

A NONPARTISAN PUBLICATION

★ ★ ★

# Special Session Issue

# SESSION Weekly

MINNESOTA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES • PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICE

JULY 3, 2001

VOLUME 18, NUMBER 22

In this issue:

THE 2001 SPECIAL SESSION ACTION

OMNIBUS SPENDING LAWS, LINE-ITEM VETOES, AND MORE

SSHFI-SSHF35

# Session Weekly

**Session Weekly** is a nonpartisan publication of the Minnesota House of Representatives Public Information Office. During the 2001-2002 Legislative Session, each issue reports daily House action between Thursdays of each week, lists bill introductions and upcoming committee meeting schedules, and provides other information. The publication is a service of the Minnesota House. No fee.

To subscribe, contact:  
Minnesota House of Representatives  
Public Information Office  
175 State Office Building  
St. Paul, MN 55155-1298  
(651) 296-2146 or  
1-800-657-3550  
TTY (651) 296-9896

**Director**  
LeClair G. Lambert

**Editor/Assistant Director**  
Michelle Kibiger

**Assistant Editor**  
Mike Cook

**Art & Production Coordinator**  
Paul Battaglia

**Writer**  
David Maeda

**Chief Photographer**  
Tom Olmscheid

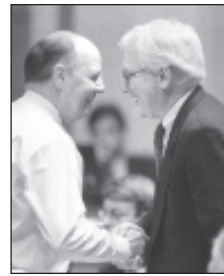
**Photographers**  
Andrew Von Bank

**Office Manager**  
Nicole Wood

**Staff Assistants**  
Christy Novak

**Session Weekly** (ISSN 1049-8176) is published weekly during the legislative session by the Minnesota House of Representatives Public Information Office, 100 Constitution Ave., St. Paul, MN 55155-1298. Periodicals postage paid at St. Paul, MN, and at additional mailing offices. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to **Session Weekly**, Public Information Office, Minnesota House of Representatives, 175 State Office Building, 100 Constitution Ave., St. Paul, MN 55155-1298.

Printed on recycled paper which is 50% recycled, 30% post-consumer content.



## CONTENTS

### HIGHLIGHTS

Bonding • 5  
Children • 5  
Crime • 6

Development • 6  
Employment • 8  
Environment • 8

Government • 9  
Higher Education • 10  
Transportation • 10

### FEATURES

**At issue: Education** — An \$8.7 billion K-12 education funding measure provides a \$104 increase in per-pupil funding, along with several accountability measures. • 12

**At issue: Environment** — The agriculture, environment, and natural resources funding measure allocates \$1.2 billion in overall spending for the 2002-03 biennium. • 14

**At issue: Health** — An \$8.5 billion health, human services, and corrections funding measure provides increased health coverage for children and their families, while extending benefits to welfare recipients nearing the 60-month deadline for aid. • 16

**At issue: Higher Education** — The University of Minnesota and the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities will receive about an 8 percent increase in funding, under a \$2.8 billion funding law. • 18

**At issue: Taxes** — The 2001 tax law provides \$757 million in tax relief during the 2002-03 biennium and a possible \$1 billion in future biennia. The plan provides double-digit property tax relief, as well as a sales tax rebate. • 20

### DEPARTMENTS/RESOURCES

Resources: House of Representatives/  
Senate 2001 Members 22, 23  
Bill Introductions (2001 Special Session  
HF1-HF35) 24

Governor's Desk (CH1-CH218, 2001  
Special Session CH1-CH13) 25  
The 50 States: Special sessions 30  
Reflections: Budgets and special sessions 31  
Minnesota Index: 2001 Special Session 32

On the cover: Fireworks from the Taste of Minnesota celebration light up the Capitol dome on the evening of the completion of the 2001 Special Session.

—Photo by Andrew Von Bank





# Special delivery

House, Senate, governor approve all spending bills before fiscal year end, avoiding government shutdown after 20-day special session

By MICHELLE KIBIGER

**A**s the deadline of June 30 neared and the threat of a potential government shutdown loomed, members from the House and Senate wrangled and compromised and were able to finish their work on the \$27 billion state budget in time to avoid that shutdown.

But it wasn't easy. And the journey was long.

Ultimately, the House and Senate were able to pass all the bills and send them to the governor in time for his signature before the fiscal year ended. They represented a number of significant changes to law, including sweeping property tax changes and health insurance programs.

In addition, members passed a bill that would have provided funding

for state government in the event the governor did not sign a bill by the midnight June 30 deadline. It was not necessary, however.

The tax law reflects \$757 million in relief in 2002-03, with more than \$1 billion projected in the coming biennia. In addition, the law provides for a \$852 million sales tax rebate based on 2000 receipts.

For K-12 education funding, a new law provides about \$8.7 billion in funding for the biennium, including a \$104 increase in the per-pupil funding formula. The law also includes several policy provisions.

The \$8.5 billion health, human services, and corrections law provides new funding for children's health care, as well as money to extend welfare benefits to those coming up against the 60-month deadlines for aid.

The higher education funding law includes \$2.8 billion for the University of Minnesota and the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities. That reflects about an 8 percent increase for both systems.

The \$1.2 billion environment and agriculture spending law will fund ongoing operations such as fish, game, wildlife, and mineral management, state parks and campgrounds, feedlot cleanup and pollution prevention, agricultural marketing and other assistance to farmers, and air monitoring.

In addition, the transportation law provides \$3.5 billion for road projects, maintenance and operations, as well as public safety functions including the state court system, state patrol and Bureau of Criminal Apprehension. State agencies will receive around \$713 million, and another \$544 million from the general fund will be allocated for family and early childhood education spending. About \$485 million for various employment, housing and economic development programs and initiatives was signed into law.

The governor only rendered a few line-item vetoes on the bills, primarily smaller appropriations for specific projects. He expressed concern over other provisions but let them go.

Gov. Jesse Ventura called members to the 40th special session of the Minnesota Legislature on June 11. The move came after a tentative agreement between legislative leaders May 25. Ventura had said he would not call a special session until there was agreement on the major provisions for the special session and details of a plan were established.

However, negotiations between legislative leaders continued as they were unable to agree to the details of a tax plan.

During the interim and the special session, working groups were formed to discuss the details of each of the nine omnibus funding bills in question at the close of the regular session. Though the Legislature had passed two

omnibus funding bills — early childhood and family education and health, human services, and corrections — the governor had vetoed the bills, citing policy concerns.

That left every bill governing budget and revenue in the state unfinished.

The working groups replaced conference committees, which officially could not meet during the special session. Procedurally, all of the omnibus bills had to be re-introduced during the special session, since all the bills are kept separate from the regular session ones. As a result, neither body had technically passed any of the bills before, so conference committees were not necessary.

Two groups reached agreement on their bills during the days between the regular session and the special session. The higher education and environment/agriculture funding measures were ready for approval soon after the special session was convened.

No major action occurred on the other bills, however, during the first two weeks of the special session. Though members of the working groups traded offers, they were all awaiting the outcome of negotiations on the tax bill, which would affect how much money was available for allocation in other bills.

In hopes of reaching an agreement, the governor announced on June 22 that he would offer a "global agreement" including tax reform. He said that it adhered to the principles of the May 25 agreement, yet proposed specific ideas to achieve those goals.

Senate Majority Leader Roger Moe (DFL-Erskine) announced he would adhere to the agreement "lock, stock, and barrel." While House leaders, such as Speaker Steve Sviggum (R-Kenyon) and Majority Leader Tim Pawlenty (R-Eagan), said they would put forward the governor's proposal, they didn't fully embrace it, saying they may have a better plan in mind.

Nevertheless, the agreements on the omnibus bills reflected the tenets of the governor's plan and included items he had advocated for, including health care coverage for children, double-digit property tax relief, and a state takeover of the general education levy.

Still other plans, such as decreasing income taxes, expanding the state sales tax to services, and consolidating childcare programs in the state, were not included in the omnibus packages. The governor did not draw his veto pen for those bills.

Though members were able to reach agreement on the plans, that did not mean it didn't take considerable compromise from both caucuses to achieve the deals. Three of the nine working groups were still hammering out the details of a plan into the wee hours of the morning June 29. A marathon session that went into the early morning hours Saturday

— just a few hours before thousands of Minnesotans would converge on the capitol complex for the annual Taste of Minnesota festival — was necessary to finalize the budget.

DFL leaders in the House protested the way the special session progressed, claiming they were shut out of the process.

For example, the working groups operated much like conference committees would. Pawlenty also said during debate on the House floor that in previous special sessions, members had agreed not to amend the omnibus bills once they came to the floor for debate.

However, technically any member can propose an amendment to a regular bill. Though procedure does not allow a conference committee report to be amended, the bills considered in the special session did not require official conference committees.

This controversy popped up during debate on the tax bill, which was delayed a day already, due to delays in preparing the bill for the floor session. Members moved to table the bill and recessed to discuss what course of action to take.

The House majority caucus eventually relented and allowed members to propose amendments on the floor. However, no tax amendments succeeded. And the only bill to be successfully amended was the jobs and economic development bill, which needed a technical amendment.

DFL members of both the House and Senate also cautioned the Legislature to not provide so much tax relief that there aren't enough resources for future needs.

Despite some skirmishes and length of the special session, members concluded it provided reform of historic proportions. Many compared it to the 1971 session, dubbed the "Minnesota Miracle," the last time the Legislature enacted property tax changes of this magnitude and the state took over funding for education.

**Writers Mike Cook, David Maeda, and Nicole Wood contributed to this report.**

#### Editor's note

In past years, House Public Information has included special session action in its annual New Laws publication.

However, this year, given that so many significant funding issues were outstanding in the special session, the editors have decided to run an extra issue of *Session Weekly*.

Both legislators and staff committed many hours to ensuring bills would be completed before the end of the fiscal year in time to avoid a government shutdown.

Special thanks to staff from the nonpartisan House Research and House Fiscal Analysis departments for their help in putting out this issue.

We hope you find the information useful and helpful in the coming weeks and months.

Thank you.



## BONDING



### Capital projects passed

Before adjourning until January 2002, lawmakers at the State Capitol had to finish one last bill — the bonding bill.

Passing 115-17 in the House and 57-0 in the Senate, the \$117.2 million bill will fund projects across the state.

Effective July 1, 2001, the law allows the state to borrow money to fund several improvement projects considered to be high priority.

The Legislature typically produces its main bonding legislation in the second year of the biennium, but smaller measures may be passed in year one of a session.

"I believe the Legislature has done a good job in recognizing the state's priority investments and limiting the overall size of this emergency bonding bill," Gov. Jesse Ventura said before signing the bill into law June 30. "I have respected every effort that reflects emergency projects with statewide significance."

The bill calls for:

- Nearly \$51.5 million to acquire easements and implement conservation practices on frequently flooded cropland along the Minnesota River basin in order to protect soil, enhance water quality, and support fish and wildlife habitat. The funds will be matched by \$100 million in federal dollars;
- \$20.5 million for the closed landfill cleanup program;
- \$19 million maximum effort loan for the East Central School District for a school that is being condemned;
- \$10 million to match federal funds used to replace or rehabilitate local deficient bridges;
- \$7 million to pay costs not covered by federal disaster programs for publicly owned capital improvements, including storm drainage system improvements in Austin and Eagan, plus \$2 million for additional flood mitigation grants, \$234,000 of which is allocated for in the Red River basin;
- \$3.4 million for repairing and upgrading buildings in the capitol complex;
- \$2 million to acquire land for wetlands or restore wetlands to be used to replace wetlands drained or filled as a result of the repair, maintenance or rehabilitation of existing state roads; and

## TAXING CONCERNS



PHOTO BY TOM OLMSCHEID

Speaker Steve Sviggum, left, and House Taxes Committee Chair Rep. Ron Abrams, right, confer during a hearing of the House-Senate tax working group June 13.

- \$1.7 million for the Crosswinds Magnet School in the East Metro to finish construction and furnishing of the building.

The governor used his veto power to eliminate funding for one project.

"I am vetoing the \$1 million appropriation to the St. Paul Port Authority for acquisition of the Trillium site in the city of Saint Paul," Ventura wrote in his veto message. "This project was not pre-approved by all parties involved in negotiating a final agreement on the bill, and is not an emergency item."

The 38-acre Trillium site between I-35E and Jackson Street south of Maryland Avenue is part of a planned Trout Brook Greenway system.

Rep. Jim Knobloch (R-St. Cloud) and Sen. Keith Langseth (DFL-Glyndon) sponsored the legislation.

2001 Special Session HF8\*/SF25/CH12

## CHILDREN



### Early childhood education law

A measure originally vetoed by Gov. Jesse Ventura was recreated, passed by both houses, and signed by the governor during the special session.

The law contains \$544 million in

general fund spending. That marks a 25 percent increase from previous biennium, said Rep. Barb Sykora (R-Excelsior), the House sponsor.

Despite a target of zero above the governor's base, "there was a lot of new money in the base budget," Sykora said. "For instance, there were large increases in adult basic education (to \$66.9 million), the forecasted child care programs (\$160.9 million), which takes care of the MFIP (Minnesota Family Investment Program) recipients, and there is a \$4 per child increase in ECFE." All \$9 million in new federal Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) funds went to childcare via the Basic Sliding Fee.

In addition to keeping Head Start funding at previous levels (\$18.38 million annually), the law calls for childcare funding to remain at current levels.

"That was our basic point of debate during the last few weeks," Sykora said. "The discussion was about going to an entitlement program as recommended by the governor, stay at current law or do a House proposal that did consolidate the program but did not turn it into an entitlement. 'The department, the governor and the Senate decided that if they couldn't have it all, they would have none, so we stayed at current law.'"

Initially the bill was vetoed, in part, because it contained no childcare consolidation plan, which would have consolidated the state's



PHOTO BY TOM OLMSCHIED

Ten-year-old Shean Slawik, *standing right*, gives the thumbs-up as his mother, Rep. Nora Slawik, *standing left*, debates the omnibus family and early childhood education bill June 26. Other members pictured are Rep. Jim Davnie, *left* and Rep. Rod Skoe, *right*.

three childcare assistance programs, create income guidelines and guarantee assistance to working parents who meet income limits.

However, a House plan would have started the ball rolling by guaranteeing assistance to families with the lowest incomes and allowing a 3 percent per year growth factor in the childcare general fund appropriation, if needed, beginning in fiscal year 2003. Childcare assistance for families with somewhat higher incomes (based on federal poverty guidelines) would have been funded with a capped general fund allocation.

Furthermore it would have instituted a program for reporting childcare program statistics. However, the plan didn't make it into the final version of the law.

Numerous new accountability measures are part of the legislation, which include more legislative oversight of per-student costs related to school readiness programs and community education, as well as the childcare development fund.

Additionally, the state will begin to audit some adult basic education (ABE) programs, and there will be a state ABE director for the

first time.

A new community education levy plan is also part of the law. It empowers local districts to levy additional dollars in property taxes for community education with the funds used for after-school programming.

Some House DFLers dislike that the law may raise taxes because of the provision.

"The state should take its responsibility seriously in after-school enrichment rather than having to tax local people," said Rep. Mary Jo McGuire (DFL-Falcon Heights). "This is important for our kids and our society. We have far too many kids going home alone."

Rep. Bill Haas (R-Champlin), who helped negotiate the plan, said the House offered many working group proposals to help take care of children, but the Senate, and the Department of Children, Families, and Learning, would not accept any.

One proposal that was approved is a \$191,000 allocation to the Guard Our Youth program that makes armories available for youth, after-school, and community education programs.

Critics of the law said it does not address waiting lists for early childhood and family issues, and does not improve childcare during unusual hours when parents may have to work.

"Many of the things in this bill will be somewhat of an improvement over what we have now," Sykora said. "We couldn't do a lot at one time, but we're taking little steps."

Sen. Becky Lourey (DFL-Kerrick) sponsored the Senate version.

2001 Special Session: HF4\*/SF5/CH3

## ★ CRIME

### Vetoes for COPS, HEAT grants

Gov. Jesse Ventura line-item vetoed a \$300,000 appropriation for local community policing and other grants contained in the omnibus transportation and public safety funding law.

The appropriation, which would have taken one-time funds from surplus dollars in fiscal year 2001, would have funded grants to communities for intensive concentration efforts to reduce certain particularly difficult crime problems.

"The use of (fiscal year) 2001 funds would reduce the size of the estimated rebate and is unacceptable," said Ventura in his veto message.

The funds would have been divided up so that 50 percent went to St. Paul and Minneapolis, and the remaining 50 percent went to other Minnesota municipalities.

During the session, groups appeared before the House Judiciary Finance Committee to ask for help in funding COPS, the federal community-oriented policing program, and HEAT, a law-enforcement strategy proposed in St. Paul during the summer months.

The HEAT program proposal, sponsored by Rep. Andy Dawkins (DFL-St. Paul), would specifically have helped that city crackdown on a chronic prostitution problem in the city's Frogtown neighborhood. Dawkins testified that previous efforts to increase police presence in the neighborhood during warmer months showed dramatic results in reducing prostitution activity.

Funds would have also been available to develop an investigative task force for financial crimes and would have required a 25 percent local match.

The omnibus transportation spending law is sponsored by Rep. Carol Molnau (R-Chaska) and Sen. Dean Johnson (DFL-Willmar).

2001 Special Session: HF7/SF7\*/CH8

## DEVELOPMENT



### Workers' reform highlights law

Gov. Jesse Ventura signed a law June 30 appropriating more than \$485 million for various employment, housing, and economic development programs and initiatives.

Rep. Dan McElroy (R-Burnsville), the House sponsor, said the new law is a result of a cooperative effort between the House and Senate.

During the final moments of that working group's hearing at about 1:20 a.m. June 26, McElroy pointed to the final product as proof of the effectiveness of the bicameral system, saying the agreement was a better bill than either of the bills passed during the regular session.

The law includes more than \$365 million in spending from the state's general fund.

"The part of the bill I'm particularly proud of is the part dealing with workforce development and the training for Minnesota's

workers,” McElroy said. “We’ve funded the dislocated workers program but most importantly we’ve reformed the program so it’s more flexible and it’s more responsive.”

McElroy said in recent years there have been waiting lists of people needing assistance at several of the state’s workforce councils and the new law allows the state’s Jobs Skills Partnership Board greater flexibility in shifting funds to meet the needs of laid off workers.

The law incorporates the administration’s proposal to consolidate workforce-related programs and to abolish the Department of Economic Security. That department’s program functions and employees will be merged into other agencies and boards, under the measure.

A workforce development program reorganization transition advisory team will be created to make recommendations to the governor and the Legislature by Dec. 1, 2001. The goal is to streamline and consolidate the state’s workforce system to provide “the most efficient and effective workforce development programs.”

Many of the Department of Economic Security services will be transferred to the Department of Trade and Economic Development, such as the workforce services unit for employment transition services, youth services, welfare-to-work services, and workforce exchange services.

In addition, the state’s Job Skills Partnership Board will continue to be housed in the Department of Trade and Economic Development and the board will be responsible for providing targeted worker services to include the dislocated worker program and welfare-to-work services program.

The transition team will consist of 12 members including six members appointed by the governor. That group must contain one member representing business, one representing labor, and one representing job providers. The House and Senate will also both appoint three members to serve on the team.

The bill specifies that the transition team must solicit input from all interested groups on how to best implement the reorganization. The team is required to consider alternative configurations of existing programs.

It also requires that no employee in the classified service should suffer a job loss, or have salary or benefits reduced as a result of the reorganization.

McElroy said it would be up to the reorganization team to determine the name of the new department. The original bills that passed the House and Senate would have named the department the Department of Economic and Workforce Development, but McElroy said there was concerns raised that the acronym “DEWD” was not appropriate.

In other appropriations, the Minnesota

## COMPROMISE PLAN



PHOTO BY TOM OLMSCHEID

**Revenue Commissioner Matt Smith, left, and Finance Commissioner Pam Wheelock, right, explain Gov. Ventura’s compromise proposal to break the budget deadlock during a news conference June 22.**

Housing Finance Agency will receive a total of \$129 million during the biennium to fund its programs.

Rep. Karen Clark (DFL-Mpls) said she was pleased with that funding although she wished more could be done for the “affordable housing crisis” in the state.

There will also be a \$44 million appropriation for the agency’s affordable rental investment fund. One-half is a one-time appropriation not added to the agency’s base budget. The funding is used to finance the acquisition, rehabilitation, and debt restructuring of federally assisted rental property and for making equity loans. The fund is also used by the agency to finance permanent and supportive rental housing units.

Among other funding provided in the new law is a \$175,000 appropriation from the workforce development fund for workplace HIV education and a \$35,000 appropriation for a report on the costs and benefits of employers providing paid parental leave.

Ventura vetoed appropriations for a new Roy Wilkins Auditorium, an education center in Koochiching County, promotion of the 2004 Grand Excursion, and dollars to the State Board of Investment from the law.

Sen. Ellen Anderson (DFL-St. Paul) was the Senate sponsor.

2001 Special Session: HF5\*/SF12/CH4

## Dismissed projects

Gov. Jesse Ventura vetoed several of the provisions in the jobs, housing, and economic development appropriations law June 30 because

he said state funding should not be used for local projects with little statewide significance.

Among the funding vetoed was a \$500,000 grant to the city of St. Paul for the planning, pre-design, and design of the new Roy Wilkins Auditorium. Ventura said the project should be considered part of the capital budgeting process, and he questioned why there was no local funding match requirement.

The governor also vetoed a \$300,000 appropriation to the St. Paul Port Authority for the 38-acre Trillium site, part of the Trout Brook Greenway corridor. He indicated the site should enter the competitive process for funding through the Department of Trade and Economic Development.

Koochiching County will not receive a \$50,000 appropriation for concept development of the Big Bear Country Education Center because Ventura said the project is a capital project that should be submitted through the bonding process.

A \$150,000 appropriation to local governments to plan and promote the 2004 Grand Excursion was also red-lined. The proposed project is to promote tourism in a particular region. Ventura’s veto message said the proposal did not demonstrate a higher value than the other tourism expenditures it would replace.

Finally, a \$200,000 one-time appropriation to the State Board of Investment to pay staff costs related to an investment program for Minnesota based start-up businesses was vetoed because the implementing legislation was not enacted.

2001 Special Session: HF5\*/SF12/CH4



## ★ EMPLOYMENT

### Apartment manager background checks

A law that would require more extensive background checks on individuals who serve as apartment managers was approved in the 2001 special session after an amendment stalled it during the regular session.

The new law was signed by Gov. Jesse Ventura June 30.

It will require national background checks of individuals serving as apartment managers if they have lived in Minnesota for less than 10 years. Previous law only required national checks if a person has lived in Minnesota for less than five years.

Rep. Peggy Leppik (R-Golden Valley) sponsored the measure. She sponsored a similar bill during the 2001 regular session, but a provision that would reduce liability for former employers to give out employment information was amended to the bill on the House floor. A House-Senate conference committee was not able to reach an agreement on that portion of the bill.

Leppik said the measure is important for the owners of apartment buildings to know about their managers' backgrounds for resident safety.

"If we don't do it," she said of the provisions in the law, background checks "will not be done. These managers have keys to all the apartments. It is very important that we do as much as we can to ensure the tenants" that employees do not have a criminal background.

Rep. Dave Bishop (R-Rochester) asked whether the bill was necessary, citing both that it seemed like "overkill" and that the background checking system currently being used by the Bureau of Criminal Apprehension is not complete.

Nevertheless, Bishop voted for the bill.

Rep. Jim Knoblach (R-St. Cloud), who proposed attaching the employee reference language to Leppik's original bill, said he supported the measure and did not want his provision to derail what was otherwise a good bill.

"I think this bill is one small step to eliminating the problem," said Rep. Luanne Koskinen (DFL-Coon Rapids), whose daughter's murder helped lead to the original law requiring manager background checks. (The man accused of murdering Kari Koskinen in 1994 was her apartment manager and had been previously convicted of three sex offenses.)

Sen. Dave Knutson (R-Burnsville) sponsored the Senate version.

2001 Special Session HF26/SF18\*/CH7

## SOUND SLEEPER



PHOTO BY ANDREW VON BANK

Not wishing to wake 4-week-old Erica Gerlach, House Speaker Steve Sviggum holds the infant for an hour during debate on the omnibus tax bill June 28. Erica is the daughter of Rep. Chris Gerlach and his wife Shelli.

"Existing payments-in-lieu of taxes and various forms of general-purpose state aid to local governments are the appropriate mechanism to compensate local units of government for services to state facilities."

The two other provisions that did not make it past the governor's desk would have appropriated \$455,000 to the University of Minnesota to complete production on "Uncommon Ground," a televised film series on the history of Minnesota's natural landscapes, and another \$275,000 to the university to develop "green" infrastructure design strategies for public works projects.

Both of these projects had been given the green light by the Legislative Commission on Minnesota Resources (LCMR), an 18-member panel of House and Senate members who recommend special environmental projects to the Legislature. While the governor did not indicate specific objections to the two university projects, he was critical of the overall LCMR selection process.

"Instead of developing a limited, strategic agenda to improve natural resources in Minnesota, the Commission has chosen to try to

provide something for everyone," he wrote. "It is my hope that the administration can work with the Commission over the next year to develop a more focused and strategic approach to using the scarce resources available."

Ventura also found fault with the way Lottery in Lieu of Sales Tax dollars were spent in the bill. Last year, the Legislature granted the Department of Natural Resources a new funding source in the form of a 6.5 percent in-lieu sales tax on lottery tickets. Previously, this money went to the general fund. He also expressed disappointment with the fact that the Legislature did not provide operating funds for a biocontainment facility at the St. Paul campus of the University of Minnesota.

Rep. Mark Holsten (R-Stillwater) and Sen. Leonard Price (DFL-Woodbury) sponsored the measure.

2001 Special Session: HF10/SF10\*/CH2

## ★ ENVIRONMENT

### Environmental projects cut

Gov. Jesse Ventura used his veto authority to cut three projects totaling \$780,000 from the 2001 omnibus environment, natural resources, and agriculture finance package that provides \$1.2 billion in overall spending for those functions.

Gone from the measure is a \$50,000 appropriation to the city of Taylor's Falls for fire and rescue operations in support of Interstate State Park.

"No other local unit of government receives special funding in this bill for basic local services provided to state recreation facilities, and it is inappropriate to provide special treatment in this case," Ventura wrote in his veto message.



## ★ GOVERNMENT

### Government funding

State agencies will receive around \$713 million in new spending under a new law signed by Gov. Jesse Ventura June 30.

The law was one of the last omnibus measures taken up by both the House and Senate early June 30. It passed the Senate unanimously 59-0 and passed the House by a 126-4 vote.

In presenting the bill to the House, Rep. Philip Krinkie (R-Shoreview), the House sponsor, said the target provided to the working group made funding decisions difficult.

"Some might describe it (the law) as the 'good, the bad, and the ugly.' We have a lot of good provisions in here. We have some things that most people probably don't consider too good. And then we have some things that the governor gave us, so that's the ugly part," Krinkie said. "The task was fairly difficult because of the global solution that was imposed on us. The global solution said we needed to fund the governor's agencies at his recommendation while we had a target that was about \$60 million below the governor's rec."

Effective July 1, 2001, the law will increase the salaries of all the state's constitutional officers except the governor. State employees also will receive inflationary salary increases, under the measure.

The attorney general's office receives \$1.4 million over the biennium for salary increases. Sen. Richard Cohen (DFL-St. Paul), the Senate sponsor, said the increase is necessary for the state to compete with the private sector for qualified attorneys.

The law provides \$7.8 million to public broadcasting for a conversion to digital technology that will be used to leverage federal matching dollars. That figure is far below the requested \$21 million to address the conversion required by the federal government. Cohen said the lack of funding could lead to the shutdown of the public television station in Bemidji and could adversely affect the Twin Cities station's programming.

It also includes a \$1.4 million appropriation to the secretary of state's office for a grant program to help local units of government update their voting equipment.

Two campaign finance provisions were also included at the urging of the governor.

One will allow candidates to receive public subsidies prior to the general election. The other will broaden the opportunities for minor political parties to participate in the state's campaign financing program by allowing them to qualify for inclusion on the state income tax form check-off if they run a candidate for federal office, as well as statewide offices.

A proposal to move the Council on the Economic Status of Women from the Legislative Coordinating Commission to the Department of Strategic and Long Range Planning was not included in the final bill.

Sen. Linda Higgins (DFL-Mpls) testified in the working group that proof that the council's work was not complete was the fact that only one woman (Rep. Sondra Erickson) served on the state government finance working group.

Another provision removed from the bill was a proposal agreed upon by both the Senate and the House defining the governor as a state employee.

Paul Aasen, the governor's director of policy management, supplied the working group with a letter saying the administration's position was that constitutional officers are not employees but are elected officials who ultimately answer to the citizens of the state. Aasen's letter indicated that if the provision remained, it could "jeopardize the entire bill."

Both Krinkie and Cohen were critical of the governor coming forward at the last moment requesting the change since the provision had been agreed upon before the end of the regular session.

The House working group members also did not prevail on a provision prohibiting the state from entering into collective bargaining agreements to grant health care benefits to same-sex domestic partners of state employees. Existing law does not define who may receive benefits, but leaves it open to the bargaining process. Ventura has said he may use his authority to extend benefits to same-sex couples.

The governor did line-item veto three

appropriations included in the bill: money for an ambulance building, design of the new Guthrie Theater, and three appropriations for the Minnesota Amateur Sports Commission.

2001 Special Session: HF9/SF9\*/CH10

### Local funding crunched

While millions of dollars in the State Government Finance appropriations bill were allocated to public broadcasting and the salaries of many constitutional officers, three local appropriations were line-item vetoed June 30 by Gov. Jesse Ventura.

A \$35,000 grant for the Longville City Hall ambulance building was one. The governor indicated in his veto message it "is a local project that should be funded locally."

Ventura also vetoed rider language associated with a 2000 appropriation to the Guthrie Theatre for its new Minneapolis location. The rider would have allowed the theater to use the appropriation for pre-design and design function, which were not authorized under the previous law. The \$3 million appropriation in 2000 was designated to acquire and prepare a site.

Three appropriations to the Amateur Sports Commission were also cut: a \$475,000 appropriation for making matching grants for after-school enrichment grants; a \$25,000 grant to the Range Recreation Civic Center for a bleacher purchase; and a \$100,000 one-time grant for operation of a shooting sports program to train participants and coaches in shooting sports that are Olympic events.

In his veto message, Ventura wrote that



PHOTO BY ANDREW VON BANK

Rep. Philip Krinkie (left) and Sen. Richard Cohen discuss elements of the omnibus state government finance bill with conferees of the working group June 27.

these appropriations support programs that are local in nature and any state involvement would more appropriately be considered as part of the capital budget.

2001 Special Session: HF9/SF9\*/CH10

## ★ HIGHER EDUCATION

### No regent selection

A bill for funding at the University of Minnesota passed during the special session, but the decision about who will help oversee how the funds are spent remains unresolved.

The selection process for members of the university's Board of Regents was derailed during the regular session due to fears over partisan motivation.

By law, the Legislature must appoint regents during its session otherwise the governor has the job of appointing people to fill the vacancies.

As of June 30, Gov. Jesse Ventura had not announced official plans for appointing regents.

At a Feb. 20 joint meeting of the of House and Senate education committees, legislators recommended five people for the positions: Angela Bos as student representative, Michael O'Keefe from the Fifth Congressional District and Patricia Spence, Richard "Pinky" McNamara, and Ray Waldron for the three at-large positions.

The House and Senate were scheduled to meet jointly Feb. 26, to appoint five members to the 12-member board that is the governing body of the university.

However, problems arose when House Republicans became fearful that Senate DFLers might introduce the name of a candidate not recommended by the committees at the joint convention and get that person elected.

Republicans contended that legislative leaders have been circumventing the established regent-selection process for many years for political reasons.

"We're not inclined to become co-conspirators to another round of this body, for political or other reasons manipulating the merit selection process," House Majority Leader Tim Pawlenty (R-Eagan) said during the Feb. 22 floor session.

House Minority Leader Tom Pugh (DFL-South St. Paul) questioned House Republicans' willingness to keep the process in the open. "It sounds as though you're trying to make sure there is some arrangement with leadership from the Senate, in some place other than this floor, that the votes are arranged in a way that is satisfactory to you."

## SURGICAL SUPPORT



PHOTO BY ANDREW VON BANK

**Wearing a white golf hat, Rep. Dan Larson gets words of support from colleagues after it was revealed that he had a surgical procedure to remove a rare form of soft-cell cancer from his skull June 11. He received a standing ovation from colleagues when he showed up for special session June 14.**

## ★ TRANSPORTATION

### Transit, road, public safety funding

Gov. Jesse Ventura signed a \$3.5 billion transportation and public safety funding measure for the 2002-03 biennium June 30, just hours after legislators placed their approval on the measure on both the House and Senate floors.

The House passed the law on a 95-36 vote, and the Senate 46-15. Funding provisions are effective July 1, 2001.

The new law provides about \$534 million for the Department of Public Safety, the state court system, and other criminal justice programs and functions, about \$95 million of which is new money. Specifically, those funds will increase salaries and benefits in the court and public defender systems, allow for the system to fully support federally mandated court services, create five new judgeships in the state, and fund the state takeover of each judicial district. It also includes \$27 million for the CriMNet justice information system.

Each year of the biennium \$1 million is added to the Department of Public Safety budget in the law to help offset the per diem costs at domestic violence shelters.

Ventura line-item vetoed a public safety appropriation for \$300,000 in community-oriented policing and other intensive enforcement projects provided in the measure.

The law is sponsored by Rep. Carol Molnau (R-Chaska) and Sen. Dean Johnson (DFL-

Willmar).

"This is a good bill for Minnesota," Molnau said. "We don't think it was as diverse as it could have been, but we moved a long way in that diversity."

The law provides about \$5 million in new funding for Greater Minnesota transit functions. Both Molnau and Sen. Randy Kelly (DFL-St. Paul), Senate negotiator, were disappointed they only had about \$30 million extra to work with for transit.

"We have once again failed in our ultimate objective to invest in the infrastructure of transit in this state," Kelly said. "This is a status quo bill. We could have invested some of that (rebate money). We should have increased resources for transit."

### Transit, road funding

Originally, the House bill included a constitutional amendment that would have dedicated funds to transportation functions, but that provision was removed during negotiations. Sponsors expect to revisit the issue in the future.

Included in the law is \$1 million for rail development and \$1 million for port development over the biennium.

The law effectively extends the time for one year that funds will be available for the bridge crossing the St. Croix River near Stillwater.

The law also transfers general fund dollars to the trunk highway fund to cover losses as a result of the license tab fee reduction in 2000. A glitch allowed many drivers whose tab fees





PHOTO BY TOM OLMSCHIED

The transportation funding law provides \$3.5 billion in funding for 2002 and 2003, including money for road construction projects.

were due in June 2000 to take advantage of fee reductions passed by the 2000 Legislature.

### Other policy provisions

The law provides for a study of the high-occupancy vehicle (HOV) lanes along Interstate 394 and Interstate 35W south of the Twin Cities. The study will focus on use and effectiveness of the HOV lanes in reducing congestion.

Another congestion issue, the reconstruction of the Crosstown Highway 62 on the Richfield-Minneapolis border will be delayed at least one year to give officials time to study ways to reduce congestion on other freeways during the estimated four-year project.

With relation to light-rail transit, the Metropolitan Council must keep separate line-items in its budgeting for transit and light-rail transit. They will also not be allowed to withhold transit funding from cities and counties that have not adopted other Met Council guidelines for growth.

Funds must not be allocated for construction or study of a light-rail transit corridor until that corridor is specifically identified, under the law. Molnau said the provision was intended to allow the community the opportunity for more input into project development.

In addition, the law creates a design-build system for transportation projects. That system would allow projects to be designed as they go, rather than having to design the entire project before construction can begin. Officials expect the system will save time and money in the long run.

### Public safety provisions

The law establishes several guidelines for public safety functions, including a new felony drunken driving penalty. Effective Aug. 1, 2002, a person's fourth drunken driving conviction in 10 years will be a felony.

### HALLWAY GATHERING



PHOTO BY TOM OLMSCHIED

House Speaker Steve Sviggum is surrounded by reporters and lobbyists in a hallway of the State Capitol as he responds to progress on negotiation with Sen. Roger Moe and Gov. Jesse Ventura during a recess of the House floor session June 25.

The transportation measure provides money to fund enforcement of the new penalty, including blood-alcohol concentration analysis. It provides some relief for probation and incarceration costs expected as a result of the new penalty. It also increases the surcharge from \$40 to \$380 over two years for obtaining a driver's license after being convicted of drunken driving. A felony drunken driving conviction will carry a mandatory minimum sentence of three years in prison and up to a \$14,000 fine. There is flexibility for judges to stay the sentence in certain cases.

The law also outlines anti-racial profiling efforts. In addition to defining racial profiling, it will require the state Board of Police Officer Standards and Training to develop a model statewide racial profiling policy to be used by law enforcement agencies.

Gathering of data is not mandatory, but for those departments that do gather officer data, it must be reported to the POST board. In addition, each law enforcement agency must report the number and disposition of complaints to the POST Board.

Beyond that, the law provides about \$4.3 million in funding for grants to agencies that adopt a racial profiling policy to purchase video camera equipment for patrol cars. And a toll-free line will be established by the state attorney general's office for people to call with racial profiling complaints.

Under the law it will be a gross misdemeanor to possess shoplifting gear or to manufacture fraudulent identification cards. The law also establishes that harming a pet or companion animal is a crime. Such a crime would constitute a felony under certain circumstances.

The law also establishes guidelines for identifying dangerous dogs, including allowing authorities to implant a microchip in the dog to identify it. The law also will allow for some dangerous dogs to be destroyed in certain situations.

A plan to lower the blood-alcohol concentration limit from .10 percent to .08 percent was not included in the bill. Neither was a provision to use cameras for traffic violations, nor a measure to make driving without a seatbelt a primary offense, for which officers could stop a motorist.

2001 Special Session: HF7/SF7\*/CH8

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

# Educational changes

Modest funding increases, balanced contracts, and greater accountability among key components of K-12 funding law

By MIKE COOK

**L**egislation that some say has many positive reforms, while others simply called it bad, is now law.

"We came up with a bill that I think will help our districts," said Rep. Alice Seagren (R-Bloomington), the House sponsor and lead negotiator of the \$8.7 billion K-12 education bill. "We have a 7.8 percent increase (\$634.3 million) for spending, we have some true reform, and we'll go with forward with education we can be proud of."

"As a certified teacher I'm going to be embarrassed with this bill," said Rep. Doug Peterson (DFL-Madison). "At a time when we have money to take care of the needs and leave no child behind, we'll leave them behind."

The comments typified the division in the House, where the law passed 69-62 on a predominantly party-line vote. It passed the Senate 41-17.

Effective July 1, 2001, the law alters the way schools negotiate teacher contracts, helps less wealthy districts with funding, and adds more oversight of charter schools.

Most of the \$381 million in new money for schools in 2002-03 will go towards the per-student funding formula, which will increase about 2.5 percent in each of the next two years. The approximately \$290 million is nearly three times what Ventura recommended in January.

The law also calls for a \$104 annual increase per student or about 2.6 percent. "In addition we put in about \$10 million in equity for both rural and metropolitan districts," Seagren said.

Furthermore compensatory revenues, which generally aid low-income districts, will rise as they are tied to the general formula.

Rep. Lyndon Carlson (DFL-Crystal) said the increase is not enough because education officials say the formula needed to be increased



PHOTO BY TOM OLMSCHIED

**The omnibus K-12 education funding measure provides a pilot project to re-examine pay procedures for classroom teachers.**

by \$300 to adequately fund schools.

"This means 3,000 teachers will be laid off across the state, there will be more students in the classroom, and students will have less opportunity," he said.

## Structural balance

Another key component of the new law is that teacher contracts must be structurally balanced.

The legislation instructs school boards that they must determine by a board resolution that an agreement with teachers will not cause structural imbalance insomuch as expenses will not exceed available funds during the life of the agreement.

In addition, the school board must project revenues, expenditures and fund balances for one year past the agreement.

All projections and calculations must be made available to the public prior to and at the meeting where the resolution is adopted.

Paul Bourgeois, director of business services for Rochester schools, told a House committee that under the law districts wouldn't have budget reductions and a constant laying off of teachers. "The Legislature will be assured money would be accounted for and (school districts would) be fiscally solid."

Sen. David Tomassoni (DFL-Chisholm) was the lone working group member to vote against structural balance. He said he is not sure that such legislation is necessary, and said it will end up being a "political football."

"I'm afraid this will extend bargaining talks and be tough to settle," he said. "I hope I'm wrong."

The law also contains \$8 million for a pilot project to examine the way teachers are paid. The goal is to base pay on performance.

The incentive moves away from the current "steps and lanes" system by which teachers are currently paid. "Steps" refers to the number of years a person has been teaching, and "lanes" refers to the degree or degrees a person has earned.

"We want to see teachers be awarded for what they bring to the classroom," and for how students perform, said Christine Jax, commissioner of the Department of Children, Families and Learning, the state's education department.

Seagren said if a district wants to convert its entire pay scale it will receive an additional \$150 per pupil to do so.



## Less wealthy districts, integration aid

The law aids less wealthy districts with an increase in the general-education funding formula. Under the plan, districts whose voters fail to approve excess levies will receive up to an additional \$415 per pupil. Thirty-seven districts now have no excess taxes.

Districts that have an excess levy, but not at the \$415 level, will receive the difference between their voter-approved level and the \$415 districts get from the state in the general education formula.

Proponents say this is crucial for poorer districts that have struggled to pass such levies, especially in Greater Minnesota.

"Those districts getting the \$415 are going to have the Fourth of July and Christmas all in one," Seagren said.

Much of the debate on the House floor centered on the level of integration aid some cities receive.

Four Minneapolis DFLers expressed disappointment that the law calls for a reduction of almost \$5 million for their district. "Students of color are being hurt by this proposal," said Rep. Margaret Anderson Kelliher (DFL-Mpls).

Seagren said the Senate planned to reduce Minneapolis' integration revenue to the level of St. Paul as a way to adjust the integration formula in hopes of reducing disparity. "They told us that since Minneapolis and St. Paul are similar as urban districts and percentages of minority populations, that they would have the same level of funding," she said. "The savings from that would pay for the districts that

aid at a stable level, and also have the city schools try to equalize the concentration of poverty," Kelliher said.

Seagren said, "The Senate said with the \$415 swap, formula allowance and compensatory link to those things, in addition to the integration revenue, they will be getting another \$110 per pupil which will be in addition to their integration revenue, and we were told that would be appropriate. The small amount Minneapolis lost in coming down to St. Paul pales in comparison to the money they are to receive in the compensatory adjustment."

However, Kelliher said integration dollars are used district-wide to achieve integration and compensatory dollars go to the site, so they are not interchangeable.

"This is a very serious legal question and a very serious potential possible liability on the part of the state," said Rep. Len Biernat (DFL-Mpls). He said the city uses the money to bus 500 students to the suburbs. "If we look at legislative intent, I think the NAACP would have very strong grounds to reopen that suit."

Seagren said it is her understanding there is no threat of a lawsuit because the Legislature is "continuing to enhance and look at total support for children at-risk through a number of sources of funds."

## Policy provisions

Besides setting funding for fiscal years 2002 and 2003, the legislation establishes several new policies, including the implementation of a financial audit process that will provide online information to the public so they can

more easily compare their district to another, and the creation of a State Board of Administration to allow administrators to have oversight over their own peers, much like the Board of Teaching does.

As for student achievement testing, the law calls for updating basic skills testing so students are required to perform some math computations without

using a calculator, which previous testing did not do. Also, no student can take the test before eighth grade, and parents will have access to their students' exams and the answer keys.

"This came out of some concerns when it was discovered some tests were marked wrong and returned to students with a message they failed," Seagren said.

The law also features a number of new studies aimed at reducing district operating costs.

One study will examine the whole funding financial structure in hopes of simplifying it and making it easier to understand. "It seems like every biennium we get a little more complicated with the way we structure things," Seagren said.

Another relating to transportation calls for the commissioner of the Department of Children, Families and Learning to examine transportation costs for 13 ridership categories, including regular, disabled, late activity and enrollment options. The report is to look at funding inequities, if public transportation options can be used more effectively, and make recommendations to provide equitable transportation funding.

A medical study will look at how drugs that some students are taking for attention deficit disorder (ADD) or attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD), such as Ritalin, affect their school experience, and if children are possibly taking too many drugs. The law also clarifies that it is not neglect if a parent refuses to allow their child to take such medication.

For charter schools, the bill requires new audit and enrollment reports, creates a statewide charter school advisory council, and features new conflict of interest laws that prohibit people employed by for-profit entities with whom the school contracts from serving on a school's board of directors. Nonprofit employees may join boards provided they disclose any conflicts to the Department of Children, Families and Learning.

The bill also omits some provisions that were discussed earlier in the session. Among them are leaving the Profile of Learning alone and having students recite the Pledge of Allegiance weekly.

"I wish we had the repeal of the Profile," said Rep. Mark Olson (R-Big Lake). "That would generate a tremendous amount of revenue for local districts to spend on students and teachers in the classroom."

Also, an initial proposal that would have reinstated the state Board of Education was not included in the final version of the law.

The measure was sponsored in the Senate by Sen. LeRoy Stumpf (DFL-Thief River Falls).

2001 Special Session: HF2\*/SF6/CH6



PHOTO BY TOM OLMSCHIED

Assistant Sergeant-at-Arms Joshua Gackle peers through the doors while lobbyists mill around in front of the House Chamber June 28. Inside, members debate the omnibus K-12 education bill.

were rural and metropolitan that had over 15 percent minority."

"One of the settlement tenets of the NAACP lawsuit against the city of Minneapolis (which was settled in 2000) was keeping integration

# A cleaner Minnesota

Agriculture and environmental spending law aims to improve land, air, and water quality

BY NICOLE WOOD

**A** new law signed by Gov. Jesse Ventura June 29 will dedicate a little more than \$1.2 billion in overall spending for agricultural, environmental, and natural resources projects in the 2002-03 budget cycle.

The first of the special session bills to be signed into law, the measure received top billing in part to guarantee that state parks and campgrounds would be open for the July 4 holiday.

Included in the new law are funds for the Department of Natural Resources (DNR), Department of Agriculture, Pollution Control Agency (PCA), Board of Water and Soil Resources, and other organizations.

Spending from the state's general fund for these efforts will total about \$548 million. The funding formula is complex because the money comes from numerous sources in addition to general tax revenues, including user fees, licenses, surcharges, lottery proceeds, and federal funds.

Gone from the measure are three projects totaling \$780,000 that were line-item vetoed by the governor.

Also not included in the new law is a mandate that diesel fuel contain a percentage of biodiesel, which many legislators had supported. This language was removed during the regular session.

A considerable amount of funding for the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program, a land conservation program in the Minnesota River Valley, was transferred to the special session bonding initiative.

Both the House and the Senate passed the law June 25. The House vote was 95-34; the Senate sent it along by a 55-5 margin.

Bill sponsor Rep. Mark Holsten (R-Stillwater), chair of the House Environment and Natural Resources Finance Committee, indicated the bill is "dramatically different dollar-wise" than the version approved by the House during the regular session.

For example, the bill returned from a House/Senate conference committee with a

lower agricultural bottom-line than the House had targeted.

Rep. Bob Ness (R-Dassel), chair of the House Agriculture and Rural Development Finance Committee, expressed disappointment that the amount dedicated to agricultural investment equaled a net loss in funding from the previous biennium.

"If you're an environmental advocate, this is a great bill," he said. "If you're trying to be an advocate for agriculture and investment in agriculture, this falls short."

"I believe we have got to change our minds about investing in rural Minnesota and keeping farmers on the farm, and also have some economic value-added initiatives out there," Ness said. "That's going to have to wait another year."

Rep. Dennis Ozment (R-Rosemount), chair of the House Environment and Natural Resources Policy Committee, applauded the bill's air monitoring, water planning, and feedlot

cleanup and cost-sharing efforts.

There was, however, some debate to the contrary. "The environment part of this bill would be a great bill for George Bush's Texas, but I don't believe it's a great bill for Minnesota," said Rep. Jean Wagenius (DFL-Mpls).

Sen. Leonard Price (DFL-Woodbury) sponsored the measure in the Senate.

Here are some highlights. All provisions are effective July 1, 2001, unless noted otherwise.

## Funds for DNR

The DNR will receive the largest percentage of the new law's funding — some \$594 million — for projects including firefighting, minerals research, state park operations, snowmobile grants-in-aid, and fish and wildlife management.

One provision will designate \$12 million to maintain a trained force of firefighters to handle the annual demands of Minnesota's fire season. Supporters of this provision testified that "smokechasers," seasonal wildland firefighters, have been leaving Minnesota for more lucrative offers with other states or the federal government and, as a result, the state has to hire on an emergency basis and rely on a number of new recruits every year.

Under the new law, the department will



PHOTO BY ANDREW VON BANK

A conservation officer at William O'Brien State Park along the St. Croix River instructs a boater about boat safety and the dangers of milfoil. The new law contains funding for hiring new conservation officers statewide.



receive \$100,000 in fiscal year 2002 to develop and implement a master logger certification program that aims to meet increasing demands for certified lumber and finished products.

Another forest initiative dedicates \$600,000 for matching grants to communities to protect native oak forests against a disease known as "oak wilt." Oak wilt spreads through root systems within a stand of trees and can be stopped by cutting the roots or by the use of chemicals. The forest disease is currently localized mostly in the southern one-third of the state.

Water resources management spending will include \$1.3 million for implementing comprehensive watershed plans and flood damage reduction projects in the Red River Basin.

### Protecting the land, air, and water

The biennial budget for the Pollution Control Agency will equal about \$237 million for a number of environmental protection and cleanup projects.

The agency will be assigned \$4.7 million transferrable to the Board of Water and Soil Resources for efforts to reduce feedlot-related pollution under the county feedlot permit program.

During debate on the House floor, Rep. Scott Wasiluk (DFL-Maplewood) questioned why funding for the PCA's malformed frog research had been discontinued. Scientists speculate that deformed frogs are indicators of bigger environmental problems.

"The PCA is not a research entity; it is a permitting entity," Holsten explained. He said that deformed frogs are not unique to Minnesota and other institutions, such as the National Centers for Disease Control, will continue the research.

With a limited budget, Holsten said, he felt it was more important to fund other environmental efforts such as clean water partnership grants and metropolitan air quality monitoring.

The Clean Water Partnership Program, created in 1987 to assist local governments in combating water pollution from runoff from agricultural and urban areas, will receive \$4.7 million.

Additionally, the agency's budget will provide \$250,000 for ambient air quality monitoring in the Twin Cities metropolitan area.

### Department of Agriculture

The \$169 million two-year operating budget for the Department of Agriculture includes \$2 million for the expansion of the Dairy Development and Profitability Enhancement Program. Formerly known as the Dairy Diagnostics Program, it provides professional dairy consultants to assist Minnesota farmers with

comprehensive financial analyses, risk management education, enhanced milk marketing tools and technologies, and five-year business plans.

The Northern Crops Institute will receive \$140,000 for research into farming techniques and farm equipment unique to the Red River Valley.

Move over Florida oranges and Wisconsin cheese: the new law earmarks \$142,000 for Minnesota Grown promotion grants to create and foster brand recognition for Minnesota crops.

The cap on ethanol producer payments from the general fund is set at \$71 million, under this section of the new law.

### Senior discount gutted

Effective March 1, 2003, the new law will increase the cost of fishing licenses for seniors age 65 and over from \$6.50 to \$17, the same rate paid by anglers under age 65.

Proponents of this provision said the game and fish fund could not afford to continue the discounted rates as baby boomers reach retirement age.

### Farmer-lender mediation extended

Effective June 30, 2001, the new law extends the sunset date for the Farmer-Lender Mediation Program from July 1, 2001 to July 1, 2003.

The program's director testified that they have assisted more than 12,000 farmers with restructuring and resolving debt since its inception in 1986.

### Sunken log moratorium

The new law will place a moratorium on the commercial recovery of sunken logs from Minnesota's lakes, reversing a decision by the 2000 Legislature. The moratorium comes in response to the DNR and lake associations who expressed concerns that raising century-old logs would cause environmental damage. The new law requires the DNR to cancel existing log removal contracts and refund the application fee.

### Don't try this at home

Current law prohibits snowmobilers from the dangerous practice of skipping over open water. A provision of the new law will make an exception for certain sanctioned circuit watercross association events. A conservation officer must give written permission and set the date, time, and location of the water-skipping event, under the new law.

### Other agencies

Other appropriations under the new law include \$60.6 million to the Office of Environmental Assistance that was originally

eliminated in the House plan, \$38.3 million to the Board of Water and Soil Resources, nearly \$6.9 million to the Board of Animal Health for the control of diseases such as Johne's disease and avian pneumovirus, and \$164,000 to the Minnesota Horticultural Society.

Minnesota's contribution to the Minnesota-Wisconsin Boundary Area Commission will be \$393,000, and the state contribution to the Science Museum of Minnesota's operating expenses will equal \$2.6 million for plans including pollution education and habitat restoration demonstrations.

The new law also directs \$37 million to the Minnesota Zoological Garden for general operations and educational outreach. The "new" zoo, as it has been called for 23 years, hopes to introduce a project called "Connect with the Wildlife at the Minnesota Zoo," that will place new interpretive graphics displays in animal exhibits.

2001 Special Session: HF10/SF10\*/CH2

## Minnesota State Agencies

(Area code 651)

Administration .....	296-6013
Agriculture .....	297-2200
Children, Families and Learning .....	582-8200
Commerce .....	296-4026
Corrections .....	642-0200
Economic Security .....	296-3644
Employee Relations .....	297-1184
Job Information .....	296-2616
Finance .....	296-5900
Health .....	215-5803
Human Rights .....	296-5663
Toll Free .....	1-800-657-3704
Human Services .....	296-6117
Labor and Industry .....	296-6107
Military Affairs .....	282-4662
Natural Resources .....	296-6157
Pollution Control Agency .....	296-6300
Public Safety .....	296-6642
Driver and Vehicle Services ...	296-6911
Fire Marshal .....	215-0500
Alcohol and Gambling Enforcement Division .....	296-6979
State Patrol .....	297-3935
Public Service .....	296-5120
Revenue Taxpayer Assistance .....	296-3781
Toll Free .....	1-800-652-9094
Trade and Economic Development .....	297-1291
Office of Tourism .....	296-5029
Transportation .....	296-3000
Veterans Affairs .....	296-2562
State Information .....	296-6013

# Shrinking disparities

Health and human services law provides insurance for children and modifies welfare sanctions

BY MICHELLE KIBIGER

**W**hen conferees first began debating the omnibus health and human services law in May, the House and Senate versions were separated by less than \$300 million — only about 3 percent of overall spending in the bills.

But in reality, policy provisions in the House and Senate bills made them worlds apart. And it took a governor's veto and a month of negotiation to bring the members of the House-Senate working group to an agreement early June 29.

In the end, it took less than an hour for both the House and Senate to pass the \$8.5 billion health, human services, and corrections spending measure later that evening. About \$7 billion of that money comes from the

"I can't stand up and think of another way to praise this bill more than has already been said," said House Minority Leader Tom Pugh (DFL-South St. Paul). "This debate has taken a very different turn, and I think the votes will be different than everybody thought."

The House bill originally contained far fewer exemptions to welfare sanctions, contained an abortion consent measure that prompted the governor to veto the bill, and limited how family planning funds could be spent. But the fundamental principles in the bill — long-term care reform, reducing health disparities, funding mental health initiatives, providing alternatives for children with autism, and unlocking the waiting list for people with developmental disabilities — remained

a lot of the other bills we've been producing this session."

Sen. Linda Berglin (DFL-Mpls), chair of that body's health and human services finance committee, conceded that Senate negotiators didn't get everything they wanted.

"We made it even better coming back than going into conference committee," she said while presenting the bill to the Senate on the session's final night.

The biggest chunk of spending in the law funds the Department of Human Services, which constitutes about 85 percent of the overall funding. Key in those provisions are built-in exemptions to the sanctions imposed for violating the state's welfare reform program's 60-month limit, long-term care funding, medical assistance, and more funding to insure more of the state's children and families by 2005.

## Welfare sanctions

Ventura recommended that the state spend nearly \$34 million during the biennium to extend sanctions while still granting benefits to families that are complying with guidelines of the Minnesota Family Investment Program — the state's welfare reform assistance plan — and that are working or trying to obtain a sustainable job.

Proposed extensions varied depending how much of the time a family had been in compliance while receiving benefits.

The law allocates \$19 million to extend benefits for nearly 52 percent of families nearing the 60-month limit for benefits.

The plan will exempt participants who meet the following requirements:

- one-parent family — 25 hours of employment or 30 hours of work activity.
- two-parent family — 45 hours of employment or 55 hours of work activity.
- if loss of employment was involuntary, an exception is allowed if the unemployment was only for one month or happened only twice in a year.

In addition, extensions will be made available for certain hardships and hard-to-employ individuals, while funding is provided for legal non-citizens and employment and training. The law provides a hard sunset for extensions at June 30, 2004.

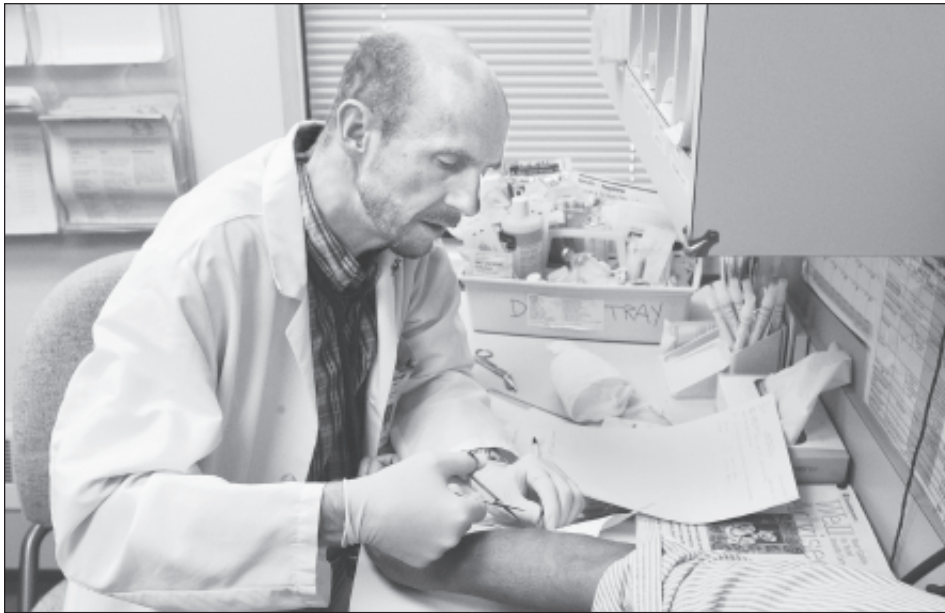


PHOTO BY TOM OLMSCHIED

**Funding in the omnibus health and human services law will provide funding to eliminate health disparities between white and minority communities in Minnesota.**

general fund. The House voted 122-9, and the Senate passed it 61-0. Gov. Jesse Ventura signed the law June 30.

By the time members reached consensus, both sides were happy with the final product. And members of their own bodies lauded the measure.

in the final product, and were strengthened, sponsors said.

"This is a very good bill overall. I think it's very balanced," said Rep. Kevin Goodno (R-Moorhead) lead House negotiator and chair of the House Health and Human Services Finance Committee. "I think it's a lot better than



## Children's health

The law allocates about \$4.4 million for a plan that provides health insurance coverage for more children and more adults at a fraction of the cost of the governor's proposal. The governor suggested extending coverage to more children, while simultaneously reducing coverage for the adult population, at a cost of \$11.9 million for the biennium. Neither plan originating from the House and Senate contained funding for the grants.

The goal, Goodno said, is to provide insurance coverage for 20,000 children under age 19 by fiscal year 2005. Under the law, income limits for benefits are at 100 percent of federal poverty guidelines for parents and 170 percent of guidelines for children to receive medical assistance.

The federal poverty limit for annual income in 2000 for a family of four was \$17,050.

Also, a bridge plan provides that when they reach the 170 percent limit, children can be covered up to age 19 if they are under 217 percent of federal poverty guidelines. They will receive the coverage under the MinnesotaCare program, one year will be premium free, and they will ultimately reach a \$5 copayment four years after entering.

## Long-term care

The Legislature appropriated \$131 million more for long-term care reform in the 2002-03 biennium. Of that figure, \$108 million will provide rate increases for the industry.

Increased spending will be offset by a proposal to downsize the nursing home industry by 5,100 beds during the biennium, a decrease in overall nursing home capacity of more than 10 percent. The reduction will save the state's general fund \$44 million.

Built into that funding are several provisions to add flexibility to the state's long-term care system. Specifically, legislators said they hoped the plan will help encourage more home- and community-based options for Minnesotans, rather than only having the choice of nursing home care.

New money was also provided for regional planning and development, community resource development grants, and several items that encourage employees to enter the long-term care field.

In both 2002 and 2003, nursing homes and long-term care facilities will get 3 percent cost-of-living increases, while the operators of intermediate care facilities for people with mental retardation and day training and habilitation services will receive 3.5 percent. The law requires that about two-thirds of the increase be dedicated to wages, benefits, and other personnel costs. As a result, institutions must develop a plan

to explain how that will be accomplished, so officials can be sure the money is going where it was intended, Berglin said.

Ventura only recommended a 2 percent increase in 2003 because of previous increases granted by the Legislature but not recommended by the administration.

## Other health provisions

Several other changes to health and human services programs were provided in the law.

The law contains about \$10 million to eliminate existing health disparities between white and racial and ethnic populations in the state, particularly with regard to infant mortality. Ventura recommended spending nearly \$14 million. Budget documents cite infant mortality, diabetes, breast cancer, communicable diseases, and sexually transmitted diseases and teen pregnancy as areas where statistics indicate significant disparities. The House bill originally contained another \$4 million for maternal and child health initiatives in this area, but that money was removed during negotiations.

The law expands eligibility for the state's prescriptions drug program for the second year in a row. Seniors with incomes of up to 135 percent of federal poverty guidelines will now be eligible for the pharmacy program on Jan. 1, 2002.

People with disabilities, whose income is less than 120 percent of federal poverty guidelines, will be eligible for the pharmacy program on July 1, 2002. Under current law, seniors are eligible at 120 percent and the disabled at 100 percent of poverty guidelines.

Members came to a compromise on language changing the immunization schedule in the state. During the regular session, the House approved plans to allow the Health Department to vary the schedule while the Legislature is not in session, subject to their approval at the next opportunity. The law allows the department to change the schedule, subject to the approval during the administrative law process (which allows citizen input and arbitration by a judge). If those means do not resolve disputes, the new law will allow chairs of both the House and Senate committees with health jurisdiction to review the rules in public hearings.

The new law includes language that changes civil commitment procedures to give families more flexibility. Those provisions were initially sponsored in the House by Rep. Mindy Greiling (DFL-Roseville).

In addition, the law provides \$557,000 in medical assistance money for alternative therapies for children with autism.

## Felony DWI

The bill will create a felony drunken driving penalty, making a person's fourth conviction within 10 years a felony beginning Aug. 1, 2002.

The language is a result of much deliberation over the course of the 2000 and 2001 sessions, including an interim task force to examine the feasibility and costs of such a penalty.

Key among legislators' concerns was the cost that would be associated with such a penalty — both to state and local governments.

Included in the bill is about \$2.6 million in funding for felony DWI. Particularly, the money will go to the Public Defense Board, to the state Attorney General for felony appeals, the Department of Public Safety for enforcement and the Bureau of Criminal Apprehension lab, and the Department of Corrections for probation officers to handle the new felons.

The large share of that money, \$2.1 million, goes to the Corrections Department for the potential bed impact involved with the new felony penalty.

## Corrections

About \$845 million in spending during 2002-03 for corrections and other criminal justice functions is also included in the bill. (Felony drunken driving appropriations mentioned above are included in this amount.)

However, provisions in the bill will capture about \$9 million in extra revenue, dropping net spending to about \$833 million, primarily from the general fund.

The largest chunk is dedicated to the Department of Corrections, which will receive about \$735 million over the biennium. Key corrections initiatives involve funding for probation officers.

There are three ways that probation services are provided in the state. About 31 counties participate in the Community Corrections Act (CCA), a partnership between the state and counties to provide correctional services at the local level. As a result, CCA counties are reimbursed for their costs by the state.

Of the remaining, 26 counties receive court services from the Department of Corrections and 30 counties rely on the state for court services for adult felons only.

Under the bill, all three areas will see an increase in base funding for the biennium. CCA counties portion will go up \$15 million for the biennium, and nearly \$1 million in increased funding will go to non-CCA counties. Counties providing their own probation services will be reimbursed for half of their costs, said Rep. John Tuma (R-Northfield), with nearly \$2 million extra funding in the bill.

Continued on page 31

# Economics 101

## Lawmakers increase funding for MnSCU and U of M, but tuition hikes forecast; youth tobacco money untapped

BY MIKE COOK

A higher education finance bill that features both good and bad news for students was signed by Gov. Jesse Ventura June 30.

His signature of the \$2.8 billion bill followed a 68-62 House vote and 41-19 Senate vote, both on June 25. The law is effective July 1, 2001.

"We spun gold out of straw," Rep. Peggy Leppik (R-Golden Valley), the House lead negotiator, said as the working group agreement was announced May 31.

Said her counterpart in the Senate, Sen. Deanna Wiener (DFL-Eagan), "The bill represents the best we could do with the resources we have."

Gov. Ventura did not veto any portions of the law.

The law features \$176 million in new general fund spending for higher education, and nearly \$196 million overall. Ventura proposed \$99.2 million in general fund spending, the House \$165 million, and the Senate \$268 million.

It calls for \$100 million in additional spending for the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities and almost \$91 million for the University of Minnesota. MnSCU sought \$255.6 million in new spending, while the university asked for \$221.5 million. Leppik said MnSCU's allocation is 8.6 percent above the base and the university's 7.6 percent. "Both are more than inflation," she said.

Total state monies for MnSCU amount to more than \$1.24 billion during the biennium and almost \$1.3 billion for the U of M.

The university will also receive about \$20 million in tobacco fund money for its Academic Health Center on the Twin Cities Campus. University officials said the school needs \$16 million to stabilize the center.

"This will be a great shot in the arm for the medical school," said Richard Pfutzenreuter, chief financial officer and treasurer at the U of M.

A bone of contention for many, the health center dollars will now come from a separate account in the medical education endowment fund created by using tobacco settlement payments that are to be paid on Jan. 2, 2002 and Jan. 2, 2003. Funds originally proposed to be used from the youth state anti-smoking campaign will not be touched.

Under the original House plan, money for the health center would have come from earnings on the investments of the two endowments established with the tobacco funds, estimated at \$23 million for the biennium.

Additionally the law allocates almost \$1.64 million annually to the Mayo Medical Foundation, with much of that money allocated to train doctors who

will practice in rural areas of the state.

Furthermore, it provides nearly \$148.7 million for the Higher Education Services Office in fiscal year 2002 and \$157.6 million in FY2003.

Minority Leader Tom Pugh (DFL-South St. Paul) said during debate on the House floor that the measure reflects a lack of balance at the time of a surplus. He noted that businesses are getting a larger tax break and they need a well-trained workforce, yet students face a larger burden.

"We should lower tax help for businesses and increase student aid," he said.

The law increases student assistance in other ways by featuring "a number of financial aid reforms that



PHOTO BY TOM OLMSCHIED

Money from tobacco settlement payments will help fund the Academic Health Center at the University of Minnesota, home to the medical school on the Twin cities campus.



students have been asking to change,” Leppik said.

It allocates \$9.65 million to expand the eligibility for receiving a state grant to a fifth year, and increases the maximum child care grant from \$2,000 to \$2,600 per academic year while extending eligibility from eight to 10 semesters.

To help more students attend and remain in school, the bill also provides for a college savings program.

Operated by the Higher Education Services Office, the Minnesota College Savings Plan (formerly referred to as Edvest) will allow individuals to save for college in investment accounts managed by the state. Under the program the state will provide a matching grant to eligible Minnesota resident families contributing at least \$200 in a year.

In the program, families with \$80,000 or less in income are eligible to receive up to 15 percent (maximum \$300) of their annual contribution.

Nevertheless, both MnSCU and U of M officials predict significant tuition increases for students.

Former MnSCU Chancellor Morrie Anderson said the law is expected to result in an average tuition increase per student of 9.4 percent. He said students on most MnSCU campuses will see an annual tuition increase of between 7 percent and 11 percent. However the rest of campuses will split between an increase of less than 7 percent and an increase of greater than 11 percent.

“That equates to a cost of \$240 to \$250 per year on a 30-credit structure,” he said.

University of Minnesota President Mark Yudof presented a plan to the university’s Board of Regents June 26 that would raise tuition approximately 13 percent in 2002 and 2003.

Besides establishing funding for the next two years, the bill features several policy initiatives.

For the services office, the legislation does three things with regard to financial aid grants. First, it decreases the family share for calculating the amount of a state grant award for independent students. Next, the law exempts certain full-time employees who move to the state from the one-year residency requirement for state aid. Third, it provides that state financial aid program savings due to increases in the federal Pell Grant program must be used to provide additional decreases in the family responsibility for independent students and to increase funding for work study programs.

The law also requires that the office collect monthly data from institutions participating

in the state grant program and report on its expenditures to the higher education committee chairs in the Legislature and commissioner of finance four times per year. The goal of this provision is for the office to use all of its allotted funds, and if not, to transfer them elsewhere. It is expected the agency will have more than \$10 million returned to the general fund at the conclusion of fiscal year 2001.

In terms of reciprocity, the law requires the Higher Education Services Office, along with representatives from MnSCU and the university, to negotiate tuition agreements with North Dakota, South Dakota, and Wisconsin. The goal is to minimize state obligations with new methods of collaboration aimed at improved access and reduced cost.

A progress report on reciprocity must be presented to the 2002 Legislature. Leaders say this is important given that the state will pay \$10.5 million to other states to meet reciprocity contract obligations in the next biennium.

For MnSCU the law prohibits the planning or developing of doctoral programs without prior legislative approval. It also requires that the Minnesota transfer curriculum, which will help provide a standard transfer system for credits, be implemented at its institutions by Jan. 1, 2002.

Other MnSCU provisions in the law include:

- expanding the authority of the board of trustees to acquire or convey facilities under system control,
- adding MnSCU to the law that authorizes a full refund of tuition paid for a student who enters military service,
- distributing \$5 million of the central office reserves to the campuses through a leveraged equipment purchase program, and
- requiring the MnSCU board and council of presidents to study the method of delivering services from the central office to member institutions.

The study would, in part, assess ways to streamline the process and eliminate duplication of things on campuses and at the central office.

As for the university, the law establishes a Commission on University of Minnesota Excellence. The 15 members will examine the mission, scope and financing of the university, propose ways to refocus the mission, and recommend how the university can develop five or more centers of excellence that can achieve a top 10 national rank in the next decade.

Both the university and MnSCU are required to complete two reports under the

legislation. The first, to be completed by Feb. 1 of even-numbered years, regards allocation of state appropriations, tuition rates and fees, and how that relates to leveraging non-state money.

A second report, to be completed by Feb. 15, 2002 and each odd-numbered year thereafter, will measure a number of areas, including:

- a report on five priority undergraduate programs,
- reallocations to advance the priorities,
- baseline data and methods used to measure first generation students,
- a plan to increase recruitment and retention, and
- progress in increasing graduations and transfers to four-year institutions by race, ethnicity, and gender.

One new educational program is funded in the law and another program received money for expansion.

The new initiative is a post-secondary grant program for Minnesota high school students who will attend college in the state. Those who achieve qualifying scores on a specified number of advanced placement or international baccalaureate tests will be eligible for a state-funded grant. The program will receive \$150,000. In addition the bill provides \$110,000 for the expansion of the Minnesota Talented Youth Math Project — operated by Minnesota State University, Mankato — from south-central Minnesota to one additional region. The program teaches advanced skills via interactive television to top math students beginning in grade six.

2001 Special Session: HF6/SF11\*/CH1



## 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 meetingschedules; 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>

# What a relief

Rebate checks, increased taxpayer assistance, and class compression among highlights of plan

By DAVID MAEDA

**M**any Minnesotans will receive double-digit property tax reductions under a new law signed by Gov. Jesse Ventura June 30.

The measure, which was at the heart of the legislative stalemate, contains class rate reductions across all property types, as well as the elimination of the state-determined general education levy.

Rep. Ron Abrams (R-Minnetonka) the House sponsor, called the measure "historic property tax reform" and said the end product was a result of several years work by members of both parties.

"The structural reforms that are contained within the property tax article have been ideas from both sides of the aisle for at least as long as I've been here," said Abrams, a legislator since 1989.

Under the previous education funding system, 25 percent of the \$7.3 billion cost of

K-12 funding came from property taxes. Of that 25 percent, 48 percent or \$900 million was the cost of the state-determined general education levy.

By eliminating that mandated levy, Abrams said the property tax will become more of a local tax.

The new law also replaces up to \$415 per pupil of operating referendum property taxes with funding from the state's general fund.

## Class compression

The law simplifies the state's property class rate system in which different types of properties at different values were previously taxed at different rates. For example, residential homestead property up to \$76,000 was taxed at 1 percent but the value over that amount was taxed at 1.65 percent. Under the new law, residential homestead property under \$500,000 will be taxed at 1 percent with the value over that amount taxed at 1.25 percent.

Apartments will see some of the biggest reductions under the measure as the regular apartment rate is reduced from 2.4 percent to 1.8 percent.

Abrams said that although the relief goes to apartment property owners rather than renters, the reduction will stimulate more construction of apartments in the state.

Under the new law, the state's property tax refund program is enhanced to increase the maximum homeowner property tax refund from \$510 to \$1,500. The maximum eligible income to qualify for the refund has also been increased from \$71,100 to \$80,000.

A sticking point in the budget negotiations was the amount of class rate reduction for commercial/industrial properties. The new law reduces those rates from the current 2.4 percent on property valued up to \$150,000 to 1.5 percent. For property greater than \$150,000 the rate is reduced from 3.4 percent to 2 percent.

A new statewide business tax of \$592 million on commercial industrial and seasonal recreational properties is established under the new law. Future growth in that tax is dedicated to education funding.

## Transit funding

The Metropolitan Council's authority to levy property taxes to pay for the operating costs of transit systems has been eliminated. To replace the levy, which expires after fiscal year 2002, 20.75 percent of the revenues from the sales tax on motor vehicles is dedicated in 2003 and 22.75 percent in the following years.

## District court costs

The state will continue its takeover of the costs of district court administration under the new law.

Court costs for the second district, which includes all of Ramsey County and the fourth district, which includes Hennepin County, will be paid by the state starting July 1, 2003.

The costs for the first district, consisting of Carver, Dakota, Goodhue, LeSueur, McLeod, Scott, and Sibley counties, and the third district, which consists of Dodge, Faribault, Fillmore, Freeborn, Houston, Mower, Olmsted, Rice, Steele, Wabasha, Waseca, and Winona counties, will be taken over on July 1, 2004.

The sixth district, which includes Carlton,



PHOTO BY TOM OLMSCHIED

All classes of property will receive a break under the tax law passed by the legislature and signed by Gov. Jesse Ventura.



Cook, Lake and St. Louis counties, and the 10th district, composed of Anoka, Chisago, Isanti, Kanabec, Pine, Sherburne, Washington and Wright counties, will be taken over beginning July 1, 2005.

### Income taxes

Among changes to the income tax laws is an appropriation of \$200,000 for low-income taxpayer assistance.

Certain banks will receive a tax break as the state's tax law now fully conforms with federal treatment of banks that have elected subchapter S status under the IRS tax code.

Prior to 1997, federal law did not permit financial institutions to elect S corporation status. That status allows businesses to be treated as partnerships for tax purposes, where the income of the business is directly taxed to its shareholders whether distributed or not.

Since 1999 Minnesota banks have been allowed S corporation treatment for state tax purposes, except that the bank is subject to the corporate franchise tax and the shareholders are allowed a credit against the individual income tax equal to 80 percent of the corporate tax.

### Sales tax

Abrams said the last remaining "accounting gimmick" leftover from the late 1980s and early 1990s when the state was trying to address budget deficits will be eliminated under the new law.

Under prior law retailers with at least \$120,000 in annual sales tax collections were required to pay 62 percent of their estimated June sales tax liability two business days before June 30. The rest of the year they are required to pay the taxes by the 14th of the following month.

The 2000 omnibus tax law lessened some tax burden on state retailers by eliminating the accelerated payment requirement on excise taxes and reducing the percentage due on sales and use tax from 75 percent to 62 percent.

The new law eliminates the June accelerated payment beginning with June 2002 payments.

### Streamlined sales tax

During 2000, a multi-state effort known as the "Streamlined Sales Tax Project" began looking at ways of simplifying administration of the sales-and-use tax for sellers in the hope that a more universal system would mean higher compliance with existing laws.

The project was also meant to address concerns of "Main Street" business owners who sought to ensure that remote sellers don't have an unfair advantage because they aren't collecting and remitting sales taxes.

The 39 states participating in the project

developed a standard act that provides model legislation and the provisions required for a state to enter into the agreement.

The new law adopts the provisions that will allow the state to enter into the agreement. The law will implement the uniform definitions and standards developed by the project.

There are some quirks to some of the new definitions. For example, some items that used to be taxed will now be exempt.

Included in this category are ice, bottled water, unsweetened tea, single servings of ice cream treats, snack foods sold in bars and restaurants, and near beer.

Likewise, items that are currently exempt become subject to sales tax under the measure. These items include chocolate chips, mini-marshmallows, and beverages containing more than 15 percent but less than 50 percent juice.

### Sales tax rebate

The new law authorizes a sales tax rebate of \$852 million. That amount will be adjusted to reflect the final fiscal year 2001 surplus as certified by the commissioner of the Department of Finance on July 15. Officials from the Department of Revenue are estimating the actual amount of the surplus will be closer to \$700 million. Checks are expected to be mailed sometime in August.

Using the \$852 million figure, the law establishes a minimum rebate of \$233 for married couples filing a joint return and for heads of households. A maximum amount of \$3,250 is also established for those taxpayers.

For single filers the minimum is \$118, with a maximum amount of \$1,625.

If the actual surplus is \$700 million, then the amount of each check would be reduced by about 18 percent.

The rebate will be mailed out automatically to those who had a state or federal income tax liability in 1999. Dependents with wage income are eligible for a rebate equal to 35 percent of the table amount. Individuals who had social security or public pension income in 1999 who filed a tax return in order to claim a refund will also receive a rebate check.



PHOTO BY ANDREW VON BANK

Rep. Ted Winter, left, gives a congratulatory handshake to Rep. Ron Abrams, chair of the House Taxes Committee, after the House passed the omnibus tax bill June 28.

### Miscellaneous policy provisions

A new subtraction is allowed under the new law. Musical instruments used in classes now can be claimed as a K-12 education expense.

The new law provides an exemption of military pay of active duty personnel stationed outside of Minnesota.


A reduced 1.5 percent health care provider tax is extended for two additional years, under the new law. That tax was scheduled to increase to 2 percent on Jan. 1, 2002. The original House proposal to eliminate the tax was not adopted by the working group.

### Moment of levity

In the final moments of the tax working group, Abrams and Sen. Larry Pogemiller (DFL-Mpls), the Senate sponsor, compared their blood pressure statistics. Both noted despite the stressful negotiations, they were able to maintain a healthy blood pressure.

Rep. Dan McElroy (R-Burnsville) noted that he admired those with low blood pressures.

"I thought about getting in shape once," McElroy said. "Then I decided round is a shape."

2001 Special Session: HF1\*/SF13/CH5 

**To find out who represents you  
at the Capitol . . .**

Call the House Public Information  
Office at (651) 296-2146  
or 1-800-657-3550

# Minnesota House of Representatives 2001 Members

District/Member/Party			Phone (651) 296-	District/Member/Party			Phone (651) 296-
		Room*				Room*	
49A	Abeler, Jim (R)	581	1729	40B	Lenczewski, Ann (DFL)	337	4218
45A	Abrams, Ron (R)	585	9934	45B	Leppik, Peggy (R)	485	7026
19B	Anderson, Bruce (R)	411	5063	2A	Lieder, Bernie L. (DFL)	323	5091
3A	Anderson, Irv (DFL)	343	4936	33A	Lindner, Arlon (R)	417	7806
6A	Bakk, Thomas (Tom) (DFL)	345	2190	56B	Lipman, Eric (R)	567	4244
48B	Bernardy, Connie (DFL)	329	5510	47A	Luther, Darlene (DFL)	349	3751
59A	Biernat, Len (DFL)	303	4219	67A	Mahoney, Tim (DFL)	377	4277
30B	Bishop, Dave (R)	453	0573	55A	Mares, Harry (R)	401	5363
25B	Boudreau, Lynda (R)	473	8237	65B	Mariani, Carlos (DFL)	203	9714
30A	Bradley, Fran (R)	559	9249	57B	Marko, Sharon (DFL)	279	3135
35B	Buesgens, Mark (R)	445	1072	9B	Marquart, Paul (DFL)	311	6829
46B	Carlson, Lyndon R. (DFL)	283	4255	36B	McElroy, Dan (R)	437	4212
10B	Cassell, George (R)	421	4317	54A	McGuire, Mary Jo (DFL)	259	4342
23A	Clark, James T. (R)	551	9303	39B	Milbert, Bob (DFL)	243	4192
61A	Clark, Karen (DFL)	307	0294	35A	Molnau, Carol L. (R)	443	8872
11A	Daggett, Roxann (R)	439	4293	21B	Mulder, Richard (R)	515	4336
31B	Davids, Gregory M. (R)	549	9278	58A	Mullery, Joe (DFL)	387	4262
62A	Davnie, Jim (DFL)	335	0173	8A	Murphy, Mary (DFL)	357	2676
65A	Dawkins, Andy (DFL)	215	5158	20A	Ness, Robert "Bob" (R)	509	4344
14A	Dehler, Steve (R)	491	7808	10A	Nornes, Bud (R)	471	4946
29A	Dempsey, Jerry (R)	575	8635	19A	Olson, Mark (R)	501	4237
60B	Dibble, Scott (DFL)	369	9281	16A	Opatz, Joe (DFL)	277	6612
27A	Dorman, Dan (R)	579	8216	29B	Osskopp, Mike (R)	521	9236
24A	Dorn, John (DFL)	201	3248	66A	Osthoff, Tom (DFL)	273	4224
18A	Eastlund, Rob (R)	449	5364	11B	Otremba, Mary Ellen (DFL)	393	3201
64A	Entenza, Matt (DFL)	261	8799	37A	Ozment, Dennis (R)	479	4306
42A	Erhardt, Ron (R)	591	4363	42B	Paulsen, Erik (R)	545	7449
17A	Erickson, Sondra (R)	407	6746	38B	Pawlenty, Tim (R)	459	4128
52B	Evans, Geri (DFL)	211	0141	64B	Paymar, Michael (DFL)	209	4199
1B	Finseth, Tim (R)	517	9918	32A	Pelowski Jr., Gene (DFL)	295	8637
44A	Folliard, Betty (DFL)	281	3964	1A	Penas, Maxine (R)	553	9635
4A	Fuller, Doug (R)	525	5516	13B	Peterson, Doug (DFL)	287	4228
36A	Gerlach, Chris (R)	531	5506	39A	Pugh, Thomas W. (DFL)	267	6828
63B	Gleason, Mark S. (DFL)	313	5375	44B	Rhodes, Jim (R)	409	9889
9A	Goodno, Kevin (R)	563	5515	32B	Rifenberg, Michelle (R)	423	1069
52A	Goodwin, Barbara (DFL)	353	4331	5A	Rukavina, Tom (DFL)	375	0170
58B	Gray, Gregory (DFL)	327	8659	28A	Ruth, Connie (R)	415	5368
54B	Greiling, Mindy (DFL)	253	5387	17B	Schumacher, Leslie J. (DFL)	217	5377
26A	Gunther, Bob (R)	379	3240	41A	Seagren, Alice (R)	477	7803
48A	Haas, Bill (R)	569	5513	21A	Seifert, Marty (R)	593	5374
50A	Hackbarth, Tom (R)	577	2439	5B	Sertich, Anthony "Tony" (DFL)	233	0172
22B	Harder, Elaine (R)	583	5373	2B	Skoe, Rod (DFL)	321	4265
66B	Hausman, Alice (DFL)	245	3824	62B	Skoglund, Wes (DFL)	251	4330
47B	Hilstrom, Debra (DFL)	227	3709	57A	Slawik, Nora (DFL)	359	7807
8B	Hilty, Bill (DFL)	207	4308	34A	Smith, Steve (R)	503	9188
37B	Holberg, Mary Liz (R)	433	6926	3B	Solberg, Loren A. (DFL)	309	2365
56A	Holsten, Mark William (R)	381	3018	33B	Stanek, Rich (R)	543	5502
4B	Howes, Larry (R)	431	2451	14B	Stang, Doug (R)	597	4373
6B	Huntley, Thomas (DFL)	351	2228	28B	Sviggum, Steve (R)	463	2273
53B	Jacobson, Carl (R)	429	7153	7A	Swapinski, Dale (DFL)	331	4282
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
34B	Johnson, Jeff (R)	487	5511	46A	Thompson, Mark (DFL)	223	4176
24B	Johnson, Ruth (DFL)	241	7065	50B	Tingelstad, Kathy (R)	507	5369
67B	Johnson, Sheldon (DFL)	229	4201	25A	Tuma, John (R)	533	4229
15A	Juhnke, Al (DFL)	371	6206	51B	Vandever, Ray (R)	529	4124
59B	Kahn, Phyllis (DFL)	255	4257	63A	Wagenius, Jean (DFL)	239	4200
26B	Kalis, Henry J. (DFL)	317	4240	61B	Walker, Neva (DFL)	213	7152
60A	Kelliher, Margaret Anderson (DFL)	231	0171	12A	Walz, Dale (R)	527	4333
20B	Kielkucki, Tony (R)	367	1534	55B	Wasiuk, Scott (DFL)	225	1188
16B	Knoblauch, Jim (R)	451	6316	12B	Wenzel, Stephen G. (DFL)	389	4247
49B	Koskinen, Luanne (DFL)	301	4231	51A	Westerberg, Andrew (R)	523	4226
53A	Krinkie, Philip (R)	365	2907	13A	Westrom, Torrey (R)	557	4929
15B	Kubly, Gary W. (DFL)	315	4346	38A	Wilkin, Tim (R)	413	3533
31A	Kuisle, William (R)	565	4378	22A	Winter, Ted (DFL)	247	5505
40A	Larson, Dan (DFL)	221	7158	41B	Wolf, Ken (R)	571	5185
27B	Leighton, Rob (DFL)	289	4193	43A	Workman, Tom (R)	537	5066

Note: Room numbers are subject to change.

List as of January 24, 2001

\*All rooms are in the State Office Building unless otherwise noted,  
St. Paul, MN 55155



# Minnesota Senate 2001 Members

District/Member/Party			Phone (651) 296-	District/Member/Party			Phone (651) 296-
		Room*				Room*	
66	Anderson, Ellen R. (DFL)	120 Cap.	5537	54	Marty, John (DFL)	325 Cap.	5645
56	Bachmann, Michele M. (R)	125 SOB	4351	39	Metzen, James P. (DFL)	322 Cap.	4370
41	Belanger Jr., William V. (R)	113 SOB	5975	2	Moe, Roger D. (DFL)	208 Cap.	2577
13	Berg, Charles A. (R)	G-25 SOB	5094	29	Murphy, Steve (DFL)	306 Cap.	4264
61	Berglin, Linda (DFL)	309 Cap.	4261	25	Neuville, Thomas M. (R)	123 SOB	1279
48	Betzold, Don (DFL)	G-9 Cap.	2556	43	Oliver, Edward C. (R)	117 SOB	4837
52	Chaudhary, Satveer (DFL)	325 Cap.	4334	34	Olson, Gen (R)	119 SOB	1282
64	Cohen, Richard J. (DFL)	317 Cap.	5931	60	Orfield, Myron (DFL)	227 Cap.	4191
28	Day, Dick (R)	147 SOB	9457	19	Ourada, Mark (R)	145 SOB	5981
20	Dille, Steve (R)	103 SOB	4131	65	Pappas, Sandra L. (DFL)	120 Cap.	1802
14	Fischbach, Michelle L. (R)	G-15 SOB	2084	37	Pariseau, Pat (R)	109 SOB	5252
49	Foley, Leo T. (DFL)	G-24 Cap.	4154	59	Pogemiller, Lawrence J. (DFL)	235 Cap.	7809
26	Fowler, Chuck (DFL)	G-9 Cap.	5713	57	Price, Leonard R. (DFL)	235 Cap.	7-8060
23	Frederickson, Dennis R. (R)	139 SOB	8138	63	Ranum, Jane B. (DFL)	120 Cap.	7-8061
58	Higgins, Linda I. (DFL)	328 Cap.	9246	53	Reiter, Mady (R)	132D SOB	1253
24	Hottinger, John C. (DFL)	205 Cap.	6153	46	Rest, Ann H. (DFL)	G-24 Cap.	2889
40	Johnson, David H. (DFL)	124 Cap.	9261	18	Ring, Twyla (DFL)	306 Cap.	5419
15	Johnson, Dean E. (DFL)	124B Cap.	3826	45	Robertson, Martha R. (R)	141 SOB	4314
50	Johnson, Debbie J. (R)	149 SOB	3219	35	Robling, Claire A. (R)	143 SOB	4123
6	Johnson, Douglas J. (DFL)	205 Cap.	8881	62	Sabo, Julie A. (DFL)	317 Cap.	4274
44	Kelley, Steve (DFL)	321 Cap.	7-8065	11	Sams, Dallas C. (DFL)	328 Cap.	7-8063
67	Kelly, Randy C. (DFL)	323 Cap.	5285	12	Samuelson, Don (DFL)	120 Cap.	4875
32	Kierlin, Bob (R)	127 SOB	5649	31	Scheevel, Kenric J. (R)	129 SOB	3903
4	Kinkel, Anthony G. "Tony" (DFL)	G-9 Cap.	4913	47	Scheid, Linda (DFL)	303 Cap.	8869
30	Kiscaden, Sheila M. (R)	135 SOB	4848	27	Schwab, Grace (R)	151 SOB	9248
16	Kleis, Dave (R)	107 SOB	6455	7	Solon, Sam G. (DFL)	303 Cap.	4188
36	Knutson, David L. (R)	133 SOB	4120	17	Stevens, Dan (R)	105 SOB	8075
51	Krentz, Jane (DFL)	111 Cap.	7061	1	Stumpf, LeRoy A. (DFL)	G-24 Cap.	8660
9	Langseth, Keith (DFL)	122 Cap.	3205	42	Terwilliger, Roy (R)	115 SOB	6238
10	Larson, Cal (R)	153 SOB	5655	5	Tomassoni, David J. (DFL)	111 Cap.	8017
21	Lesewski, Arlene J. (R)	131 SOB	4125	22	Vickerman, Jim (DFL)	226 Cap.	5650
3	Lessard, Bob (IP)	G-51 SOB	4136	38	Wiener, Deanna L. (DFL)	303 Cap.	7-8073
33	Limmer, Warren (R)	121 SOB	2159	55	Wiger, Charles W. (DFL)	301 Cap.	6820
8	Lourey, Becky (DFL)	G-9 Cap.	0293				

\*Capitol or State Office Building, St. Paul, MN 55155

## Minnesota House and Senate Membership

<b>1</b>	A • Rep. Maxine Penas-(R) B • Rep. Tim Finseth-(R) Sen. LeRoy A. Stumpf-(DFL)	<b>15</b>	A • Rep. Al Juhnke-(DFL) B • Rep. Gary W. Kubly-(DFL) Sen. Dean E. Johnson-(DFL)	<b>29</b>	A • Rep. Jerry Dempsey-(R) B • Rep. Mike Osskopp-(R) Sen. Steve Murphy-(DFL)	<b>43</b>	A • Rep. Tom Workman-(R) B • Rep. Barb Sykora-(R) Sen. Edward C. Oliver-(R)	<b>57</b>	A • Rep. Nora Slawik-(DFL) B • Rep. Sharon Marko-(DFL) Sen. Leonard R. Price-(DFL)
<b>2</b>	A • Rep. Bernie L. Lieder-(DFL) B • Rep. Rod Skoe-(DFL) Sen. Roger D. Moe-(DFL)	<b>16</b>	A • Rep. Joe Opatz-(DFL) B • Rep. Jim Knoblach-(R) Sen. Dave Kleis-(R)	<b>30</b>	A • Rep. Fran Bradley-(R) B • Rep. Dave Bishop-(R) Sen. Sheila M. Kiscaden-(R)	<b>44</b>	A • Rep. Betty Folliard-(DFL) B • Rep. Jim Rhodes-(R) Sen. Steve Kelley-(DFL)	<b>58</b>	A • Rep. Joe Mullery-(DFL) B • Rep. Gregory Gray-(DFL) Sen. Linda Higgins-(DFL)
<b>3</b>	A • Rep. Irv Anderson-(DFL) B • Rep. Loren A. Solberg-(DFL) Sen. Bob Lessard-(IP)	<b>17</b>	A • Rep. Sondra Erickson-(R) B • Rep. Leslie J. Schumacher-(DFL) Sen. Dan Stevens-(R)	<b>31</b>	A • Rep. William Kuisle-(R) B • Rep. Gregory M. Davids-(R) Sen. Kenric J. Scheevel-(R)	<b>45</b>	A • Rep. Ron Abrams-(R) B • Rep. Peggy Leppik-(R) Sen. Martha R. Robertson-(R)	<b>59</b>	A • Rep. Len Biernat-(DFL) B • Rep. Phyllis Kahn-(DFL) Sen. Lawrence J. Pogemiller-(DFL)
<b>4</b>	A • Rep. Doug Fuller-(R) B • Rep. Larry Howes-(R) Sen. Anthony G. "Tony" Kinkel-(DFL)	<b>18</b>	A • Rep. Rob Eastlund-(R) B • Rep. Loren Geo Jennings-(DFL) Sen. Twyla Ring-(DFL)	<b>32</b>	A • Rep. Gene Pelowski Jr.-(DFL) B • Rep. Michelle Rifenberg-(R) Sen. Bob Kierlin-(R)	<b>46</b>	A • Rep. Mark Thompson-(DFL) B • Rep. Lyndon R. Carlson-(DFL) Sen. Ann H. Rest-(DFL)	<b>60</b>	A • Rep. Margaret Anderson Kelliher-(DFL) B • Rep. Scott Dibble-(DFL) Sen. Myron Orfield-(DFL)
<b>5</b>	A • Rep. Tom Rukavina-(DFL) B • Rep. Anthony "Tony" Sertich-(DFL) Sen. David J. Tomassoni-(DFL)	<b>19</b>	A • Rep. Mark Olson-(R) B • Rep. Bruce Anderson-(R) Sen. Mark Ourada-(R)	<b>33</b>	A • Rep. Arlon Lindner-(R) B • Rep. Rich Stanek-(R) Sen. Warren Limmer-(R)	<b>47</b>	A • Rep. Darlene Luther-(DFL) B • Rep. Debra Hilstrom-(DFL) Sen. Linda Scheid-(DFL)	<b>61</b>	A • Rep. Karen Clark-(DFL) B • Rep. Neva Walker-(DFL) Sen. Linda Berglin-(DFL)
<b>6</b>	A • Rep. Thomas (Tom) Bakk-(DFL) B • Rep. Thomas Huntley-(DFL) Sen. Douglas J. Johnson-(DFL)	<b>20</b>	A • Rep. Robert "Bob" Ness-(R) B • Rep. Tony Kielucki-(R) Sen. Steve Dille-(R)	<b>34</b>	A • Rep. Steve Smith-(R) B • Rep. Jeff Johnson-(R) Sen. Gen Olson-(R)	<b>48</b>	A • Rep. Bill Haas-(R) B • Rep. Connie Bernardy-(DFL) Sen. Don Betzold-(DFL)	<b>62</b>	A • Rep. Jim Davnie-(DFL) B • Rep. Mark S. Gleason-(DFL) Sen. Julie A. Sabo-(DFL)
<b>7</b>	A • Rep. Dale Swapinski-(DFL) B • Rep. Mike Jaros-(DFL) Sen. Sam G. Solon-(DFL)	<b>21</b>	A • Rep. Marty Seifert-(R) B • Rep. Richard Mulder-(R) Sen. Arlene J. Lesewski-(R)	<b>35</b>	A • Rep. Carol L. Molnau-(R) B • Rep. Mark Buegens-(R) Sen. Claire A. Robling-(R)	<b>49</b>	A • Rep. Jim Abele-(R) B • Rep. Luanne Koskinen-(DFL) Sen. Leo Foley-(DFL)	<b>63</b>	A • Rep. Jean Wagenius-(DFL) B • Rep. Wes Skoglund-(DFL) Sen. Jane B. Ranum-(DFL)
<b>8</b>	A • Rep. Mary Murphy-(DFL) B • Rep. Bill Hilty-(DFL) Sen. Becky Lourey-(DFL)	<b>22</b>	A • Rep. Ted Winter-(DFL) B • Rep. Elaine Harder-(R) Sen. Jim Vickerman-(DFL)	<b>36</b>	A • Rep. Chris Gerlach-(R) B • Rep. Dan McElroy-(R) Sen. David L. Knutson-(R)	<b>50</b>	A • Rep. Tom Hackbarth-(R) B • Rep. Kathy Tingelstad-(R) Sen. Debbie J. Johnson-(R)	<b>64</b>	A • Rep. Matt Entenza-(DFL) B • Rep. Michael Paymar-(DFL) Sen. Richard J. Cohen-(DFL)
<b>9</b>	A • Rep. Kevin Goodno-(R) B • Rep. Paul Marquart-(DFL) Sen. Keith Langseth-(DFL)	<b>23</b>	A • Rep. James T. Clark-(R) B • Rep. Howard Swenson-(R) Sen. Dennis R. Frederickson-(R)	<b>37</b>	A • Rep. Dennis Ozment-(R) B • Rep. Mary Liz Holberg-(R) Sen. Pat Pariseau-(R)	<b>51</b>	A • Rep. Andrew Westerberg-(R) B • Rep. Ray Vandever-(R) Sen. Jane Krentz-(DFL)	<b>65</b>	A • Rep. Andy Dawkins-(DFL) B • Rep. Carlos Mariani-(DFL) Sen. Sandra L. Pappas-(DFL)
<b>10</b>	A • Rep. Bud Nornes-(R) B • Rep. George Cassell-(R) Sen. Cal Larson-(R)	<b>24</b>	A • Rep. John Dorn-(DFL) B • Rep. Ruth Johnson-(DFL) Sen. John C. Hottinger-(DFL)	<b>38</b>	A • Rep. Tim Wilkin-(R) B • Rep. Tim Pawlenty-(R) Sen. Deanna L. Wiener-(DFL)	<b>52</b>	A • Rep. Barbara Goodwin-(DFL) B • Rep. Geri Evans-(DFL) Sen. Satveer Chaudhary-(DFL)	<b>66</b>	A • Rep. Tom Osthoff-(DFL) B • Rep. Sheldon Johnson-(DFL) Sen. Ellen R. Anderson-(DFL)
<b>11</b>	A • Rep. Roxann Daggett-(R) B • Rep. Mary Ellen Ostromba-(DFL) Sen. Dallas C. Sams-(DFL)	<b>25</b>	A • Rep. John Tuma-(R) B • Rep. Lynda Boudreau-(R) Sen. Thomas M. Neuville-(R)	<b>39</b>	A • Rep. Thomas W. Pugh-(DFL) B • Rep. Bob Milbert-(DFL) Sen. James P. Metzen-(DFL)	<b>53</b>	A • Rep. Philip Krinkie-(R) B • Rep. Carl Jacobson-(R) Sen. Mady Reiter-(R)	<b>67</b>	A • Rep. Tim Mahoney-(DFL) B • Rep. Randy C. Kelly-(DFL)
<b>12</b>	A • Rep. Dale Walz-(R) B • Rep. Stephen G. Wenzel-(DFL) Sen. Don Samuelson-(DFL)	<b>26</b>	A • Rep. Bob Gunther-(R) B • Rep. Henry J. Kalis-(DFL) Sen. Chuck Fowler-(DFL)	<b>40</b>	A • Rep. Dan Larson-(DFL) B • Rep. Ann Lenczewski-(DFL) Sen. David H. Johnson-(DFL)	<b>54</b>	A • Rep. Mary Jo McGuire-(DFL) B • Rep. Mindy Greiling-(DFL) Sen. John Marty-(DFL)		
<b>13</b>	A • Rep. Torrey Westrom-(R) B • Rep. Doug Peterson-(DFL) Sen. Charles A. Berg-(R)	<b>27</b>	A • Rep. Dan Dorman-(R) B • Rep. Rob Leighton-(DFL) Sen. Grace S. Schwab-(R)	<b>41</b>	A • Rep. Alice Seagren-(R) B • Rep. Ken Wolf-(R) Sen. William V. Belanger Jr.-(R)	<b>55</b>	A • Rep. Harry Mares-(R) B • Rep. Scott Wasiluk-(DFL) Sen. Charles W. Wiger-(DFL)		
<b>14</b>	A • Rep. Steve Dehler-(R) B • Rep. Doug Stang-(R) Sen. Michelle L. Fischbach-(R)	<b>28</b>	A • Rep. Connie Ruth-(R) B • Rep. Steve Sviggum-(R) Sen. Dick Day-(R)	<b>42</b>	A • Rep. Ron Erhardt-(R) B • Rep. Erik Paulsen-(R) Sen. Roy Terwilliger-(R)	<b>56</b>	A • Rep. Mark William Holsten-(R) B • Rep. Eric Lipman-(R) Sen. Michele Bachmann-(R)		

## Monday, June 11

### HF1—Abrams (R)

**Rules & Legislative Administration**  
Omnibus tax bill providing income, sales and use, property, motor vehicle, and other tax modifications; and appropriating money.

### HF2—Seagren (R)

**Rules & Legislative Administration**  
Omnibus K-12 education finance bill.

### HF3—Sviggum (R)

**Rules & Legislative Administration**  
Omnibus health and human services appropriations bill.

### HF4—Sykora (R)

**Rules & Legislative Administration**  
Family and early childhood education appropriations bill providing for children and family support programs and appropriating money.

### HF5—McElroy (R)

**Rules & Legislative Administration**  
Omnibus economic development, housing and other state agencies appropriations bill.

### HF6—Leppik (R)

**Rules & Legislative Administration**  
Omnibus higher education appropriations bill.

### HF7—Molnau (R)

**Rules & Legislative Administration**  
Omnibus transportation appropriations bill providing funding for transportation, public safety, and the judicial system.

### HF8—Knoblach (R)

**Rules & Legislative Administration**  
Public capital improvements funding provided, bonds issued, and money appropriated.

### HF9—Krinkie (R)

**Rules & Legislative Administration**  
State government legislative and administrative expense funding provided and money appropriated.

### HF10—Holsten (R)

**Rules & Legislative Administration**  
Omnibus environmental, natural resources, and agricultural appropriations bill.

### HF11—Juhnke (DFL)

**Rules & Legislative Administration**  
Diesel fuel minimum biodiesel content required; B5 or B20 diesel fuel required in state vehicles, public transit bus fleets, and temporary equipment; special fuel tax on biodiesel fuel reduced; and money appropriated.

### HF12—Juhnke (DFL)

**Rules & Legislative Administration**  
Minnesota Dairy Supply Management Act adopted establishing a milk price control board, providing pricing limits, creating a milk supply quota system option, and imposing penalties.

### HF13—Juhnke (DFL)

**Rules & Legislative Administration**  
Clean fuel development grant program established providing grants and incentives to motor fuel outlets that install equipment to dispense cleaner fuel, E85 fuel tax exemption provided, and money appropriated.

### HF14—Stang (R)

**Rules & Legislative Administration**  
Stadium; task force established to study construction of a new football stadium or renovation of an existing facility, deadline provided, and report required.

## Thursday, June 14

### HF15—Anderson, I. (DFL)

**Rules & Legislative Administration**  
Legislature authorized to call a special session and constitutional amendment proposed.

### HF16—Hausman (DFL)

**Rules & Legislative Administration**  
Unicameral legislature provided with staggered terms and constitutional amendment proposed.

## Monday, June 18

### HF17—Kelliher (DFL)

**Rules & Legislative Administration**  
Malformed amphibian research funding provided and money appropriated.

### HF18—Goodwin (DFL)

**Rules & Legislative Administration**  
Independent audit of specified human services department programs required and money appropriated.

### HF19—Krinkie (R)

**Rules & Legislative Administration**  
Individual income tax rates reduced.

## Thursday, June 21

### HF20—Olson (R)

**Rules & Legislative Administration**  
Individual income tax personal and dependent exemption deductions provided and rates reduced.

### HF21—Pugh (DFL)

**Rules & Legislative Administration**  
Sales tax rebate provided and money appropriated.

### HF22—Kubly (DFL)

**Rules & Legislative Administration**  
Disaster relief provided for Meeker, Swift, and Kandiyohi counties resulting from high winds of June 2001, and money appropriated.

### HF23—Paymar (DFL)

**Rules & Legislative Administration**  
Municipal zoning limitations on regulating nonconforming uses repealed.

### HF24—Paymar (DFL)

**Rules & Legislative Administration**  
Outdoor advertising local regulation authorized.

### HF25—Anderson, I. (DFL)

**Rules & Legislative Administration**  
State government finance and operations bill providing sales tax rebate; providing all school district funding through state aids; modifying income, sales, property, and special taxes; and appropriating money.

## Monday, June 25

### HF26—Leppik (R)

**Rules & Legislative Administration**  
Background checks required on apartment managers who have resided in Minnesota less than 10 years.

### HF27—Clark, K. (DFL)

**Rules & Legislative Administration**  
Legislative commission on international standards created relating to international trade agreements.

### HF28—Westrom (R)

**Rules & Legislative Administration**  
Diesel fuel minimum biodiesel content required, study and report required, and biodiesel fuel use required in state-owned vehicles.

### HF29—Abrams (R)

**Rules & Legislative Administration**  
Sales tax rebate provided and money appropriated.

## Wednesday, June 27

### HF30—Molnau (R)

**Rules & Legislative Administration**  
Motor vehicle title transfer proceeds dedicated for highway and transit purposes and constitutional amendment proposed.

### HF31—Bernardy (DFL)

**Rules & Legislative Administration**  
Independent School District No. 11, Anoka, supplemental revenue increased and money appropriated.

### HF32—Rifenberg (R)

**Rules & Legislative Administration**  
Deaths of unidentified homeless persons notice provided on Department of Health Web site to aid in identification and in notifying possible relatives.

## Thursday, June 28,

### HF33—Schumacher (DFL)

**Rules & Legislative Administration**  
School boards allowed to waive basic skills testing requirements for qualified students.

## Friday, June 29

### HF34—Kahn (DFL)

**Rules & Legislative Administration**  
Resolution memorializing Congress to enact legislation to remove trade, financial, and travel restrictions relating to Cuba.

### HF35—Tuma (R)

**Rules & Legislative Administration**  
State government continued temporary operation financing provided and money appropriated.



# Tracking new laws, vetoes

Exactly 4,972 bills were introduced during the 2001 Legislative Session — 2,565 by the House and 2,407 by the Senate. Of those, 218 bills (and five resolutions) were passed by both bodies during the session and sent to the governor.

In the 2001 Special Session, the House introduced another 35 bills, exceeded by the Senate's 36 bills. Of those, 13 were transmitted to the governor for approval.

So what happened to the other 4,812 bills? Some were duplicates, some were folded into other bills, but most are in limbo, awaiting legislative action when the next regular session begins on Jan. 29, 2002. The biennium has ended, and bills do not carry over from one biennium to the next.

And what happened to the 231 bills (and five resolutions) that were sent to the governor? Most were signed into law, and some were vetoed.

Here's a quick review of the governor's veto authority during the first year of the biennium.

Once a bill has passed both the House and the Senate in identical form, it's ready to be sent to the governor for consideration. The governor has several options when considering a bill. The governor can:

- sign the bill and it will become law;
- veto the bill;
- line-item veto individual items within an appropriations bill; or

- do nothing, which in the first year of the biennium results in the bill becoming law.

The timing of these actions is as important as the actions themselves.

For bills passed in the Special Session, the governor has 14 days from "presentment" to veto them — the same rules that apply in the second year of the biennium. If the governor takes no action on a bill during this time, the bill is vetoed in what is commonly referred to as a "pocket veto."

And the important thing to remember in the first year of the biennium is this: the governor has three days from the time of "presentment" to veto a bill.

If the governor doesn't sign the bill within this time frame, it will become law without his signature. (Sundays are not counted in the three-day limit, but holidays are.)

Only on appropriations bills can the governor exercise the line-item veto authority. This option allows the governor to eliminate the spending items to which he or she objects. As with all vetoes, the governor must include a statement listing the reasons for the veto with the returned bill. Here, too, the timetable is within three days after the governor receives the bill.

A two-thirds vote of the members in each house is needed to override a veto. So the

Legislature, either next year or when it is called into special session before then, could vote to override the governor's veto.

The governor's veto authority is outlined in the Minnesota Constitution (Art. IV, Sec. 23).

So what happens to the bills that weren't approved by the Legislature this year?

Bills that were awaiting floor action on the General Register now return to the last committee they were acted upon, where they will stay unless action upon by the 2002 Legislature. This rule also applies to any bill up for consideration on the Consent Calendar, Calendar for the Day or Fiscal Calendar.

For appointed conference committees that have not submitted a report upon adjournment, the bill returns to the body it originally came from and is laid on the table. The conference committee is then disbanded.

Bills that are passed by one body and not the other remain alive for the second year of the biennium. The house that approved the bill in the first year need not repass the bill in the second.

Bills pending before the Rules and Legislative Administration Committee from either body return to the standing committee to which the bill was previously referred.

Bills vetoed by the governor are returned to the body where the bill originated and laid on the table.

Bills remaining in standing committees can be taken up in the second year of the biennium in the committee to which they were last referred.

**Editor's note:** The following chart includes the 218 bills (and five resolutions) that passed both the House and the Senate and have been sent on to the governor for consideration. Final action is as yet incomplete on 39 of the bills and one resolution. The bills are, for the most part, sorted according to the committee of origin. However, only one omnibus appropriation bill was passed by both bodies before adjournment May 21. As a result, the governor must call a special session for the Legislature to finalize those bills, at which time they will be submitted for his approval or veto.

Here are definitions of some of the terms used in the chart.

## Governor's options

- enactment  
The date the governor signed the bill into law.
- line-item veto (liv)  
The power or action of the governor to reject

individual items within an appropriations bill while approving the rest of the bill.

- Veto  
The governor did not approve the bill.
- \*An asterisk marks the version of the bill the House and Senate approved and sent on to the governor.

## Effective dates

Each act takes effect at 12:01 a.m. on the day it becomes effective, unless the act specifies a different time. Examples:

- Aug. 1, 2001  
Each act the governor signs into law, except those that make appropriations, take effect on Aug. 1 following its final enactment, unless the act specifies a different date.
- July 1, 2001  
An appropriations act, or an act spending money, takes effect at the beginning of the first day of July following its final enactment,

unless the act specifies a different date.

- Day after enactment  
The act becomes effective on the day after the governor signs it.
- Upon local approval  
A special law requiring approval from the local government unit it affects becomes effective the day after the local government unit's governing body files a certificate with the secretary of state, unless the act specifies a later date.
- Various  
Different parts of the act have different effective dates.
- with exceptions (we)  
Act includes other effective dates.
- with qualifications (wq)  
Act adds conditions to the effective date.
- retroactive (retro.)  
Act goes into effect as of a specified date in the past.

2001 MINNESOTA LEGISLATURE FINAL ACTION (as of June 30, 2001)					CH	Governor's signature	Governor's veto	Awaiting governor's action	Effective date
HF	Author	SF	Author	Bill Title					
HF—House File SF—Senate File R—Resolution CH—Chapter we—with exceptions wq—with qualifications *—bill the governor signed or vetoed †—approved without governor's signature									
				<b>AGRICULTURE POLICY</b>					
106*	Ness	47	Dille	Minnesota agricultural education leadership council permanent members authorized.	6	3/8			3/9
149*	Pawlenty	505	Higgins	Regulates sale and labeling of Halal food, meat or poultry products.	54	4/30			8/1
285*	Ness	339	Murphy	Agricultural liens regulation provisions modification and consolidation.	57	4/30			7/1
406	Jennings	511*	Sams	Minnesota State Fair foundation established by the State Agricultural Society.	85	5/10			8/1
1145	Boudreau	333*	Kelley, S.P.	Veterinary medicine cease and desist orders authorized.	108	5/17			8/1
1734	Kuisele	1659*	Murphy	Animal feedlot permit conditions and additional level inventory.	128	5/18			5/19
2514*	Finseth	2368	Murphy	Animal Health Board dangerous domestic animal diseases emergency authority expansion.	192	5/25			8/1
				<b>CAPITAL INVESTMENT</b>					
1159*	Pawlenty	857	Samuelson	Local bridge replacement and Gillette Children's Hospital addition funding modifications.	55	4/30			5/1
				<b>CIVIL LAW</b>					
243	Dawkins	346*	Betzold	Trusts; uniform principal and income act modified, and antilapse law clarified.	15	4/6			8/1
245	Juhnke	225*	Johnson, Dean	Allows licensed peace officers to determine necessity of patient restraints.	26	4/13			8/1
453	Skoe	319*	Moe	Discharge of judgments against bankruptcy debtors regulated.	34	4/24			8/1
239*	Lipman	170	Neuville	Real estate provisions modifications.	50	4/26			4/27 (Sec. 1); 8/1
1260*	Dawkins	1332	Kiscaden	Child support and custody provisions terminology neutralization.	51	4/26			8/1
1889*	Lipman	1831	Ranum	Uniform Partnership Act of 1994 transition issues regulated.	64	4/30			8/1
2396	Skoglund	1999*	Vickerman	Judicial system obsolete references updated and repealed.	78	5/10			8/1
2207	Mulder	2022*	Lesewski	Family support payment dates clarified.	134	5/21			8/1
1516	Hilstrom	1583*	Foley	Child neglect definition modified.	136	5/21			5/22
1697	Smith	1944*	Knutson	Crime of nonsupport of spouse or child clarification and modification.	158	5/22			8/1
1655	Entenza	1614*	Hottinger	Civil actions against the state authorized under certain federal acts.	159	5/22			8/1
440	Knoblauch	321*	Kleis	Guardians or conservators criminal background studies requirements.	163	5/24			8/1
1276	Mullery	1968*	Samuelson	Crane operators certification study.	177	5/25			8/1
1892*	Clark, K.	1545	Chaudhary	Creditor discriminatory practices to include discrimination based on public assistance.	186				8/1
1051*	Smith	936	Neuville	Medical malpractice expert review certifications regulated.	189		5/25		
767	Holberg	1215*	Cohen	Business discrimination provisions modified.	194	5/24			8/1
1898	Holberg	1068*	Betzold	Government data access and maintenance provided.	202	5/29			5/3 (sec. 5.9); 8/1
				<b>COMMERCE, JOBS &amp; ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT POLICY</b>					
219	Sertich	258*	Tomassoni	Resolution requesting a ban on the importation of certain steel products.	R1	3/15			
2430	Jaros	2328*	Kelly, R.C.	Resolution to amend the Railroad Unemployment Insurance Act.	R5	†			
320*	Dauids	399	Solon	Property casualty insurance agents surplus lines insurance procurement authority.	12	3/29			3/30
1951	Goodno	1204*	Hottinger	Regulates the use of HIV and bloodborne pathogen tests.	28	4/13			4/14
47*	Rukavina	39	Johnson, Doug	Unemployment benefits to certain LTV employees extended.	30	4/11			4/12 retro. to Aug. 1, 2000
949*	Rifenberg	771	Kierlin	Allows for a smaller newspaper to serve as the qualified newspaper for smaller communities.	38	4/24			8/1
323*	Haas	914	Hottinger	Motor vehicle fuel franchisees transfer rights provision expiration date removal.	48	4/26			4/27
1467	Holberg	1419*	Scheid	Payment bonds claims notices requirements modification.	52	4/26			8/1
1637*	Buesgens	1790	Robling	Repeals provisions requiring hawkers and peddlers to obtain a license.	53	4/30			8/1
1084*	McElroy	1066	Metzen	Omnibus financial institutions and banking bill.	56	4/30			5/1 (Secs. 1-7, 11, 12); 8/1
779*	McElroy	823	Betzold	Motor vehicle dealer franchise transfer practices modification.	62	4/30			8/1
1219*	Gunther	1617	Rest	State fund mutual insurance company state involvement reduced.	63	4/30			5/1
933*	Gunther	983	Sams	Farm implements and outdoor power equipment buyback requirements.	72	5/4			8/1
489*	Haas	311	Scheid	Provides for the procurement of surety bonds.	76	5/7			8/1
1872	Marquart	1611*	Wiger	Vocational rehabilitation facilities grant procedures technical changes provided.	77	5/10			5/11 (Secs. 3,4); 8/1
2070	Gunther	1932*	Lesewski	Economic security statutory provisions modified and repealed.	79	5/10			5/11
390	Winter	110*	Vickerman	PrairieLand exposition center nonprofit management corporation authorized.	81	5/10			8/1
1409	Jacobson	1090*	Reiter	Minor employee age certification requirement satisfied by form I-9.	82	5/10			8/1
1920	Rhodes	1835*	Kelley, S. P.	Employees authorized to receive employment termination information within 15 days.	95	5/14			8/1
1392	Gunther	1258*	Frederickson	Minnesota Investment fund loan or grant authority expansion.	102	5/15			8/1
661	Stang	859*	Hottinger	Accountancy Act of 2001 established, rulemaking authorized, and penalties imposed.	109	5/17			1/1/03
926*	Goodno	1001	Sams	Minnesota uniform health care identification card standards modifications.	110	5/17			1/1/03
1955	Dauids	1826*	Oliver	Insurance producers licensing and regulation.	117	5/17			7/1/02
2225	Nornes	2046*	Lesewski	Workers' compensation provisions modifications.	123	5/18			8/1; 5/19/02 (Sec. 23)
694	Dauids	1264*	Scheid	No-fault auto insurance sale of income loss benefits coverage to senior citizens regulated.	124	5/18			8/1
1007	Dauids	970*	Murphy	Gas sales below cost prohibited and enforcement authority provided.	129	5/21			8/1
1615	Entenza	1610*	Rest	Insurance regulation provided for liquidations and investments.	131	5/21			8/1
2253	Dauids	2033*	Reiter	Insurance agents minimum continuing education requirements modification.	141	5/21			8/1



2001 MINNESOTA LEGISLATURE FINAL ACTION (as of June 30, 2001)					CH	Governor's signature	Governor's veto	Awaiting governor's action	Effective date
HF—House File			we—with exceptions						
SF—Senate File			wq—with qualifications						
R—Resolution			*—bill the governor signed or vetoed						
CH—Chapter			†—approved without governor's signature						
HF	Author	SF	Author	Bill Title	CH	Governor's signature	Governor's veto	Awaiting governor's action	Effective date
2130	Larson	1964*	Oliver	Life and health insurance guaranty association regulation provisions modifications.	142	5/21			8/1
604	Sertich	564*	Ring	Employee assistance records access and maintenance requirements.	145	5/21			8/1
1311	McElroy	1485*	Kelley, S.P.	Minnesota Money Transmitters Act established.	148	5/21			8/1
1821	Kuisle	1666*	Murphy	Motor vehicle dealers allowed temporary licensing exemption for certain sales.	151	5/21			8/1
1940	Sertich	1472*	Metzen	Capital access economic development program provisions modified.	153	5/21			5/22
1886	Kahn	1721*	Anderson	Genetic testing prohibited as condition for employment.	154	5/21			8/1
514	Carlson	1124*	Chaudhary	Continued insurance coverage provided for spouses of specified education retirees.	166	5/24			5/25
655*	Wolf	1277	Frederickson	Minnesota Unemployment Insurance Program Law.	175	5/25			8/1
1941*	Gunther	1899	Johnson, David	Job Skills Partnership program provisions clarification.	181	5/25			8/1
1182*	Clark, J.	831	Frederickson	Invention developer contract requirements modified.	190	5/25			8/1
1994	Stang	1752*	Solon	Local liquor license provisions.	193	5/25			8/1
1733	Entenza	1561*	Hottinger	Uniform Commercial Code revised Article 9 corrective and conforming amendments.	195	5/25			8/1
560	Goodno	491*	Berglin	Patient protections and cost-sharing provided.	196		5/25		
1893	Sertich	1344*	Higgins	Employers prohibited from requiring applicants to pay for background checks or training.	199	5/29			8/1
2116	McElroy	1965*	Anderson	Obsolete trade and economic development department programs and duties repealed.	200	5/29			5/30 (sec. 4); 8/1
1270	Entenza	1541*	Oliver	Currency exchanges, real estate brokers, real property appraisers regulation provided.	208	5/29			Various
1338	Haas	1054*	Scheid	Insurance provisions modifications.	215	5/29			Various
1541*	Mullery	882	Sabo	Rental application fees studied.	216	5/29			8/1
				<b>CRIME PREVENTION</b>					
556*	Stanek	756	Kelly, R.C.	Federal law enforcement officers authorized to exercise some arrest powers in MN.	16	4/9			8/1
64	McElroy	971*	Kelly, R.C.	Repeals law prohibiting itinerant carnivals.	20	4/11			8/1
466	McElroy	972*	Kelly, R.C.	Repeals law prohibiting endurance contests.	22	4/11			8/1
865*	Fuller	1266	Kinkel	Community service authorized in lieu of criminal fines under specified circumstances.	71	5/4			8/1
953*	Fuller	1265	Kinkel	Child abuse definition expansion.	73	5/4			8/1
782	McGuire	773*	Chaudhary	DWI; electronic alcohol monitoring recidivism and conditional release violation rates study.	80	5/10			8/1
783*	Stanek	1244	Ranum	Deadly force definition modified to exclude use of less lethal munitions used by peace officers.	127	5/18			5/19
570	Hilstrom	1043*	Chaudhary	POST Board license denial, suspension or revocation authority expansion.	135	5/21			8/1
704*	Fuller	719	Lourey	Criminal offenders rehabilitation law exception for emergency medical services personnel.	144	5/21			8/1
1925	Walker	1369*	Berglin	Battered women shelter facilities per diem payment program implementation.	152	5/21			8/1
992	Skoglund	1552*	Chaudhary	Negligent fire resulting in injury or property damage definition modified.	155	5/21			8/1
273	Skoglund	172*	Ranum	Juvenile petty offense definition exclusions and dispositions modification.	157	5/22			8/1
883	Johnson, S.	846*	Cohen	Criminal justice data communications network use authority expansion.	167	5/24			8/1
1997	Hilstrom	1324*	Marty	Private detectives and protective agents firearms use training requirements modified.	168	5/24			8/1
707*	Skoglund	863	Kelly, R.C.	Carisoprodol controlled substance classification effective date modification.	173	5/25			8/1
848	Skoglund	969*	Chaudhary	Corporations electronic search warrants.	197	5/29			8/1
205	Nornes	103*	Larson	Gas theft from motor fuel retail business civil remedies provided.	204	5/29			8/1
372	McGuire	229*	Ranum	Crime victim notification of expungement proceedings required.	209	5/29			8/1
1261*	Bishop	1937	Chaudhary	Corrections provisions modification and clarification.	210	5/29			Various
				<b>EDUCATION POLICY</b>					
34	Seifert	28*	Hottinger	Teacher licensing under current licensure rules.	1	1/16			1/17
1046	Clark, J.	991*	Kelly, R.C.	Notifies schools of student possession of drug paraphernalia.	18	4/11			8/1
1192*	Abeler	1979	Foley	Teachers temporary limited licenses application timelines modified.	68	5/2			5/3
1394	Tingelstad	1706*	Wiger	Asthma inhaler possession and use authorized for public school students.	84	5/10			8/1
2107*	Johnson, J.	1329	Neuville	Student conduct considered grounds for dismissal or removal from class specified.	183	5/25			8/1
				<b>ENVIRONMENT &amp; NATURAL RESOURCES POLICY</b>					
80*	Hackbarth	79	Johnson, Debbie	Coon Lake water level control.	8	3/16			3/17
790	Davids	702*	Scheevel	Modifies requirements for the Bluffland Trail System.	27	4/13			8/1
501	Ozment	283*	Kinkel	Conservation officer enforcement comparison prevented from use in job evaluation.	32	4/24			4/25
274*	Dorman	70	Marty	Mercury thermometer sales restricted.	47	4/26			1/1/02
1188*	Gunther	1045	Vickerman	Fire training exercise ash disposal regulated.	67	5/2			5/3
1481	Cassell	1164*	Frederickson	Landowner definition modified for participation in Reinvest in Minnesota program.	99	5/15			8/1
1827	Swenson	1613*	Knutson	Pollution Control Agency authority to expedite permits clarified.	116	5/17			8/1
1828*	Ozment	1486	Stevens	Wetlands classification and replacement provisions modifications.	146	5/21			8/1
1612	Kelliher	1434*	Price	Water permit provisions modifications.	160	5/24			8/1
873*	Howes	1126	Kinkel	Tax-forfeited land conveyances, sales, exchanges, and easements.	164	5/24			5/25; local compliance (sec. 15)
870	Erickson	795*	Stevens	Snowmobile trail access grant-in-aid continuation required.	165	5/24			5/25
1071	Bakk	1082*	Frederickson	State park land additions, deletions, and administration.	182	5/24			8/1

2001 MINNESOTA LEGISLATURE FINAL ACTION (as of June 30, 2001)					CH	Governor's signature	Governor's veto	Awaiting governor's action	Effective date
HF—House File			we—with exceptions						
SF—Senate File			wq—with qualifications						
R—Resolution			*—bill the governor signed or vetoed						
CH—Chapter			†—approved without governor's signature						
HF	Author	SF	Author	Bill Title	CH				
1487*	Haas	1346	Lessard	Recreation and game and fish provisions modifications.	185	5/24			8/1
2028*	Nornes	1785	Higgins	Environmental audit pilot program modified; PCA separate annual pollution report.	187	5/25			8/1
1497*	Nornes	1580	Moe	Lake County state land sales authorized.	206	5/29			8/1
				<b>FAMILY &amp; EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION FINANCE</b>					
1515*	Sykora	1851	Lourey	Omnibus family and early childhood education appropriations bill.	217		5/29		
				<b>GOVERNMENTAL OPERATIONS &amp; VETERANS AFFAIRS POLICY</b>					
1391*	Solberg	1318	Lessard	Resolution for postage stamp of Eric Enstrom's "Grace" photograph.	R3	4/26			
656*	Lipman	231	Betzold	Revisor's Bill.	7	3/15			3/16 (Sec. 52); 8/1
252	Seifert	570*	Reiter	Repeals obsolete rules.	23	4/11			8/1
1455	Osskopp	1435*	Price	Designer selection board provisions modified.	33	4/24			8/1
387	Walker	142*	Higgins	Increases the membership of the State Council on Black Minnesotans.	39	4/24			8/1
2119*	Erickson	1915	Rest	Charitable organization report filing requirements modified.	45	4/24			4/25
995*	Buesgens	1214	Tomassoni	Horse racing license application and medication provisions modifications.	59	4/30			5/1
525*	McElroy	1604	Wiener	Multimember agency members compensation conditions modifications.	61	4/30			7/1
1681*	Dehler	1622	Sabo	State employment technical and housekeeping changes; civil service pilot project extension.	70	5/2			5/3 (Sec. 4); 8/1
1247*	Eastlund	1506	Larson	Veterans Home Board administration of planned giving donations provided.	75	5/4			8/1
1410	Gunther	849*	Vickerman	Rural policy and development center staff authorized to participate in stat plans.	86	5/10			5/11
1687	Clark, K.	1206*	Kinkel	Indian Affairs Council membership expanded to include a member from Bemidji.	88	5/10			8/1
1021	Buesgens	1008*	Betzold	Casino licensee authorized to detain persons suspected of cheating.	92	5/14			8/1
1657	Haas	1404*	Hottinger	Group long-term care insurance purchase authorized for retired state employees.	94	5/14			5/15
1069	Osskopp	986*	Vickerman	Lawful gambling regulation provisions modifications.	96	5/14			5/15 (Secs. 5-13); 8/1
724	Rhodes	1064*	Rest	State professional service contract procedures specified.	100	5/15			7/1
1764	Gleason	2049*	Sabo	Coldwater Springs Camp area historical preservation ensured.	101	5/15			5/16
481	Greiling	520*	Wiger	Combat Wounded Veterans Day designated as Aug. 7.	104	5/15			8/1
1537	Lipman	780*	Betzold	State agency rulemaking housekeeping and technical changes bill.	106	5/17			8/1
1248*	Eastlund	1774	Samuelson	Veterans homes resident deposit accounts modified.	111	5/17			8/1
1778	Walz	1269*	Samuelson	Bataan Death March commemorative plaque placement in the State Capitol provided.	115	5/17			8/1
1023	Biernat	1222*	Wiger	Merchant Marine and Women Airforce Service Pilots plaques authorized on Capitol grounds.	125	5/18			5/19
2074	Clark, J.	2031*	Knutson	Public works contracts regulated.	126		5/18		
1174	Howes	694*	Murphy	Propane Education and Research Council established.	130	5/21			8/1
486*	Seifert	682	Lesewski	Newspaper paid political advertisement disclaimers required to be legible.	143	5/21			8/1
1869	Anderson, B.	1263*	Robertson	Expiration dates of various advisory councils, committees, and other entities changed.	161	5/24			Various
1938	Kahn	1680*	Robertson	Administration department provisions modified.	162	5/24			Various
667	Seifert	555*	Betzold	State agencies rulemaking procedures modifications.	179	5/25			8/1
1310*	Abrams	1205	Johnson, Doug	State building official authorized to interpret the state building code.	207	5/29			Various
1569*	Osskopp	1628	Rest	Minnesota State Colleges and Universities customized trainer positions reclassified.	218		5/29		
				<b>HEALTH &amp; HUMAN SERVICES POLICY</b>					
213	Mulder	201*	Sams	Physicians assistants infection control continuing education requirements repeal.	3	2/15			2/16
181	Wenzel	43*	Samuelson	Adult foster care license capacity age requirement and maximum admissions variances.	4	2/28			3/1
357	Mullery	289*	Sams	Alcohol and drug counselors licensing requirements modified.	10	3/16			3/17
994	Dorn	883*	Hottinger	Establishes hospital waiver or variance request procedure.	29	4/13			8/1
116	Mulder	274*	Higgins	Respiratory care practitioner advisory council sunset delayed.	31	4/24			8/1
424	Greiling	456*	Berglin	Mental retardation waiver recipients authorized access to respite care in certain facilities.	35	4/24			8/1
275*	Abeler	210	Foley	Nursing facilities closure medical assistance cost savings projection prohibition.	36	4/24			4/25
125*	Nornes	104	Larson	Dentist licensure requirements modified for applicants trained in a foreign country.	37	4/24			8/1
1747	Solberg	1780*	Lessard	Itasca County chemical dependency demonstration project rule exemption extended.	41	4/24			8/1
1634	Mahoney	1460*	Marty	Duty to warn law applied to social workers allowed to form professional firms.	42	4/24			8/1
253	Seifert	249*	Ring	Public health obsolete rules repeal.	46	4/26			8/1
1160*	Davids	1127	Sams	Physician assistants prescribing medication review provisions modified.	49	4/26			8/1
967*	Mulder	876	Lesewski	Permits schools to sponsor potluck events.	65	5/2			8/1
1151*	Mulder	1187	Kelley, S. P.	Modifies penalty provisions for psychologists.	66	5/2			8/1
1522*	Bradley	1421	Stevens	Full-time nursing home administrator requirements modified.	69	5/2			8/1
1748*	Harder	2097	Vickerman	Rural ambulance services staff requirements temporary variances.	74	5/4			8/1
1067	Boudreau	923*	Pariseau	Social work licensure examination requirement exceptions provided.	90	5/10			8/1
935	Goodno	824*	Kelly, R.C.	Good Samaritan law emergency care liability immunity clarification.	107	5/17			5/18
1832	Goodno	2361*	Berglin	Omnibus health, human services and corrections appropriations.	118		5/15		
1081	Jacobson	560*	Sams	Health care review organizations provisions modifications.	120	5/17			8/1



2001 MINNESOTA LEGISLATURE FINAL ACTION (as of June 30, 2001)					CH	Governor's signature	Governor's veto	Awaiting governor's action	Effective date
HF—House File			we—with exceptions						
SF—Senate File			wq—with qualifications						
R—Resolution			*—bill the governor signed or vetoed						
CH—Chapter			†—approved without governor's signature						
HF	Author	SF	Author	Bill Title	CH	Governor's signature	Governor's veto	Awaiting governor's action	Effective date
976	Abeler	359*	Kiscaden	Chiropractors licensing and regulation provisions modification and clarification.	121	5/18			8/1
322	Rhodes	414*	Hottinger	Minnesota Utilization Review Act provisions modified.	137	5/21			8/1
1819	Nornes	1430*	Higgins	Alcohol and drug counselor licensure reporting requirement repealed.	138	5/21			8/1
1155*	Abeler	1081	Sams	Health plan companies network shadow contracting regulation provisions modifications.	170	5/24			Various
1407*	Mulder	1415	Sams	Public health collaboration plans provisions modified.	171	5/24			8/1
1397	Tingelstad	1394*	Kiscaden	Child placement provisions modified and definitions provided.	178	5/25			8/1
1928	Walker	1407*	Ring	Health care access programs provisions modified.	203	5/29			8/1
1304	Nornes	1464*	Lourey	Lead poisoning prevention provisions modified.	205	5/29			5/30 (Art. 1, Sec. 42); 8/1
1406*	Mulder	1398	Kiscaden	Maternal death review and study provided.	211	5/29			8/1
				<b>HIGHER EDUCATION FINANCE</b>					
550*	Eastlund	954	Hottinger	Higher education services Edvest office rulemaking authority extended.	58		4/30		
977	Leppik	1033*	Wiener	MnSCU technical and community college employee unions merged.	133	5/21			5/22
				<b>JOBS &amp; ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FINANCE</b>					
421*	McElroy	460	Cohen	Energy assistance program federal fund expenditure authorized.	2	2/2			2/3
1105	Rukavina	960*	Tomassoni	IRRRB Commissioner authorized to acquire discontinued mining property.	149	5/21			5/22
				<b>K-12 EDUCATION FINANCE</b>					
670	Carlson	647*	Rest	Resolution to fund 40 percent of special education costs.	R2	4/6			
				<b>LOCAL GOVERNMENT &amp; METROPOLITAN AFFAIRS</b>					
817	Howes	376*	Vickerman	City contract limit increases.	5	3/2			3/3
393*	Mahoney	155	Kelly, R.C.	Ramsey County and St. Paul city employees vacant county jobs equal competition.	9	3/16			3/17
487	Vandever	433*	Ring	Townships health, social, and recreational services contracts amounts increases.	11	3/21			8/1
1016	Holberg	509*	Robling	City and county obligations payment by electronic transfer or credit card authorized.	13	4/6			4/7 (Sec. 3); 8/1
172	Mares	9*	Wiger	Authorizes cities housing assistance for volunteer firefighters or ambulance personnel.	19	4/11			4/12
394	Seifert	327*	Lesewski	Repealing statutes concerning castrating animals running at large in a town.	21	4/11			8/1
828	Mullery	741*	Orfield	Hennepin County employees granted disaster volunteer leave.	40	4/24			Upon local compliance
867*	Seagren	646	Rest	Suburban Hennepin Regional Park District provisions modification and clarification.	44	4/24			4/25
1465	Stanek	1432*	Wiger	Police civil service periodic examinations permitted and clarifying changes provided.	87	5/10			8/1
2110	Howes	1441*	Hottinger	Limited exemption to local government gift policy provided.	93	5/14			5/15
1290	Howes	510*	Pappas	County offices made appointive positions under certain circumstances.	105	5/17			Upon local approval
1526	Erhardt	1528*	Terwilliger	Edina authorized to restrict operation of recreational motor vehicles (ATVs).	114		5/17		
610	Solberg	974*	Lessard	Local public officers conflict of interest law exception provided.	132	5/21			8/1
1589	Howes	1301*	Robertson	Bid and performance bond thresholds modified for economic development projects.	140	5/21			8/1
872	Sertich	494*	Tomassoni	St. Louis County special purchasing laws repealed.	150	5/21			7/1
1153*	Mulder	1529	Lesewski	Local government building project architect requirement exemption provided.	172		5/25		
1507*	Bishop	1572	Langseth	Municipal planning legal nonconforming land uses treatment clarification.	174	5/24			8/1
1218	Rhodes	1154*	Kelley, S.P.	Metropolitan Radio Board expiration date extension.	176	5/25			8/1
1340*	Anderson, B.	908	Ourada	Wright County recorder appointment permitted.	180	5/24			5/25
2036*	Dempsey	1685	Murphy	Goodhue County auditor-treasurer appointment.	184	5/24			Upon local compliance
1544	Hilty	1367*	Lourey	County creation and boundary change procedures modification.	198	5/24			8/1
2510	Johnson, J.	2249*	Betzold	Revisor's bill.	201	5/29			5/30
				<b>REGULATED INDUSTRIES</b>					
1367*	Wolf	1306	Metzen	Owner-occupied residential housing program to use rental energy revolving loan funds.	147	5/21			5/22
659	Wolf	722*	Metzen	Energy conservation, production and regulatory provisions modifications.	212	5/29			Various
				<b>TAXES</b>					
2037	Abrams	2208*	Pogemiller	Public finance and debt provisions modifications.	214	5/29			5/30 (Sec. 13-42); 8/1
				<b>TRANSPORTATION POLICY</b>					
208*	Workman	551	Dille	Resolution urging authorization of funding for modernization of waterways.	R4	5/17			
368	Stang	63*	Fischbach	Stearns County Highway 55 bridge designated as Old St. Anne's pass.	14	4/6			8/1
416	Rifenberg	400*	Kierlin	Hokah authorized to vacate roads if necessary due to extensive damage.	17	4/9			Upon local compliance
37	McElroy	480*	Johnson, Dean	Repeals obsolete traffic regulations.	24	4/13			8/1
57*	Molnau	27	Robling	Certain crimes against children named disqualifying offenses for school bus drivers' licenses.	25	4/13			6/1
1404	Kuisle	1709*	Johnson, Dean	Exempts towed implements of husbandry from tail lamp requirement.	43	4/24			4/25
1383*	Workman	1598	Schwab	Motorcycle handlebar height restrictions repealed.	60	4/30			8/1
1085	Workman	1155*	Langseth	Motor home and other defined recreational equipment width limitations modified.	83	5/10			8/1
254	Seifert	930*	Schwab	Transportation obsolete rules repealed.	89	5/10			5/11
1830	Workman	2006*	Schwab	Motor vehicle accident data public availability.	91	5/10			8/1
2181	Workman	2225*	Pappas	Certain school buses operation by licensed child care providers.	97	5/15			Various

2001 MINNESOTA LEGISLATURE FINAL ACTION (as of June 30, 2001)					CH	Governor's signature	Governor's veto	Awaiting governor's action	Effective date
HF—House File				we—with exceptions					
SF—Senate File				wq—with qualifications					
R—Resolution				*—bill the governor signed or vetoed					
CH—Chapter				†—approved without governor's signature					
HF	Author	SF	Author	Bill Title	CH	Governor's signature	Governor's veto	Awaiting governor's action	Effective date
1172	Workman	1056*	Sabo	School bus driver's licenses validity verification requirement.	98	5/15			8/1
1549	Wenzel	1772*	Samuelson	C. Elmer Anderson Memorial Highway outdoor advertising restriction.	103	5/15			5/16
1596*	Workman	1599	Chaudhary	Small vehicle passenger service definition expanded to wheelchair-accessible vehicles.	112	5/17			8/1
2161	Stanek	2005*	Foley	State Trooper Theodore "Ted" Foss Memorial Highway designated on I-90 in Winona County.	113	5/17			8/1
887	Leppik	910*	Robertson	Residential roadway definition modification for traffic regulations purposes.	119	5/17			8/1
1817	Workman	1821*	Murphy	Utility facilities regulation modified in railroad rights-of-way.	122			5/18	
2203	Clark, J.	2142*	Kelly, R.C.	County highways or town roads property condemnation judicial review.	139	5/21			5/22
256	Howes	174*	Moe	Gross weight seasonal increase for transporting carrots authorized.	156	5/22			8/1
708*	Workman	1113	Johnson, Dean	Well drilling machines and equipment registration tax exemption clarified.	188	5/24			5/25
1973*	Workman	2106	Terwilliger	State highways in municipalities regulated and conforming changes provided.	191	5/24			5/25 wq
1488	Workman	1769*	Ourada	Transportation and highway provisions modifications.	213	5/29			8/1
				<b>WAYS &amp; MEANS</b>					
634*	Haas	648	Kelly, R.C.	Payment of claims against the state.	169	5/24			7/1
				<b>SPECIAL SESSION</b>					
6	Leppik	11*	Wiener	Omnibus higher education finance bill.	1	6/30			Various
10	Holsten	10*	Price	Omnibus environment, natural resources, and agriculture finance bill.	2	6/29	liv		Various
4*	Sykora	5	Lourey	Omnibus family and early childhood education finance bill.	3	6/30			Various
5*	McElroy	12	Anderson	Omnibus jobs, housing, and economic development finance bill.	4	6/30	liv		Various
1*	Abrams	13	Pogemiller	Omnibus tax bill.	5	6/30			Various
2*	Seagren	6	Stumpf	Omnibus K-12 education finance bill.	6	6/30			Various
26	Leppik	18*	Knutson	Apartment manager background checks.	7	6/30			8/1
7	Molnau	7*	Johnson, Dean	Omnibus transportation, public safety, and judiciary finance bill.	8	6/30	liv		Various
3	Goodno	4*	Berglin	Omnibus health, human services, and corrections finance bill.	9	6/30			Various
9	Krinkie	9*	Cohen	Omnibus state government finance bill.	10	6/30	liv		Various wq
none	none	21*	Moe	Transitional financing for certain government functions under certain conditions.	11			7/2	
8*	Knobloch	25	Langseth	Capital bonding bill.	12	6/30	liv		7/1
none	none	1*	Betzold	Revisor's bill.	13	6/30			Various wq



The Minnesota Legislature is not the only state's governing body to have problems settling important issues this year. Other states have encountered disputes over many issues including lottery proceeds, offensive email messages, highway transportation and urban development.

The South Carolina Legislature concluded a three-day special session on June 29 and worked out its remaining issues after reaching a budget agreement during the previous week. The main debate was about the use of state lottery proceeds. The Democratic governor had wanted to use the proceeds for government spending but faced opposition in the Senate. An agreement was reached to use the proceeds for educational purposes.

The governor had also experienced problems on other issues in dealing with the first Republican-controlled Senate since the Reconstruction era.

Another issue that has consumed legislators is a joke e-mail message sent out in the South

## Special sessions

### Not just Minnesota, many other U. S. states head into extra innings

Carolina House encouraging female staff members to wear more revealing clothes.

The Washington Legislature also suffered problems this session due to having 49 Republicans and 49 Democrats in the House. There is no tie-breaking vote. Legislators have battled over bills that address transportation problems, sex-offender housing, and shoreline regulation. Moreover, the citizens of Washington decided in voter-approved ballot measures to cut taxes, but to also increase spending for education.

Legislators finally came to an agreement on the state's budget shortly before midnight June 21 and averted a government shutdown, which would have been the first in the state's history.

The state of Connecticut held a week-long spe-

cial session, which ended on June 28, and came to agreement on its budget and government spending limits. The agreement was reached two days before the end of the fiscal year and three weeks after the regular session ended.

The Colorado Legislature also held a special session in May to settle disputes on how to solve the state's problem of urban sprawl and development. Legislators failed to reach an agreement during that session and Colorado Attorney General Ken Salazar is now proposing that another session be held in August or September.

In addition, the heavily populated states of California, Pennsylvania, and New York have historically taken extra time to reach budget agreements. The state of New York hasn't reached an agreement on time for the last 17 years.

**(Seth Kaplan, an intern in the House Public Information Office who wrote this story, will be a junior at the University of Iowa next fall. He is studying political science and journalism.)**





PHOTO BY ANDREW VON BANK

A felony drunken driving penalty is created by a new law passed in 2001.

Continued from page 17.

In addition, the bill includes \$3.7 million for increased treatment and supervision of sex offenders.

The goal of the new funding is to reduce caseloads for probation officers. The increases were not included in the governor's budget.

In addition, the original House proposal eliminated funding for the Ombudsman for Corrections, an independent office that investigates complaints on the behalf of inmates against the department. However, the bill reflects the Senate provision and provides full funding for the ombudsman at \$659 million for the biennium.

Salary and benefit increases are provided for the State Public Defender's Office, the Board of Public Defense, the District Public Defense and Corrections Department in the bill.

Other changes from the original House position include an increase in funding for the Public Defense Corporations, which help provide legal aid and consultation to various groups of people throughout the state. The corporations will receive \$325,000 extra over the biennium. The House originally provided no extra funding and the Senate provided about \$450,000.

2001 Special Session: HF3/SF4\*/CH7

# Reflections

Budget approvals are not an easy task for a tripartisan government.

More than usual, it requires extreme levels of compromise and give and take to agree on fiscal policy that will be satisfactory to all parties.

The state's political parties in control of the House, Senate, and governor's office started out the 2001 Legislative Session with their own set of revenue projects to try and get enacted. By the end of session on May 21, they had not agreed on a new budget.

Minnesota had not experienced such an impasse since 1971. Then, under two parties, the House, Senate, and governor could not agree on tax reform, reapportionment, and the way the state funds K-12 education in a special session that lasted for five months.

This special session, the demands by legislators or the governor were — unlike a few other states — not driven by how to find dollars in a \$757 million tax package, but where to spend them.

The recently completed special session to finalize the budget for the next two years was a major learning experience for policy makers, political scientists, and legislative observers. It was a textbook exercise in arbitration, compromise, and cooperation to try and resolve differences in property tax reform, tax rebates, and health care. Legislators also had to resolve funding for transportation, education, and other spending bills.

Annually, some states across the country have come to expect such fiscal stalemates. During the past 17 years the New York Legislature has never enacted a budget by the cutoff date of April 1.

Like other legislative sessions, one of New York's major obstacles this year was compromise on education between its Senate and State Assembly.

While some states with a June 30 end of fiscal year (except New York and California) had not resolved spending differences by June 25, 35 states passed their budget bills or enacted resolutions on time. Others like Tennessee are still struggling to arrive at workable solutions to keeping their states running.

Tennessee has more than an \$860 million shortfall. Although it passed a very bare bones budget last year, lawmakers

are addressing the same situation by trying to create even deeper cuts. The state does have a very high sales tax, but no personal income tax.

Other states like Alaska, Colorado, Connecticut, Hawaii, South Carolina,

Tennessee, Washington, and West Virginia convened special sessions to complete their work — mostly on budget considerations.

Between 1991 and 1994, a few states either shut down or had a fiscal crisis due to a national recession. Even today, with the fiscal problems some states are encountering, others like Massachusetts and California somehow manage to stay in operation by implementing emergency edicts.

Yet, the many days and weeks of sleepless hours at the Capitol do not quite compare to New York's 17-year legislative deliberate entrenchment and monthly or periodic spending resolutions. Nor does Minnesota have to face Tennessee's problem — a large shortfall for two years in a row.

Now that lawmakers have gone back to districts across the state in time for July 4 and the associated town festivals and parades, they can say their work has been done, not to everyone's liking, but completed until the next time.

—LECLAIR GRIER LAMBERT



PHOTO BY TOM OLMSCHIED

Lobbyists and department heads scramble to get a copy of the latest proposal during a June 13 hearing of the taxes working group.

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

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE: STEVE SVIGGUM  
MAJORITY LEADER: TIM PAWLENTY  
MINORITY LEADER: THOMAS W. PUGH

## MINNESOTA INDEX

### Special Session 2001

Number of calendar days in special session .....	20
Number of legislative days .....	9
Longest day, June 29-30, in hours .....	16.5
Shortest day, June 18, in minutes .....	23
Number of House bills introduced in special session .....	35
Number passed .....	13
Number signed by Gov. Jesse Ventura .....	12
Number of fiscal bills signed .....	11
Number of full bills vetoed in the special session .....	1
Number bills line-item vetoed .....	4
Number of line-item vetoes .....	13
Longest finance bill, health and human services, in pages .....	780
Approximate sheets of paper used for copies of special session bills.....	175,000
For House Journals .....	70,000
Total number of Journal pages .....	620
Pages on last day .....	27
Most hours spent by one revisor on one bill (taxes) .....	24
Shortest, (state government finance) .....	2.5
Number of consecutive days spent on tax bill by one revisor, in days .....	5
Time of June 30 special session adjournment .....	3:29 a.m.
Hours away from a government shutdown .....	20.5
Number of working days in 2001 regular session .....	118
Number of legislative days .....	59
Number of House bills introduced in the regular session .....	2,565
Senate bills .....	2,407
Number passed .....	218
Number vetoed by the governor from the regular session .....	10
Number of line-item vetoes from the regular session .....	0
Days between the end of the special session and beginning of next session at noon Jan. 29, 2002 .....	213

Sources: House Chief Clerk's Office, Office of the Revisor of Statutes, House Public Information Office

### FOR MORE INFORMATION

For general information, call:  
**House Information Office**  
(651) 296-2146 or  
1-800-657-3550

To obtain a copy of a bill, call:  
**Chief Clerk's Office**  
(651) 296-2314

To find out about bill introductions or  
the status of a specific bill, call:  
**House Index Office**  
(651) 296-6646

For an up-to-date recorded message  
giving committee meeting times and  
agendas, call:  
**Committee Hotline**  
(651) 296-9283

The House of Representatives can be  
reached on the World Wide Web at:  
**<http://www.house.leg.state.mn.us>**

Teletypewriter for the hearing impaired.  
To ask questions or leave messages,  
call:  
**TTY Line (651) 296-9896 or**  
**1-800-657-3550**

Check your local listings to watch  
House committee and floor sessions  
on TV.

This document can be made available in alternative  
formats to individuals with disabilities by calling  
(651) 296-2146 voice, (651) 296-9896 TTY, or  
(800) 657-3550 toll free voice and TTY.