's insurance nonrenewal due to burglary prohibited.

HF556—Rukavina (DFL) **Transportation Policy**

St. Louis and Lake counties regional rail authority required to grant an easement across its right-of-way in Lakewood.

HF557—Tunheim (DFL) **Taxes**

Relative homestead treatment extended to include property occupied by the owner's niece or nephew.

HF558—Tunheim (DFL) **Jobs & Economic Development Finance**

Ontario; northern Minnesota resorts affected by Canadian fishing limitations provided financial assistance and money appropriated.

HF559—Tunheim (DFL) **Jobs & Economic Development Finance**

Canadian border; Northwest Angle tourism marketing and development funded, and money appropriated.

HF560—Bishop (R) **Crime Prevention**

Prosecutorial rebuttal report requested and order of final argument repealed.

HF561—Sykora (R) **Jobs & Economic Development Finance**

Family homeless prevention and assistance program funded and money appropriated.

HF562—Paulsen (R) **Commerce**

Collection agencies regulated, out-of-state agencies exempted, and exception provided.

HF563—Ozment (R) **Taxes**

Farm machinery definition modified to include equipment used to produce flowering or ornamental plants including nursery stock relating to sales and use tax.

HF564—Ozment (R) **Environment & Natural Resources Policy**

Automatic landscape irrigation system rain checks required.

HF565—Reuter (R) **Transportation Policy**

Driver right-hand lane use required unless overtaking slower vehicles.

HF566—Reuter (R) **Health & Human Services Policy**

Health care provider product and network contract stacking regulated, and remedies provided.

HF567—Hackbarth (R)
Environment & Natural Resources Policy
Anoka County authorized to convey or sell tax-forfeited land bordering public water or wetlands.

HF568—Clark, K. (DFL)
Health & Human Services Policy
General and health care interpreter voluntary registration programs established, spoken language interpreter pilot training program developed, and money appropriated.

HF569—Mares (R)
Governmental Operations & Veterans Affairs Policy
Correctional employee retirement fund early retirement provisions modified.

HF570—Clark, K. (DFL)
Judiciary Finance
Intensive case management services provided for prostituted individuals and money appropriated.

HF571—Westrom (R)
Transportation Policy
Trunk highway contract documents required to express measurements in the English system only, and commissioner prohibited from requiring otherwise for county contracts.

HF572—Chaudhary (DFL)
Transportation Policy
Passenger automobile and hearse additional registration tax rate reduced, and motor vehicle sales tax revenue distribution provided.

HF573—Stang (R)
Transportation Policy
Excess rail bank land conveyance authorized.

HF574—McCollum (DFL)
K-12 Education Finance
Independent School District No. 622, North St. Paul-Maplewood-Oakdale, provided alternative facilities bonding and levy program authority.

HF575—Lenczewski (DFL)
Taxes
Sales, use, and motor vehicle sales tax rates reduced.

HF576—Tunheim (DFL)
Governmental Operations & Veterans Affairs Policy
State partisan primary voters authorized to vote for candidates from more than one political party.

HF577—Tuma (R)
Education Policy
Private career school requirements modified and clarified.

HF578—Skoglund (DFL)
Crime Prevention
Antipaper terrorism act; public official and employee protection provided, fraudulent lien filing prohibited, and remedies and penalties provided.

HF579—Larsen, P. (R)
Local Government & Metropolitan Affairs
Metropolitan waste control commission established, and disposal system ownership and operation transferred from the metropolitan council.

HF580—Anderson, I. (DFL)
Jobs & Economic Development Finance
Minnesota cold weather research center grants provided and money appropriated.

HF581—Rostberg (R)
Environment & Natural Resources Policy
Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund payments for failing individual sewage treatment systems authorized.

HF582—Kielkucki (R)
K-12 Education Finance
School finance system provided increased equity, general education formula allowance increased, and money appropriated.

HF583—Gunther (R)
Commerce
Township Mutual Insurance Company investments regulated.

HF584—Dawkins (DFL)
Jobs & Economic Development Policy
Low-income housing income tax credit provided.

HF585—Erickson (R)
Jobs & Economic Development Policy
Independent School District No. 473, Isle, community center grant match requirement modified.

HF586—Kielkucki (R)
Education Policy
Standard statewide application for employment form developed for licensed educational personnel, and money appropriated.

HF587—Chaudhary (DFL)
Local Government & Metropolitan Affairs
Columbia Heights authorized to establish an enterprise zone and high technology business tax incentives provided.

HF588—Anderson, B. (R)
Local Government & Metropolitan Affairs
Municipal board sunset provision repealed.

HF589—Mares (R)
Governmental Operations & Veterans Affairs Policy
Qualified tax-sheltered annuity vendors expanded for the purpose of employer contributions.

HF590—Anderson, B. (R)
Local Government & Metropolitan Affairs
Private property rights protection act adopted.

HF591—Anderson, B. (R)
Local Government & Metropolitan Affairs
Private property protection act adopted.

HF592—Larsen, P. (R)
Civil Law
Municipal utilities customer data classification provided.

HF593—Nornes (R)
Family & Early Childhood Education Finance
Emergency services grant and transitional housing programs funded, and money appropriated.

HF594—Clark, K. (DFL)
Family & Early Childhood Education Finance
Teenage prostitution prevention and intervention grants provided, and money appropriated.

HF595—Holsten (R)
Jobs & Economic Development Policy
Petrofund reimbursement reductions standard of proof provided, aboveground storage tank upgrade or closure reimbursed, and contaminated land cleanup regulated.

HF596—Solberg (DFL)
Health & Human Services Policy
Tobacco settlement proceeds deposited in the health care access fund, MinnesotaCare premium and provider taxes repealed, senior citizen drug program funding cap removed, and eligibility recommendations required.

HF597—Larsen, P. (R)
Health & Human Services Policy
Health record defined and provider definition modified.

HF598—McCollum (DFL)
Health & Human Services Policy
Physicians assistants and supervising physicians provided immunity from civil liability for rendering care in disasters.

HF599—Huntley (DFL)
Health & Human Services Policy
Federal TANF reserve account funds transferred to the child care and Title XX block grants.

Wednesday, Feb. 10

HF600—Skoglund (DFL)
Crime Prevention
Repeat felony offenders provided increased penalties and consecutive sentences authorized, tolling of a stay of sentence provided, and consecutive sentencing policy modified.

HF601—McCollum (DFL)
Jobs & Economic Development Policy
Minimum wage increased and indexed.

HF602—Peterson (DFL)
Jobs & Economic Development Policy
Madison historic preservation and downtown redevelopment program funded, bond issuance authorized, and money appropriated.

HF603—Murphy (DFL)
Commerce
Proctor authorized to issue an additional on-sale liquor license.

HF604—Luther (DFL)
Health & Human Services Policy
MinnesotaCare four-month uninsured requirement exemption provided, and part-time student eligibility requirements modified.

HF605—Tuma (R)
Education Policy
Diabetes and schools task force established, and money appropriated.

HF606—Peterson (DFL)
Agriculture Policy
Ethanol producer payment eligibility expanded.

HF607—Peterson (DFL)
Jobs & Economic Development Policy
Madison historic preservation and downtown redevelopment program grant provided, and money appropriated.

HF608—Rukavina (DFL)
Local Government & Metropolitan Affairs
Municipal unincorporated land annexation procedures and criteria provided.

HF609—Westfall (R)
Environment & Natural Resources Policy
Mourning dove hunting season authorized, and stamps and impact report required.

HF610—Tingelstad (R)
Health & Human Services Policy
State safe drinking water act public water supply definition modified.

HF611—Rest (DFL)
Taxes
Materials used in metalcasting sales and use tax exemption provided.

HF612—Seifert, M. (R)
Local Government & Metropolitan Affairs
Minnesota tax increment financing district expenditures authorized.

HF613—Abrams (R)
Taxes
Taxpayers allowed an election to treat all income as business income for the purpose of corporate franchise tax.

HF614—Davids (R)
Health & Human Services Policy
Community integrated service network reserve corridor expanded, and review organization definition modified.

HF615—Bradley (R)
Health & Human Services Policy
Nursing facility provider training and education program established, and money appropriated.

HF616—McElroy (R)
Education Policy
School district general obligation debt allowed for special assessment prepayment.

HF617—Rukavina (DFL)
Taxes
Alcoholic beverage sales tax rate reduced.

HF618—Abeler (R)
K-12 Education Finance
School districts with significant enrollment eligible for free or reduced price lunches provided additional compensatory revenue.

HF619—Hackbarth (R)
Local Government & Metropolitan Affairs
Shooting ranges preserved, net losses limited, and relocation costs provided.

HF620—Orfield (DFL)
Local Government & Metropolitan Affairs
Metropolitan Council made an elective body, economic interest statements and candidate contributions regulated, report required, and money appropriated.

HF621—Fuller (R)
Crime Prevention
Arson definition expanded to include flammable and combustible gas, first degree arson plea agreements prohibited involving sprinklers, and juvenile fireball ignition penalties provided.

HF622—Clark, K. (DFL)
Civil Law
Names of elected officials registering property complaints made public.

HF623—Daggett (R)
Taxes
Production of water exemptions expanded for the purpose of sales and use tax.

HF624—Stanek (R)
Crime Prevention
Dishonored checks; theft and related crimes penalty uniformity provided, civil penalties increased, and pretrial diversion program created.

HF625—Solberg (DFL)
Local Government & Metropolitan Affairs
Grand Rapids Township authorized to hold November general elections.

HF626—Larsen, P. (R)
Judiciary Finance
State fire marshal division fire code development and training position funded, and money appropriated.

HF627—Larsen, P. (R)
Local Government & Metropolitan Affairs
Washington County; housing and redevelopment authority commissioners term length modified.

HF628—Fuller (R)
K-12 Education Finance
Independent School District Nos. 38, Red Lake, 115, Cass Lake, 299, Caledonia, and 306, LaPorte, maximum effort capital loans approved; bonds issued; and money appropriated.

HF629—Mariani (DFL)
Jobs & Economic Development Policy
Ethiopia; United States government memorialized to urge the Ethiopian government to respect the human rights of Eritreans.

HF630—Kubly (DFL)
Transportation Policy
Maximum allowable recreational vehicle combination length increased.

HF631—Kubly (DFL)
Transportation Policy
School buses required to load and unload students from designated off-shoulder bus stops at parental request, and stop signal arm and flashing red light use required.

HF632—Kubly (DFL)
Agriculture Policy
Rural dispute resolution act adopted, and money appropriated.

HF633—Seagren (R)
Judiciary Finance
Cornerstone Advocacy Services, Inc. battered women shelter services grant provided and money appropriated.

HF634—Bradley (R)
Health & Human Services Finance
Crisis nursery development funding increased and money appropriated.

HF635—Osskopp (R)
Education Policy
Independent school district No. 253, Goodhue, permitted to begin school on August 30, 1999.

HF636—Paymar (DFL)
Health & Human Services Policy
Tobacco manufacturers required to report hazardous substances to assist in local ordinance enforcement.

HF637—Paymar (DFL)
Crime Prevention
Camp Ripley work program scope expanded.

HF638—Haas (R)
Education Policy
Virtual school district created and money appropriated.

HF639—Rest (DFL)
Governmental Operations & Veterans Affairs Policy
Elective office age eligibility lowered and constitutional amendment proposed.

HF640—Bradley (R)
Health & Human Services Policy
State Advisory Council on Mental Health membership, duties, and reporting requirements modified.

HF641—McCollum (DFL)
Governmental Operations & Veterans Affairs Policy
Combat wounded veterans honorary plaque placed in the court of honor on the capitol mall.

HF642—Finseth (R)
K-12 Education Finance
Independent School District No. 627, Oklee, fund transfer authorized.

HF643—Bishop (R)
Civil Law
All persons under civil commitment status provided the same legal rights.

HF644—Holsten (R)
Commerce
Heating and ventilating contractor licensing required, advisory council created, powers and duties prescribed, penalties imposed, and money appropriated.

HF645—Tingelstad (R)
Environment & Natural Resources Policy
Water supply and wastewater treatment operator certification requirements federal conformity provided, and advisory council expiration date eliminated.

HF646—Gunther (R)
Jobs & Economic Development Finance
Youth intervention program grants provided and money appropriated.

HF647—Sykora (R)
Family & Early Childhood Education Finance
Maximum child care assistance reimbursement increased, payment requirements modified, and streamlined system developed.

HF648—Kielkucki (R)
Education Policy
State high school league provisions modified.

HF649—Rostberg (R)
Jobs & Economic Development Policy

Persons with mental illness employment support services and programs standards established, and money appropriated.

HF650—Hackbarth (R)
Civil Law

Shooting range servitudes provided and operator liability limited.

Thursday, Feb. 11

HF651—Trimble (DFL)

Jobs & Economic Development Finance

Labor interpretive center appropriated money.

HF652—Westerberg (R)
Crime Prevention

Disorderly conduct law application clarified to include acts committed in the presence of peace officers or public safety personnel.

HF653—Osskopp (R)
Environment & Natural Resources Policy

Legal firearm requirements for taking big game modified.

HF654—Tingelstad (R)
Environment & Natural Resources Finance

Metropolitan area regional parks maintenance and operation funded, and money appropriated.

HF655—Anderson, B. (R)
K-12 Education Finance

School district maximum effort debt service levy definition and loan repayment account modified.

HF656—Daggett (R)
Taxes

Tree growth tax law public hunting and fishing requirement exception created for nonindustrial privately owned forest land.

HF657—Trimble (DFL)
Governmental Operations & Veterans Affairs Policy

St. Paul teachers retirement fund investment by the state board of investment provided.

HF658—Osskopp (R)
State Government Finance

Noncommercial television stations provided grants for conversion to digital broadcast signals, and money appropriated.

HF659—Davids (R)
Commerce

Health care coverage required for diagnostic or surgical procedures involving the bones and joints of the jaw or face.

HF660—Smith (R)
Civil Law

Joint custody procedures and presumptions modified.

HF661—Haas (R)
Commerce

State registration exemption provided for certain securities, and timely issuance of small company offering registered securities authorized.

HF662—Sykora (R)
K-12 Education Finance

Partners for quality school improvement pilot training program appropriated money.

HF663—Daggett (R)
Jobs & Economic Development Policy

State project wage payment provisions modified.

HF664—Knoblach (R)
Governmental Operations & Veterans Affairs Policy

Campaign finance provisions modified.

HF665—Wenzel (DFL)
Crime Prevention

Marijuana; possession or sale of small amounts provided increased criminal penalties.

HF666—Storm (R)
Governmental Operations & Veterans Affairs Policy

Public employees retirement association salary credit purchase authorized for a certain person.

HF667—Milbert (DFL)
Taxes

Proposed property tax optional public hearings authorized and reverse referendum for levy increases required under certain circumstances.

HF668—Solberg (DFL)
Health & Human Services Policy
Veteran transportation to veterans medical facilities funded and money appropriated.

HF669—Goodno (R)
Health & Human Services Finance
Medical Assistance income standard increased.

HF670—Goodno (R)
Health & Human Services Policy
Medical assistance eligibility expanded to include employed persons with disabilities.

HF671—Molnau (R)
Taxes
Road and bridge maintenance equipment purchased by counties sales tax and motor vehicle sales tax exemption provided.

HF672—Kuisle (R)
Transportation Policy
Plats on real property bordering county highways provided county review and approval.

HF673—Solberg (DFL)
Local Government & Metropolitan Affairs
Itasca County; unorganized township road and bridge fund accounting and expenditure requirements modified.

HF674—Clark, K. (DFL)
Jobs & Economic Development Policy
Family homeless prevention and assistance program funded and money appropriated.

HF675—Mares (R)
Governmental Operations & Veterans Affairs Policy
Minnesota State Retirement System (MSRS), Public Employees Retirement Association (PERA), and Teachers Retirement Association (TRA) provisions modified; and service credit pilot program established.

HF676—Hilty (DFL)
Local Government & Metropolitan Affairs
Carlton County cemetery levy for Sawyer authorized.

HF677—Jaros (DFL)
Jobs & Economic Development Finance
International medical exposition previous unexpended appropriation transferred to the world trade center.

HF678—Davids (R)
Agriculture Policy
Crop and revenue insurance assistance, agricultural property tax relief and assistance, feedlot manure processing and odor control technology development assistance, and right-to-harvest provided; and money appropriated.

HF679—Jaros (DFL)
Commerce
Football boards authorized in retail establishments licensed to sell alcoholic beverages.

HF680—Jaros (DFL)
Civil Law
Income calculation modified in cases of split physical custody.

HF681—Jaros (DFL)
Taxes
Vitamins and minerals sales and use tax exemption provided.

HF682—Anderson, B. (R)
Governmental Operations & Veterans Affairs Policy
Veterans preference termination rights expanded to include state employees.

HF683—Clark, K. (DFL)
Judiciary Finance
Restorative justice program grants and training funded, and money appropriated.

HF684—Dawkins (DFL)
Commerce
No-fault automobile insurance medical benefits required to include sign interpreting and language translation.

HF685—McCollum (DFL)
Health & Human Services Finance
Massage and oriental bodywork therapist registration system established, rulemaking authorized, and penalties imposed.

HF686—Dehler (R)
Governmental Operations & Veterans Affairs Policy
Dice games authorized in retail establishments licensed to sell alcoholic beverages.

HF687—Kubly (DFL)
Health & Human Services Finance
Personal care services rate increase provided.

HF688—Kubly (DFL)
Agriculture Policy
Hydroponic greenhouses corporate farm law exemption provided.

HF689—Lindner (R)
Jobs & Economic Development Policy
Payment of wages upon discharge provisions modified.

HF690—Smith (R)
Civil Law

Prohibited inmate actions challenging rehabilitation program expenditure levels restricted.

HF691—Smith (R)
Crime Prevention

Peace officers allowed four hours to arrest crosswalk violators.

HF692—Smith (R)
Governmental Operations & Veterans Affairs Policy

Legislative bill fiscal note requirement established.

HF693—Smith (R)
Governmental Operations & Veterans Affairs Policy

Biennial election of one-half of the members of the senate and house provided, and constitutional amendment proposed.

HF694—Smith (R)
Civil Law

Real property and debt transfer notices required related to marriage dissolution.

HF695—Howes (R)
Jobs & Economic Development Policy

Minnesota festivals and events association tourism promotion funded, and money appropriated.

HF696—Orfield (DFL)
Local Government & Metropolitan Affairs

Urban growth boundaries established by metropolitan area local governments, Metropolitan Council approval required, and open space preservation agreement with the St. Cloud region provided.

HF697—Rhodes (R)
K-12 Education Finance

School district alternative facilities bonding and levy program space requirement reduced.

HF698—Workman (R)
Transportation Policy

Major transportation projects commission established and report required.

HF699—Gunther (R)
Environment & Natural Resources Finance

Blue Earth River basin initiative supported and money appropriated.

HF700—Davids (R)
Commerce

Fire protection notification required in contracts for the sale of newly constructed residential dwellings.

HF701—Pelowski (DFL)
Education Policy

School board staff development committee outcomes and revenue modified.

HF702—Davids (R)
Commerce

Fire and homeowner insurer bad faith actions provided.

HF703—Van Dellen (R)
Taxes

Single factor sales apportionment adopted related to corporate franchise tax.

HF704—Bishop (R)
Crime Prevention

State financial responsibility provided related to costs associated with sexually dangerous or psychopathic persons.

HF705—Juhnke (DFL)
K-12 Education Finance

School district maximum crime-related costs levy amount increased.

HF706—Lenczewski (DFL)
Education Policy

Persons convicted of criminal sexual conduct considered ineligible to licensed as teachers.

HF707—Bakk (DFL)
Local Government & Metropolitan Affairs

Shooting ranges preserved, net losses limited, and relocation costs provided.

HF708—Mares (R)
Governmental Operations & Veterans Affairs Policy

Minnesota state retirement system (MSRS), public employees retirement association (PERA), and teachers retirement association (TRA) authorized to purchase or construct an administrative building.

HF709—Cassell (R)
Education Policy

Educational facility construction and remodeling prevailing wage provision repealed.

Organ donor shortage



Heart transplant recipient Connie Price of St. Paul speaks of the importance of organ donation during a Feb. 5 press conference. Bemidji resident Jeanne Torfin, right, whose husband died waiting for a donor heart, also spoke in support of a proposed statewide initiative to address organ donation and the shortages of organs and tissues.

Where to find information

House Index Department

211 State Capitol (651) 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.

Chief Clerk's Office

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Committee Schedule

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MONDAY, Feb. 15

8 a.m.

GOVERNMENTAL OPERATIONS & VETERANS AFFAIRS POLICY

500S State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Jim Rhodes

Agenda: HF97 (Dehler) Gambling tax exemption provided to certain organizations.

HF465 (Ozment) Firefighter training and education board created, training reimbursement program established, and money appropriated.

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES FINANCE

10 State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Kevin Goodno

Agenda: Presentations by State Health Boards.

JOBS & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FINANCE

200 State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Dan McElroy

Agenda: Budget presentations by Minnesota Historical Society and Labor Interpretive Center.

TRANSPORTATION FINANCE

5 State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Carol Molnau

Agenda: Department of Transportation budget presentation continued, Pat Hughes, Operations Division; Dick Stehr, Metro Division; Andy Terry, Office of Electronic Communications; Ray Rought, Office of Aeronautics; Donna Allan, Office of Transit; Bob Winter, Metro Division; and Al Vogel, Office of Freight, Railroads and Waterways.

10 a.m.

CIVIL LAW

Basement Hearing Room

State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Steve Smith

Agenda: HF74 (Luther) Health care directive suggested form modified.

HF382 (Seifert, J.) Common interest ownership act, certificates of title, and real property provisions modified.

HF423 (Daggett) Independent motor vehicle contractor income withholding for child support purposes clarified.

ENVIRONMENT & NATURAL RESOURCES FINANCE

10 State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Mark Holsten

Agenda: Budget hearings, Minnesota Wisconsin Boundary Commission, Minnesota Academy of Science, and Science Museum of Minnesota.

HIGHER EDUCATION FINANCE

300S State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Peggy Leppik

Agenda: Budget presentation by University of Minnesota President Mark Yudof.

K-12 EDUCATION FINANCE

5 State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Alice Seagren

Agenda: Gov. Ventura's K-12 budget.

Property Tax Division/ TAXES

200 State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Ron Erhardt

Agenda: HF125 (Erhardt) Noncommercial seasonal residential recreational property second tier property tax class rates reduced.

HF211 (Abrams) Noncommercial seasonal residential recreational second-tier property tax class rate reduced.

HF303 (Erhardt) Local government unit levy limits extended through taxes payable in 2001.

12:30 p.m.

FAMILY & EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION FINANCE

5 State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Barb Sykora

Agenda: Community prevention programs, Mary Ellison, Department of Children, Families and Learning.

State and federal funding overview by Cynthia Templin, House Fiscal Analysis Department.

HF593 (Nornes) Appropriating money for emergency services grants and transitional housing programs.

HF344 (Rhodes) St. Louis Park Meadowbrook collaborative housing project youth outreach services funded and money appropriated.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT & METROPOLITAN AFFAIRS

200 State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Peg Larsen

Agenda: HF49 (Ozment) Health coverage for survivors of police officers and firefighters killed in the line of duty expanded to include spouses. HF50 (Dempsey) Goodhue County levy limit adjustment authorized for certain payments in lieu of tax.

HF475 (Stang) Costs and legal fees reimbursement provided for defense against criminal charges arising from performance of duties by town officers or employees.

Subcommittee on Regulated Industries/ COMMERCE

Basement Hearing Room

State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Ken Wolf

Agenda: Industry overviews by Minnesota Cable Communications, Means Telecom, Sprint, Northern States Power, Minnesota Rural Electric Association, and Minnesota Power.

2:30 p.m.

The House meets in session.

4:15 p.m.

3rd Congressional District Caucus

400S State Office Building

Agenda: University of Minnesota regent candidate recommendations.

5 p.m.

Joint House CIVIL LAW/ Senate JUDICIARY

15 State Capitol

Chrs. Rep. Steve Smith,

Sen. Jane Ranum

Agenda: Overview of Minnesota Statute 604.10.

6 p.m.

2nd Congressional District Caucus

400N State Office Building

Chr. Sen. Charles Berg

Agenda: University of Minnesota regent candidate recommendations.

8th Congressional District Caucus

200 State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Willard Munger

Agenda: University of Minnesota regent candidate recommendations.

TUESDAY, Feb. 16

8 a.m.

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES POLICY

10 State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Fran Bradley

Agenda: HF215 (Howes) Comprehensive advanced life support rural medical personnel training program established, and money appropriated.

HF377 (Goodno) Abortion notification data reporting required and civil penalties imposed.

JOBS & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT POLICY

200 State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Arlon Lindner

Agenda: HF238 (Stanek) Peace officer posttraumatic stress syndrome considered an occupational disease for the purpose of workers' compensation.

JUDICIARY FINANCE

300S State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Sherry Broecker

Agenda: HF113 (Broecker) Bomb disposal expense reimbursement provided to the

commissioner of public safety, and money appropriated.

HF114 (Stanek) FBI drugfire computer program grants provided, and money appropriated.

HF425 (Stanek) Northwest Hennepin Human Services Council community law enforcement project funded and money appropriated.

Budget request presentations by Private Detective and Protective Services Board and the Uniform Laws Commission.

TRANSPORTATION POLICY

5 State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Tom Workman

Agenda: HF296 (Opatz) Disability parking privilege expanded to include certain pregnant women.

Introduction to Metropolitan Council Chair Ted Mondale.

Metropolitan Council overview, Ted Mondale and Nacho Diaz.

8:30 a.m.

STATE GOVERNMENT FINANCE

300N State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Philip Krinkie

Agenda: Budget presentations continued, Department of Military Affairs and Office of Strategic & Long Range Planning.

10 a.m.

CRIME PREVENTION

Basement Hearing Room

State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Rich Stanek

Agenda: HF197 (Pawlenty) Criminal trial final argument prosecution rebuttal provided.

HF560 (Bishop) Prosecutorial rebuttal report requested and order of final argument repealed.

HF262 (Entenza) DWI; vehicle forfeiture proceedings held at the same time as implied consent hearings requirement eliminated.

EDUCATION POLICY

200 State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Harry Mares

Agenda: Report on central depository of employment data on licensed educational personnel, Board of Teaching.

HF586 (Kielkucki) Standard statewide application for employment form developed for licensed educational personnel, and money appropriated.

HF386 (Erickson) State Board of Teaching member confirmation process modified.

ENVIRONMENT & NATURAL RESOURCES POLICY

10 State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Dennis Ozment

Agenda: Recommendations for protecting public shoreland on Minnesota waters, Jack Skrypek and Patricia Burke, Department of Natural Resources.

TAXES

5 State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Ron Abrams

Agenda: HF98 (Osskopp) Property tax refund payments provided to personal representatives of deceased claimants.

HF355 (Cassell) June accelerated sales, liquor, cigarette, and tobacco tax payments abolished.

HF71 (Rest) Sales and use tax rates reduced; and June accelerated sales, liquor, and tobacco tax payments abolished.

12:30 p.m.

CAPITAL INVESTMENT

5 State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Jim Knoblach

Agenda: To be announced.

COMMERCE

200 State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Gregory M. Davids

Agenda: HF478 (Haas) Structured settlement payment rights protected related to tort or workers' compensation claims.

HF233 (Rukavina) Fireworks; limited personal use of fireworks authorized, safety guidelines affidavit required, and penalties imposed.

1:30 p.m.

Legislative Audit Commission

316 State Capitol

Chr. Sen. Deanna Wiener

Agenda: Election of Legislative Audit Commission officers.

Remarks by Legislative Auditor James Nobles.

Report on program evaluation topic selection.

2 p.m.

Adult Basic Education Workgroup/

FAMILY & EARLY

CHILDHOOD EDUCATION FINANCE

500S State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Barb Sykora

Agenda: Funding of rural vs. urban sites.

6 p.m.

Joint House EDUCATION/

Senate CHILDREN, FAMILIES & LEARNING

200 State Office Building

Chrs. Rep. Harry Mares,

Sen. LeRoy A. Stumpf,

Sen. Lawrence J. Pogemiller,

Sen. Pat Piper

Agenda: Selection of University of Minnesota regent candidates.

WEDNESDAY, Feb. 17

8 a.m.

GOVERNMENTAL OPERATIONS & VETERANS AFFAIRS POLICY

Basement Hearing Room

State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Jim Rhodes

Agenda: To be announced.

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES FINANCE

10 State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Kevin Goodno

Agenda: Continuation of State Health Boards presentation.

HF208 (Haas) Minnesota Comprehensive Health Association (MCHA) funding continued, certain insurance-related assessment reductions allowed, medical assistance and MCHA relationship specifications sunset repealed, and money appropriated.

HF218 (Tingelstad) Youth housing programs funded and money appropriated.

JOBS & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FINANCE

200 State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Dan McElroy

Agenda: Department of Public Service budget presentation.

TRANSPORTATION FINANCE

5 State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Carol Molnau

Agenda: Department of Transportation budget presentation continued, Ward Briggs, Office of Motor Carrier Services; Julie Skallman, State Aid for Local Transportation; Barbara Sundquist, Finance and Administration Division; Paul Jensen, Buildings Engineer; and Maureen Jensen, Regional Transportation Management Center.

10 a.m.

CIVIL LAW

Basement Hearing Room

State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Steve Smith

Agenda: HF53 (Biernat) Uniform child custody jurisdiction and enforcement act adopted.

HF346 (Smith) Freelance court reporter contract arrangements and practices limited, and services regulated.

ENVIRONMENT & NATURAL RESOURCES FINANCE

10 State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Mark Holsten

Agenda: Pollution Control Agency (PCA) budget overview.

Protecting the water budget presentation, PCA.

HIGHER EDUCATION FINANCE

300S State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Peggy Leppik

Agenda: University of Minnesota budget presentation continued.

K-12 EDUCATION FINANCE

5 State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Alice Seagren

Agenda: Gov. Ventura's K-12 budget.

12:30 p.m.

AGRICULTURE POLICY

10 State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Tim Finseth

Agenda: Minnesota Pollution Control Agency comments on auditor report on animal feedlot regulation, Lisa Throving and staff.

HF370 (Harder) Nonregistered pesticide distribution permitted for certain uses outside the state.

FAMILY & EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION FINANCE

5 State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Barb Sykora

Agenda: Energy assistance, Pam Marshall, Energy Cents Coalition. Headstart, Early Childhood Family Education (testimony to be announced).

LOCAL GOVERNMENT & METROPOLITAN AFFAIRS

200 State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Peg Larsen

Agenda: HF202 (Boudreau) Faribault tax increment financing district activities ratified.

HF389 (Nornes) Fergus Falls tax increment financing district expenditures authorized.

HF450 (Jaros) Duluth tax increment financing district pooling authorized.
HF174 (Stang) Richmond annexed to the Paynesville area hospital district.

Subcommittee on Regulated Industries/ COMMERCE

Basement Hearing Room
State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Ken Wolf

Agenda: Industry overviews by Reliant Energy, UtiliCorp United, Minnesota Municipal Utilities Association, and Sustainable Energy for Economic Development.

4:30 p.m.

WAYS & MEANS

200 State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Dave Bishop

Agenda: Bill(s) referred from the House Taxes Committee.

6:30 p.m.

Legislative Commission on Minnesota Resources

5 State Office Building
Vice Chr. Sen. Leonard R. Price

Agenda: Introductions.
Elections to three vacant positions on executive committee (chair, secretary, additional executive committee member).

Presentations of award to Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund Coalition and recognition of their \$2,236.76 donation to the trust fund.

Consider amendment to 1999 recommendations to extend the availability of the appropriation for 1997 Mercury Manometers, Department of Agriculture.

Status of SF149 and HF385.

Consider request for variance from the provisions of MS 89.022, requested by Department of Natural Resources.

Discussion of summer calendar for factfinding and strategic plan revision.

Immediately following Legislative Commission on Minnesota Resources

Executive Committee/Legislative Commission on Minnesota Resources

5 State Office Building

Agenda: Consider approval of administrative budget for 1999-2001, Director John Velin.
Consider work for 1999 summer and fall.

THURSDAY, Feb. 18

8 a.m.

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES POLICY

10 State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Fran Bradley
Agenda: Member bills.

JOBS & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT POLICY

200 State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Arlon Lindner

Agenda: HF10 (Pawlenty) School stability initiative for homeless children established under the Housing Finance Agency, and money appropriated.

JUDICIARY FINANCE

300S State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Sherry Broecker

Agenda: Budget request presentations by the Police Officer Standards and Training Board and the Crime Victim Services Center.

TRANSPORTATION POLICY

5 State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Tom Workman

Agenda: Northwest Airlines presentation.

8:30 a.m.

STATE GOVERNMENT FINANCE

300N State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Philip Krinkie

Agenda: Budget presentations by Department of Finance and Board of Investment.

10 a.m.

CRIME PREVENTION

Basement Hearing Room
State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Rich Stanek

Agenda: HF381 (Stanek) New police pursuits model policy adopted by the POST board, municipal and state law enforcement compliance and officer training required, tire deflator and driving simulator distribution programs provided, and money appropriated.

HF542 (Bishop) Increases the number of the district court judges.

EDUCATION POLICY

200 State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Harry Mares

Agenda: HF473 (Harder) High school diploma warranty coverage exception provided for students refusing to repeat a grade.

HF403 (Ness) Uniform minimum school year length established.

HF213 (Greiling) Oral deaf education teachers exempted from American Sign Language licensure requirements.

ENVIRONMENT & NATURAL RESOURCES POLICY

10 State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Dennis Ozment

Agenda: HF7 (Haake) Motor vehicle emissions inspection program repealed.

TAXES

5 State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Ron Abrams

Agenda: HF35 (Haas) Tobacco settlement money transferred from the general fund to the Health Care Access Fund, and MinnesotaCare premium and provider taxes repealed.

12 p.m.

Joint House/Senate Session

Immediately following session

AGRICULTURE & RURAL DEVELOPMENT FINANCE

10 State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Bob Ness

Agenda: Dairy industry.

CAPITAL INVESTMENT

5 State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Jim Knobloch

Agenda: To be announced.

HIGHER EDUCATION FINANCE

(Note: committee will meet in front of State Office Building.)

Chr. Rep. Peggy Leppik

Agenda: Tour of southwestern Minnesota campuses (two-day tour).

Gustavus Adolphus College, South Central Technical College, Mankato State University, Minnesota West Technical College Jackson, Southwest State University and Minnesota West Technical College Granite Falls.

**4 p.m. or immediately
following session**

WAYS & MEANS

200 State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Dave Bishop

Agenda: Overview of Gov. Ventura's budget.

FRIDAY, Feb. 19

8 a.m.

GOVERNMENTAL OPERATIONS & VETERANS AFFAIRS POLICY

Basement Hearing Room
State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Jim Rhodes

Agenda: To be announced.

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES FINANCE

10 State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Kevin Goodno

Agenda: HF127 (Luther) Minnesota organ donor decision campaign funded, and money appropriated.

Uncompensated care discussion.

JOBS & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FINANCE

200 State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Dan McElroy

Agenda: Budget presentation, Public Utilities Commission.

10 a.m.

CRIME PREVENTION

Basement Hearing Room
State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Rich Stanek

Agenda: HF263 (Gerlach) Counterfeited intellectual property manufacturing, distribution, selling, or possession criminal penalties imposed; and forfeiture provided.

HF536 (Broecker) Carisoprodo schedule IV controlled substance listing effective date delayed.

HF621 (Fuller) Includes gases under arson definition and limits juvenile use of lighters.

ENVIRONMENT & NATURAL RESOURCES FINANCE

10 State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Mark Holsten

Agenda: Protecting the water budget presentation continued, Pollution Control Agency (PCA). Protecting the air budget presentation, PCA.

K-12 EDUCATION FINANCE

200 State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Alice Seagren

Agenda: Gov. Ventura's K-12 budget.

Minnesota House of Representatives 1999 Members

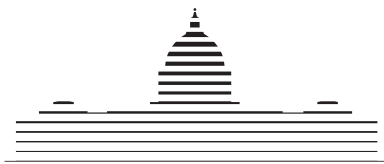
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District/Member/Party	Room*			District/Member/Party	Room*		
49A	Abeler, Jim (R)	581	1729	33A	Lindner, Arlon (R)	417	7806
45A	Abrams, Ron (R)	585	9934	47A	Luther, Darlene (DFL)	371	3751
19B	Anderson, Bruce (R)	411	5063	67A	Mahoney, Tim (DFL)	223	4277
3A	Anderson, Irv (DFL)	343	4936	55A	Mares, Harry (R)	401	5363
6A	Bakk, Thomas (Tom) (DFL)	345	2190	65B	Mariani, Carlos (DFL)	209	9714
59A	Biernat, Len (DFL)	303	4219	57B	Marko, Sharon (DFL)	221	3135
30B	Bishop, Dave (R)	453	0573	55B	McCollum, Betty (DFL)	239	1188
25B	Boudreau, Lynda (R)	473	8237	36B	McElroy, Dan (R)	437	4212
30A	Bradley, Fran (R)	559	9249	54A	McGuire, Mary Jo (DFL)	259	4342
53B	Broecker, Sherry (R)	533	7153	39B	Milbert, Bob (DFL)	243	4192
35B	Buesgens, Mark (R)	415	1072	35A	Molnau, Carol L. (R)	443	8872
46B	Carlson, Lyndon R. (DFL)	279	4255	21B	Mulder, Richard (R)	515	4336
47B	Carruthers, Phil (DFL)	217	3709	58A	Mullery, Joe (DFL)	387	4262
10B	Cassell, George (R)	421	4317	7A	Munger, Willard (DFL)	283	4282
52A	Chaudhary, Satveer (DFL)	311	4331	8A	Murphy, Mary (DFL)	357	2676
23A	Clark, James T. (R)	583	9303	20A	Ness, Robert "Bob" (R)	509	4344
61A	Clark, Karen (DFL)	307	0294	10A	Nornes, Bud (R)	471	4946
11A	Daggett, Roxann (R)	439	4293	19A	Olson, Mark (R)	501	4237
31B	Davids, Gregory M. (R)	367	9278	16A	Opatz, Joe (DFL)	281	6612
65A	Dawkins, Andy (DFL)	215	5158	60B	Orfield, Myron (DFL)	377	9281
14A	Dehler, Steve (R)	491	7808	29B	Osskopp, Mike (R)	449	9236
29A	Dempsey, Jerry (R)	549	8635	66A	Osthoft, Tom (DFL)	273	4224
27A	Dorman, Dan (R)	579	8216	11B	Otremba, Mary Ellen (DFL)	393	3201
24A	Dorn, John (DFL)	201	3248	37A	Ozment, Dennis (R)	479	4306
64A	Entenza, Matt (DFL)	213	8799	42B	Paulsen, Erik (R)	445	7449
42A	Erhardt, Ron (R)	591	4363	38B	Pawlenty, Tim (R)	459	4128
17A	Erickson, Sondra (R)	407	6746	64B	Paymar, Michael (DFL)	331	4199
1B	Finseth, Tim (R)	517	9918	32A	Pelowski Jr., Gene (DFL)	295	8637
44A	Folliard, Betty (DFL)	211	3964	13B	Peterson, Doug (DFL)	287	4228
4A	Fuller, Doug (R)	525	5516	39A	Pugh, Thomas W. (DFL)	267	6828
36A	Gerlach, Chris (R)	531	5506	46A	Rest, Ann H. (DFL)	277	4176
63B	Gleason, Mark S. (DFL)	313	5375	28A	Reuter, Doug (R)	507	5368
9A	Goodno, Kevin (R)	563	5515	44B	Rhodes, Jim (R)	409	9889
58B	Gray, Gregory (DFL)	229	8659	32B	Rifenberg, Michelle (R)	423	1069
62A	Greenfield, Lee (DFL)	207	0173	18A	Rostberg, Jim (R)	545	5364
54B	Greiling, Mindy (DFL)	253	5387	5A	Rukavina, Tom (DFL)	375	0170
26A	Gunther, Bob (R)	379	3240	17B	Schumacher, Leslie J. (DFL)	327	5377
52B	Haake, Barb (R)	429	0141	41A	Seagren, Alice (R)	477	7803
48A	Haas, Bill (R)	569	5513	57A	Seifert, Jim (R)	577	7807
50A	Hackbarth, Tom (R)	575	2439	21A	Seifert, Marty (R)	593	5374
22B	Harder, Elaine (R)	487	5373	2B	Skoe, Rod (DFL)	321	4265
12A	Hasskamp, Kris (DFL)	353	4333	62B	Skoglund, Wes (DFL)	251	4330
66B	Hausman, Alice (DFL)	245	3824	34A	Smith, Steve (R)	503	9188
8B	Hilty, Bill (DFL)	241	4308	3B	Solberg, Loren A. (DFL)	309	2365
37B	Holberg, Mary Liz (R)	433	6926	33B	Stanek, Rich (R)	543	5502
56A	Holsten, Mark William (R)	381	3018	14B	Stang, Doug (R)	597	4373
4B	Howes, Larry (R)	431	2451	24B	Storm, Julie (R)	527	7065
6B	Huntley, Thomas (DFL)	351	2228	28B	Sviggum, Steve (R)	463	2273
7B	Jaros, Mike (DFL)	291	4246	23B	Swenson, Howard (R)	539	8634
18B	Jennings, Loren Geo (DFL)	237	0518	43B	Sykora, Barb (R)	403	4315
48B	Johnson, Alice M. (DFL)	349	5510	50B	Tingelstad, Kathy (R)	567	5369
15A	Juhnke, Al (DFL)	329	6206	5B	Tomassoni, David J. (DFL)	233	0172
59B	Kahn, Phyllis (DFL)	255	4257	67B	Trimble, Steve (DFL)	289	4201
26B	Kalis, Henry J. (DFL)	317	4240	25A	Tuma, John (R)	369	4229
60A	Kelliher, Margaret Anderson (DFL)	231	0171	1A	Tunheim, Jim (DFL)	335	9635
20B	Kielkucki, Tony (R)	521	1534	34B	Van Dellen, Henry Todd (R)	571	5511
16B	Knoblach, Jim (R)	451	6316	51B	Vandever, Ray (R)	529	4124
49B	Koskinen, Luanne (DFL)	301	4231	63A	Wagenius, Jean (DFL)	227	4200
53A	Krinkie, Philip (R)	365	2907	61B	Wejcmán, Linda (DFL)	203	7152
15B	Kubly, Gary W. (DFL)	315	4346	12B	Wenzel, Stephen G. (DFL)	389	4247
31A	Kuisle, William (R)	565	4378	51A	Westerberg, Andrew (R)	523	4226
56B	Larsen, Peg (R)	551	4244	9B	Westfall, Robert L. (Bob) (R)	553	6829
40A	Larson, Dan (DFL)	225	7158	13A	Westrom, Torrey (R)	557	4929
27B	Leighton, Rob (DFL)	261	4193	38A	Wilkin, Tim (R)	413	3533
40B	Lenczewski, Ann (DFL)	337	4218	22A	Winter, Ted (DFL)	247	5505
45B	Leppik, Peggy (R)	485	7026	41B	Wolf, Ken (R)	359	5185
2A	Lieder, Bernie L. (DFL)	323	5091	43A	Workman, Tom (R)	537	5066

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Note: Room numbers are subject to change.

List as of December 18, 1998

*All rooms are in the State Office Building, St. Paul, MN 55155



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Majority Leader: Tim Pawlenty
Minority Leader: Thomas W. Pugh

MINNESOTA INDEX

State prisons and prisoners

Number of adult prison inmates in Minnesota, July 1998	5,507
Percent incarcerated for sex offenses	20
Percent incarcerated for homicide	16.6
Percent incarcerated for drug offenses	12.8
Projected number of adult inmates in Minnesota, 2000	6,420
Number of adult inmates in Minnesota in 1975 (30-year low)	1,509
Number of inmates in Minnesota per 100,000 population, 1997	113
Number of states with lower incarceration rate that year	1
Total number of adult males incarcerated in Minnesota, July 1998	5,234
Of juvenile males	224
Of adult females	273
Of juvenile females	19
African-Americans as percent of adult inmate population, July 1998	36.6
As percent of juvenile inmate population, July 1998	22.6
As percent of Minnesota population, 1997	2.8
Whites as percent of adult inmate population, July 1998	48.6
As percent of juvenile inmate population, July 1998	53.5
As percent of Minnesota population, 1997	93.4
American Indians as percent of adult inmate population, July 1998	6.5
As percent of juvenile inmate population, July 1998	14.8
As percent of Minnesota population, 1997	1.2
Number of new prison beds added statewide from July 1996 to October 1998 ...	400
Number of new prison beds planned to be added statewide by 2000	1,062
Number of those to be at new close-custody facility in Rush City	950
Beds planned per cell at Rush City facility	2
Estimated construction costs for Rush City facility, in millions	\$89
Average per-day cost for one adult male inmate, 1998	\$82
For one adult male at Red Wing Correctional Facility	\$138
For one adult male at a contract facility	\$55
For one adult female inmate	\$116
For one juvenile at Sauk Centre Juvenile Correctional Facility	\$185
Adult inmates, in July 1998, whose formal education ended before ninth grade, as percent	6
Whose formal education ended between ninth and eleventh grades, as percent	31.9
Who had a college degree, as percent	15.1

Sources: *Adult Inmate Profile, 1998*, Minnesota Department of Corrections; *Juvenile Inmate Profile, 1998*, Minnesota Department of Corrections; *Minnesota Data Book for Legislators, 1999*, House Research Department; Minnesota State Demographic Center Web site (<http://www.mnplan.state.mn.us/demography/demogest>); *State and Local Sourcebook, 1999*, *Governing* magazine.

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