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REGULATING TELEMARKETERS

ASSISTED REPRODUCTION PROTECTIONS, AND MORE

HF2801-HF3125

Session Weekly

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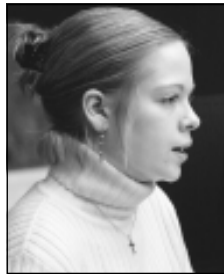
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On the cover: A lobbyist quietly walks down the State Capitol's self-supporting staircase during the second week of the 2002 session.

—Photo by Becky Ekstam

Halting unwanted calls

Proposed legislation would prohibit telemarketers calling those on do-not-call list

By **THERESA STAHL**

Saying they are tired of receiving unsolicited calls in their homes, members of the American Association of Retired Persons (AARP) came to the Legislature to show their support for a bill (HF2710) that would create a “do-not-call list” for solicitors.

The association represents people over age 50, but “unwanted telephone calls affect everybody,” said Don Tomsche, state advocacy chair for the Minnesota chapter of the organization.

However, he said, seniors are targeted by telemarketers. A 2001 survey from the organization reported that 56 percent of

be maintained by the Department of Commerce. Telemarketers who wish to solicit goods or services for purchase or rent would not be able to call those on the list.

“Why would we want to call people that don’t want to be called?” said bill sponsor Rep. Matt Entenza (DFL-St. Paul). Minnesotans, particularly seniors, he said “would like some decent privacy in their homes.”

To obtain a copy of the list, solicitors would have to pay \$15, but it would be free of charge to residents who wanted their name on the list, according to the plan. The list would be updated every six months. During committee discussion, the cost of purchasing the list was

The bill, which garnered committee approval and was forwarded to the House Civil Law Committee, received some opposition, but Entenza said he was working with those groups to reach a middle ground.

Laura Bordelon, representing the Minnesota Chamber of Commerce, said she doesn’t like the idea of imposing additional fees on businesses.

Opponents suggested Entenza is trying to create new legislation for a problem some say is solved by what is already in statute.

“People aren’t aware of all the protections currently available,” said Matthew Lemke, representing the Minnesota Retailers Association. He said that telemarketing is a major employer in the state. However, he couldn’t answer when asked how the legislation might affect telemarketing jobs.

Mark Joyce, representing long-distance provider MCI WorldCom, found fault with a clause in the bill that states telephone solicitors would be able to call those who have an existing business or personal relationship.

“This gives tremendous advantage to already established phone companies who want new business on local phone service,” Joyce said, adding the market is “very competitive.”

This language also means one’s local phone company could call to propose additional services or make other offers. Entenza said in this case, those who do not wish to be called must request to be placed on that company’s do not call list.

Telemarketers have been the cause of a lot of recent news in Rochester. Daryl Hildebrant, a crime prevention specialist with the city’s police department, said the subject of telemarketing has been in the papers and on the television news.

The latest scam, Hildebrant said, happens when a caller tells the person who picks up the phone that they have an emergency call and need to press 9 to receive it. If the person follows the instructions, they end up giving up their line to the caller who can then steal the line to make long distance calls for 45 minutes.

In the week prior to the meeting, Hildebrant’s department took more than 60 complaints about telemarketers. He said he’s given 50 talks in the past 13 months on telemarketers.

“Many victims are shut-ins,” he said. “And a sweet voice on the other side of the line is the only one they hear all day.”



PHOTOS BY TOM OLMSCHIED

Members of the American Association of Retired Persons fill many of the seats in the House Commerce, Jobs and Economic Development Policy Committee hearing Feb 6. The committee was hearing a bill that would limit telephone solicitations, establish penalties, and require the maintenance of a do-not-call list.

telemarketing fraud victims were age 50 or older.

Tomsche, along with more than 40 Minnesota association members, came to the House Commerce, Jobs, and Economic Development Policy Committee meeting Feb. 6.

Under HF2710, the do-not-call list would

dropped from \$200 to \$15.

Do-not-call lists exist in 26 other states, and there has been discussion in Congress of creating a federal list. According to research conducted by AARP, there are approximately 140,000 telemarketing firms in the United States. Up to 10 percent may be fraudulent.



Plan for paws, people

Report examined the pieces necessary to create a state zoo

Hildebrant said the bill will help police departments, but Rep. Fran Bradley (R-Rochester), who said he supports the bill, pointed out that all the acts stated are currently illegal.

"It makes it easier to prosecute a charge," Entenza replied.

If HF2710 were to become law, solicitors in all states would have to obtain Minnesota's do-not-call list and would be subject to penalty for violating its provisions. Under the provision, penalties would include a fine of up to \$2,000 per solicitation.

"You can pass all the laws you want, and it won't make a difference," said Mike Schumann, a small business owner who testified at the hearing.

Schumann said he is frustrated about telemarketers' calls and agrees with the intent of the bill, but he doesn't think another law will be effective. Instead, he suggested using call rejection or caller identification options offered by phone companies to block out unwanted calls.



Darrell Hildebrant, a crime prevention specialist with the Rochester Police Department, testifies Feb. 6 before the House Commerce, Jobs, and Economic Development Policy Committee, in support of a bill that would create a do-not-call list for solicitors.

Rep. Tony Sertich (DFL-Chisholm) said he would rather pass a law that does it for free "than push business, asking people to buy (extra phone services)." He added

that some people have their phone number blocked for security reasons.

Entenza said the do-not-call list "creates an easy system for people" to get rid of unwanted calls. It's one of many proposals coming forward this session in an attempt to answer consumer concerns.

AARP documents offer the following warning signs of illegitimate telemarketers:

- Phone calls from people who solicit charity donations, offer fantastic prizes, and no-risk investments, all with a fee that needs to be paid immediately;
- Phone solicitors that require you to courier money or give a credit card number to claim your prize; and
- Unsolicited phone calls from people who seem to know a lot about you and are interested in helping you win the big prize, or get rich from a no-risk investment. 🐼

The Minnesota Zoo in Apple Valley opened in May 1978 with great fanfare, but many priorities that make the zoo what it was were laid out more than a decade earlier.

In 1964 attendance at zoos in the United States was more than double the combined attendance of professional football and baseball at the time. For many Minnesotans that meant a trip to St. Paul to see Sparky the Seal and friends.

"Even the small and inadequate St. Paul Como Zoo is drawing yearly about 1 million visits, with well over half the visitors from outside the city of St. Paul," said a 1966 report from the Citizens League of Minneapolis.

The report was commissioned to look at the creation of a major zoological garden in the Twin Cities metropolitan area.

It said the Twin Cities was the only major metropolitan area in the country to either not have or be planning a major zoo.

The 26-member Metropolitan Zoo Committee, headed by Minneapolis lawyer John Mooty, said an expansion of the Como Zoo would not provide the facilities necessary to meet the demands of zoo-going Minnesotans. The committee determined the eight-acre facility could not be expanded to even the 26 acres used for parking at a new zoo in Milwaukee.

The committee also said the Como Zoo needed to be modernized, though any changes must be consistent with the early development of a major metropolitan zoo.

The committee turned its focus to a new zoo and gave four reasons why such a facility was needed:

- An outstanding zoo is a major tourist draw and provides great economic benefit for the area and region;
- A top quality zoo provides an important part of the educational and cultural needs of the people in a metropolitan area;
- A zoo is a bargain in public recreation. When capital and operating costs and potential for zoo-generated income from admissions are calculated, a zoo compares favorably to things like museums, public

auditoriums and stadiums; and

- A good zoo helps create a favorable image for a metropolitan community.

The report further suggested a quality zoo is more than a park with a few animals and other amusements.

"A good zoo is not a crowded, close, noisy building with caged animals on display," the report said. "It is a place where wildlife can

be displayed in an attractive and natural setting to educate and entertain people at the same time."

It also noted things such as a children's area, educational facilities,

and interpretive settings. A key to making that happen is expert staff, imagination, and money, the report said.

The group expected zoo attendance to be around one million people annually in the beginning with an increase to about two million per year by 1980, generating about two-thirds of the necessary operating revenue.

To cover the remainder the report suggested a small tax levy on the then five-county metropolitan area (Anoka, Dakota, Hennepin, Ramsey, and Washington counties). Under the plan each county would levy an additional \$333,000 annually. The idea was this would be a regional facility benefiting everyone in the area and that counties needed to work together to make a new zoo reality.

Ultimately the 1969 Legislature allocated \$500,000 to develop a master plan for a zoo site, though it took a couple of tries to pass the plan. One year later Dakota County donated 500 acres in Apple Valley for the zoo. After funding for construction failed by one vote in 1971, the 1973 Legislature approved more than \$25 million in bonds and additional matching funds for construction.

Today, the Minnesota Zoo has about 2,300 animals on site and attracts more than one million people per year. Its operating budget is about \$18 million a year, \$7.4 million of which comes from the state.

(M. Cook)



The Minnesota Zoological Garden pictured in 1992.

Photo from Face to Face, Minnesota Zoo annual report 1992.

★ **AGRICULTURE****De-icing product pitched**

Minnesota corn farmers may benefit from a bill that encourages the state Department of Transportation (MnDOT) to use corn-derived de-icing solution on state highways.

Members of the House Transportation Policy Committee approved the bill (HF2589) Feb. 5.

Rep. Bob Ness (R-Dassel), bill sponsor, said using the corn-based solution would be better for the environment and would benefit Minnesota corn growers.

Although some committee members said it isn't the Legislature's role to decide which product an agency uses, others said giving the department a gentle nudge toward a home-grown product could do no harm.

The bill would require the department to use corn-derived de-icing solution whenever it is "economically feasible, environmentally beneficial, and consistent with public safety."

Norm Ashfeld, the south region superintendent for MnDOT's metro division, said the department is not promoting the legislation because it doesn't want options to be restricted.

The department has been testing about five different de-icing solutions, one of which is Caliber, the corn-derived solution, Ashfeld said.



Steve Bytnar of Glacial Technologies tells the House Transportation Policy Committee about the effectiveness of corn-based highway de-icing solutions during a Feb. 5 meeting.

"We don't want to limit ourselves to just one product," he said.

Rep. James Clark (R-New Ulm) said the language in the bill leaves plenty of wiggle room for the department to choose what solution to use if corn-derived de-icer is not the best choice.

"This really is no kind of mandate," he said. "Since we're in the transportation committee, you can drive a truck through this language."

"Outstate, you've got a lot of hurt going on," Clark said, referring to Minnesota farmers.

Rep. Ted Winter (DFL-Fulda) agreed that the bill could benefit rural Minnesota. He referred to a similar law the Legislature passed in 1995 encouraging the state to use soy-based ink for its printing. That created demand for the ink and lowered the price, he said.

The bill now goes to the House Transportation Finance Committee.

★ **BONDING****Planetarium funding sought**

Claiming Minnesotans will be able to reach for the stars at the new Minnesota Planetarium and Space Discovery Center, center proponents requested legislators reach for the state pocketbook to help fund the project.

Rep. Margaret Anderson Kelliher (DFL-Mpls) is requesting \$30 million in this year's bonding bill to construct and equip the new planetarium. Kelliher, sponsor of HF2542, presented the legislation to the House Jobs and Economic Development Finance Committee Feb. 6.

Of the project's \$34.3 million budget, approximately \$16 million would be spent on construction, \$13.5 million on equipment and exhibits, and \$4.7 million on design fees, according to planetarium documents.

The governor did not recommend bonding funds for the project. The city will likely not go through with the planetarium project if it does not receive state funding.

Minneapolis Mayor R.T. Rybak said the planetarium is one of the projects of highest priority for the city. If the project receives state funding, Rybak said the planetarium would be built as part of the new Minneapolis library.

"It is time to bring a facility that promotes astronomy and space science education in Minnesota up to the present and position it to take us into the future," wrote Dennis Brinkman, director of St. Paul Public Schools, in a letter to the Legislature.

The existing planetarium, which opened in

1961, has had few improvements over the years, whereas astronomy and space science have advanced tremendously, Brinkman said in his letter.

Planetarium Director Bob Bonadurer said he expects the new facility to draw 250,000 people annually. Now, it draws around 75,000 people per year.

The new planetarium will feature a 250-seat Planetarium Theater with a full-dome video system; telescopes to study live satellites; virtual environments; and a traveling Star Lab to bring astronomy education to communities across Minnesota.

Rep. Karen Clark (DFL-Mpls) pointed out with all the lights in the inner city, it's difficult to see the stars at night. "It's an important opportunity for some of our urban kids," she said.

The new planetarium would be located near the current one, and a final decision on its exact location is anticipated to be made in the next six weeks, Kelliher said. The existing planetarium is scheduled to be torn down this fall, with construction beginning shortly thereafter. It is expected to be completed in 2005.

The bill will be considered for possible inclusion in the committee's omnibus bonding recommendations.

★ **BUDGET****Fort Snelling could close**

To meet a \$2 million budget reduction request, the Minnesota Historical Society is proposing to shut down Fort Snelling for several years. Budget cut proposals also include closing the Forest History Center in Grand Rapids and Grand Mound Historic Site near International Falls, reducing several programs, grants, and site budgets, and cutting staff.

"Our plan is painful," said society Director Nina Archabal, "But I think it is responsible."

Archabal presented the society's budget plan to the House Jobs and Economic Development Finance Committee Feb. 4.

Legislators questioned the need for closing Fort Snelling, which drew nearly 100,000 people in fiscal year 2001, many of them school children. Archabal explained that the site is in need of many capital improvements and new and restructured programs. For those reasons, she said, it makes sense to close the site. She added that Fort Snelling would likely reopen time for the state's sesquicentennial celebration in 2008.

The society would save \$737,000 in years



Nina Archabal, director of the Minnesota Historical Society, explains the reasons for the recommended closing of Fort Snelling during a Feb. 4 hearing of the House Jobs and Economic Development Finance Committee. Historical Society Executive Assistant David Kelliher, right, also answered questions from committee members.

2002 and 2003 together, and \$605,000 each in 2004 and 2005. The savings amount is lower in the first two years because of severance pay and mothballing, according to David Kelliher, executive assistant to Archabal.

Because of its popularity, Rep. Michael Paymar (DFL-St. Paul) asked Archabal to “think through” closing Fort Snelling, and possibly only limit services, which would reduce the cost of mothballing.

Other proposed cuts include:

- Reducing the public programs at Lower Sioux Agency near Redwood Falls and the Jeffers Petroglyphs site near Comfrey;
- Limiting public access at the Alexander Ramsey House in St. Paul to November and December;
- Cutting 120 staff positions — including 37 full-time positions with the rest part-time;
- Reducing grants to county and local historical organizations by 50 percent; and
- Cutting history center library and museum hours.

The committee took no action on the proposal at the meeting.

BUSINESS



Cosmetology licensing may be cut

In a rare move, Rep. Dan McElroy (R-Burnsville) threatened to subpoena the Ventura administration for a list of proposed cuts for the Department of Commerce.

The issue was prompted by Commerce Commissioner Jim Bernstein’s testimony before the House Jobs and Economic Development Finance Committee Feb. 4 that cosmetology enforcement was proposed for elimination.

“Why cut this one?” asked McElroy, who serves as committee chair.

Bernstein explained the department didn’t want to cut cosmetology.

“We looked at all functions, what was most important, and what was least important to the public,” he said. “Cosmetology had the least impact on the public based on number of consumer complaints.”

McElroy then requested a list of other proposed cuts. Bernstein said he was “not authorized to say,” by instruction of Finance Commissioner Pam Wheelock.

McElroy said he has made many verbal and written requests for the information. Before making any cuts, he said, he wants to see what else was considered.

Sue Falk, representing the National Cosmetology Association of Minnesota, said the risks of not licensing include having poorly trained technicians using dirty instruments; viral infections including the AIDS virus; toxicity from acrylic and lacquered fumes; and transfer of Hepatitis B and C transmitted by razors, needles, and scissors.

“Sanitation and disinfection procedures are a must,” Falk said.

Bruce Smith, a hairstylist and educator, said cosmetologists’ licensed, professional status would be at risk.

“Liability insurance would be in jeopardy,” he said, and there would be no one to oversee health and safety education.

A cosmetologist is charged \$45 for a license, and \$30 for a renewal, which is required every three years. To be approved for a license, cosmetologists must complete 1,550 hours of training, pass the practical exam administered by the school they attended, and pass the written state exam.

Cosmetology schools pay \$900 for an initial license and a renewal fee of \$750 every three years. Schools are required to provide corporate filing, partnership agreement, or certificate of assumed name; provide a copy of the curriculum; have a \$10,000 surety bond; show proof of professional liability insurance; have signed authorization by city zoning and

building inspectors; and have certification that a licensed manager is employed at the salon.

McElroy said a vote would be taken later in the week, but by Feb. 7, when this issue went to press, no vote had been taken. A two-thirds vote by the committee would be needed to issue a subpoena.

According to the nonpartisan House Research Department, the House has never subpoenaed anyone except witnesses in ethics proceedings, which is a routine formality.

CRIME



Tracking offenders

Minnesota may soon be better able to keep tabs on parolees and probationers who move into the state.

A joint House-Senate Crime Prevention committee heard testimony Feb. 1 on a bill that would enter Minnesota into a new agreement with other states regarding supervision of adults on parole or probation. The plan was later approved by the House Crime Prevention Committee at its Feb. 7 meeting.

Minnesota is currently a member of an interstate compact that was adopted in 1939, but noncompliance and other problems have created demand for a new one.

Rep. Rich Stanek (R-Maple Grove) sponsors HF2662 in the House.

According to the National Institute of Corrections, there are more than four million people on parole in the United States and about 250,000 of them will cross state lines this year, he said.

Mike McCabe, director of the Midwestern Council of State Governments, said a number of states were out of compliance with the terms of the compact, allowing parolees and probationers to slip through the cracks when moving between states. Other states were not aware of their obligations as a member of the compact or were ignoring their responsibilities, he said.

And since the old compact did not include any penalty for states that were not following the rules, there was nothing other states could do about it.

The new compact would bring all states back into compliance, and provide a penalty for those that do not comply, McCabe said.

The agreement will not be adopted until at least 35 states have passed laws adopting the language of the compact. Twenty-five states have joined, and 20 others are considering legislation this year, so it is likely the compact will be effective sometime this spring, McCabe said.

Each member state would then have one

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vote in a national commission that will oversee the compact and create rules for member states.

Sheryl Ramstad Hvass, commissioner of the state Department of Corrections, said it is important for Minnesota to become a voting member of that oversight commission.

"We want to be at the table for the rulemaking process," she said. "We don't want to be on the sidelines while 35 of our sister states make the rules."

The plan now goes to the House Governmental Operations and Veterans Affairs Policy Committee.

★ EDUCATION

Marriage in health class

Students in health classes may soon be discussing the effects of sexual activity before marriage and the importance of matrimony.

Rep. Sondra Erickson (R-Princeton) is sponsoring a bill (HF2660) that she said would point to the institution of marriage because current curriculum is devoid of such information. The House Education Policy Committee approved the bill Feb. 7. It now goes to the House floor.

Ashley Gullikson, a sophomore at Anoka High School, told committee members she was "dissatisfied" with her health class.

"We didn't talk about the physical and emotional effects if we have sex outside of marriage," she said. "I think we should talk about it more."

Gabe Wicklund, an Anoka senior, said she has friends that take sex lightly.

"Society tells us that love equals sex," she said. "We're not taught any different. If we had marriage education, we'd have fewer pregnancies, abortions, and divorces. Peer pressure would go down."

Rep. Carlos Mariani (DFL-St. Paul) said he was concerned that if the bill became law, "We may not be able to pursue our goals of teaching about STDs (sexually transmitted diseases)."

Erickson said studying marriage will complement the study of STDs and the relationship between the two.

Rep. Peggy Leppik (R-Golden Valley) proposed to amend a section of the bill that reads: "Each district must have a program that includes ... educating students that sexual activity outside of the context of marriage is likely to have harmful emotional, physical, and social effects."

Leppik wanted to change the language so that it read "sexual activity by minors," because, she said, without it, the statement is "not necessarily true."



Gabe Wickland, a senior at Anoka High School, testifies before the House Education Policy Committee Feb. 7 in support of a bill that would modify health education programs to include the promotion of marriage.

Rep. Alice Seagren (R-Bloomington) said she opposed the amendment because even for adults, the consequences can be sexually transmitted diseases or unwanted pregnancies.

Erickson said grants for abstinence education require the language.

The amendment failed by a 16-13 committee vote.

Another part of the bill brought into question reads: "...marriage is the foundational social institution in society."

"What does this say to people who choose to be single, are widowed, or are in abusive relationships?" asked Rep. Mary Jo McGuire (DFL-Falcon Heights).

"We do a disservice to our students if we don't include that marriage is foundation of all societies in this world," Erickson replied.

Erickson said there is no cost attached to the bill, and that the state's education department may have to make some changes to balance the teaching in health education, but "that is part of their job."

New testing requirements

The House Education Policy Committee was briefed Feb. 5 on some of the new testing and compliance requirements established under the federal Elementary and Secondary Education Act. The legislation was signed into law Jan. 8.

Among the changes in the new law are annual testing requirements. Congress

authorized \$490 million for grants, as part of the law, to help states comply with the new requirements.

Jessie Montano, assistant commissioner with the Department of Children, Families and Learning, testified that Minnesota was already fulfilling many of the new required elements.

In the area of content standards, the federal act requires that standards be the same for all students, the standards must identify specifically what students should know and be able to do once they have achieved the standard, and the standards must encourage higher order thinking skills and problem solving.

All of Minnesota's current standards do meet these requirements, Montano said.

All students, as defined by the new law, includes special education students, those with limited English language proficiency, as well as those coming from various racial and ethnic groups and socio-economic standings.

In addition, there are a few changes to the Title I requirements for schools. Title I specifically targets students who are disadvantaged. Minnesota receives about \$113.5 million a year to help those students achieve.

Previously, in order to receive the funds, Title I schools were required to adopt standards in reading/language arts and math. The new law requires all schools in districts that accept Title I funds to establish standards for reading/language arts, math, and science by 2005.

Among the new testing and technical requirements are the following:

- Reading and math tests must be given once in grades 3 to 5, 6 to 8, and 9 to 12 (the state is already testing in grades 3 to 5 and 9 to 12);
- Annual English language proficiency tests must continue to be given in grades 3 to 12;
- Early literacy assessments in kindergarten through second grade;
- Annual math and reading tests in all grades from 3 to 8, beginning in 2005 (the state now tests once in grades 9 to 12);
- Annual science tests beginning in 2007, which must be given once in grades 3 to 5, 6 to 8, and 9 to 12;
- The same tests must be used to evaluate all children at the same grade level;
- The tests must produce valid results, provided to each individual student and returned prior to the beginning of the next school year;
- Tests must involve multiple measures, such as both multiple choice and open-ended questions; and

- Results must be reported by gender, race and ethnic group, language proficiency status, migrant status, disability status, and economic disadvantage.

Exceptions and accommodations are allowed for some students, under the law, Montano said.

The law also requires that states participate in the National Assessment of Educational Progress every two years, by testing in reading and math at grades 4 and 8. This measure will help states evaluate how they perform compared to one another.

★ ELECTIONS

Ensuring local representation

The 2000 census provided valuable information for various governing bodies in the state that are redrawing district boundaries.

The Legislature is working to establish new legislative and congressional districts. Cities will also draw new ward boundaries based on the population figures, and there is a chance that new boundaries may leave residents in some cities without representation because of the length of city council terms.

Rep. Phyllis Kahn (DFL-Mpls) expressed her concern to the House Governmental Operations and Veterans Affairs Policy Committee Feb. 1. The committee approved the bill (HF2593) Kahn is sponsoring to address the issue.

The bill would require council members with four-year terms who are elected by ward to run for a new term in 2003.

She said that a few years ago the city of Minneapolis went to four-year terms for city council members. Council members were elected last November under current ward boundaries and won't run again until 2005. However, when those boundaries change later this year, a worst case scenario would place two council members in the same ward, and some residents would have no representative.

Kahn said that in Minneapolis there is a 26 percent difference between the ward that has lost the most people in the past decade and the ward that has gained the most residents in the past 10 years.

Other than legislation, she said there are three other ways for Minneapolis to deal with the potential problem.

The city council by a unanimous vote could change its charter to require an election in 2003, city voters could attempt to change the charter by bringing the issue to a vote at the next election, or someone could file a lawsuit. Kahn said she heard the last option is likely if nothing else occurs.

The bill only applies to home rule charter

cities that have wards. Ann Higgins, an inter-governmental relations representative from the League of Minnesota Cities, said preliminary research shows that of the 106 charter cities in the state, 75 do not elect by wards.

Rep. Tony Kielkucki (R-Lester Prairie) questioned why the state should get involved when a city can choose to address the problem by changing its charter.

Kahn said the city of Minneapolis has shown no inclination to do so, and that the concept of a representative democracy is important.

She offered a successful amendment exempting cities with staggered city council terms and cities where the change in boundaries has historically been small.

The bill now moves to the House Local Government and Metropolitan Affairs Committee.

★ ENVIRONMENT

Water monitoring questioned

The state has a number of agencies that monitor water quality, but it lacks "overarching policy" direction, concluded a Minnesota Planning study presented to a House committee Feb. 1.

Water Planning Director Gretchen Sabel, one of the report's authors, put it more simply when she addressed a joint meeting of the



Gretchen Sabel, water planning director with the Minnesota Planning agency's Environmental Quality Board, presents a briefing on the State Water Reorganization Project to a joint meeting of the House Environment and Natural Resources Policy and Finance committees Feb. 1.

House Environment and Natural Resources Policy and Finance committees: "We're lacking a brain to tell all these hands what to do."

Among the many agencies that have water quality oversight are the state's departments of Agriculture, Health, and Natural Resources, as well as the Pollution Control Agency and the Minnesota Geological Survey.

The water program study, ordered by the 2001 Legislature, found that although the various agencies appear to be working cooperatively, Minnesota would be better served if it had a standardized approach to collecting water quality data.

Further, the authors of the report recommended that the Legislature establish a legislative water commission or other task force charged with setting statewide policy and reviewing all of the agency budgets.

Minnesota had such a commission beginning in 1989 with the passage of the Groundwater Protection Act, but the law called for the panel to sunset in 1996.

Sabel pointed to water management plans in other states as possible options for Minnesota. In Wisconsin, for instance, the state's Department of Natural Resources has established a protocol for all the agencies to follow when gathering and processing water quality data.

The planning report drew criticism from Rep. Jean Wagenius (DFL-Mpls) for focusing exclusively on "process" questions.

"There's nothing here about outcomes," she said. "We can't tell our citizens the state of their water."

Rep. Dennis Ozment (R-Rosemount), the policy committee chair, said he was concerned that although it appeared the state and local agencies were gathering a lot of data, the information wasn't being analyzed effectively. He called for another meeting to discuss the report's findings and to set short- and long-term goals for water policy.

Park repair

The Department of Natural Resources is launching a major initiative to restore and improve Minnesota's 80 state parks. Officials appealed to the House Environment and Natural Resources Finance Committee on Feb. 4 to support its \$32 million capital improvement request.

DNR Deputy Commissioner Steve Morse said a number of the state parks have aging facilities and are in need of new sanitation systems and improved roadways.

Morse also predicted an increase in the number of visitors to state parks this summer, which would further strain many of the Depression-era facilities.

In wake of the terrorist attacks, tourism experts are predicting that many people will take trips to tourist spots in their own states, instead of traveling across the country.

"People are talking about recreating on a tank of gas," he said.

Although it's too early to draw conclusions from summer reservations, Morse said, inquiries about state parks have increased 39 percent since last year.

The highlights of the DNR proposal include:

- \$8.3 million for new sanitation buildings, contact stations, and visitor centers;
- \$6 million to improve roads, bridges, and trails;
- \$4.7 million to improve the park utility systems;
- \$4.1 million to restore historic park buildings and other structures;
- \$3.5 million to repair other park buildings;
- \$2.9 million to maintain campgrounds, picnic, and swimming areas;
- \$1.3 million to restore prairies, forests, and wetlands in park areas; and
- \$1 million to purchase land near Blue Mounds State Park in southwestern Minnesota.

Morse called on legislators to fund the projects this session before they incur additional costs. He said state parks currently have \$65 million in deferred maintenance expenses.

Although he expressed support for the department's request, Rep. Tom Osthoff (DFL-St. Paul) pressed Morse about DNR initiatives in the Twin Cities metropolitan area and on those targeted to minority communities.

In response, Morse said most of the department's resources were geared toward Greater Minnesota. He added that the DNR had launched an inner-city fishing program and had developed programs for Southeast Asian immigrants.

Morse appealed to the committee again on Feb. 6, outlining a range of bonding proposals, including funding requests for field office renovations, fish hatchery improvements, reforestation programs, the metro greenway and natural area restoration initiative, and stream protection restoration projects.

The committee has taken no action on the proposal.

Identifying faulty systems

Along with stepped up enforcement, Minnesota needs a uniform code that more clearly defines faulty septic systems that threaten to pollute the state's groundwater, a sewage treatment contractors group told the House Agriculture Policy Committee Feb. 6.

At the hearing, Lisa Thorvig, assistant

commissioner of the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, said that's a tall order for an agency that has seen significant budget cuts and a reduction in the number of staff devoted to the agency's individual sewage treatment program.

But Thorvig maintained that the agency considers the program a high priority.

"Citizens tell us that the quality of water is their number one priority," she said.

Bernie Miller, representing the Minnesota On-Site Sewage Treatment Contractors Association, said the industry wants to work with the state and local governments to ensure a high standard of quality since installers often get blamed when septic systems fail.

Committee members debated the state's role in managing the septic systems and questioned the science used by the PCA to determine whether a septic system poses a threat to the groundwater.

Rep. Torrey Westrom (R-Elbow Lake) criticized the association's recommendation to standardize installation and enforcement practices.

Westrom argued that the process of identifying bad septic systems needs to be overhauled to test "true failures." He said measuring a system's distance from the water table doesn't conclusively prove that it pollutes.

"I'm worried about your proposal for all this enforcement," Westrom said. "The PCA doesn't even know what works yet. Let's not come up with a big billy club."

Miller countered that local governments and the PCA should enforce violations that they know to be detrimental to the environment.

One way the PCA pinpoints failing systems is by looking at the bottom of a drain field to see if it's too close to the water table or bedrock, said Mark Wespetal, who works with the agency's water policy and planning division.

Rep. Leslie Schumacher (DFL-Princeton) said that adequate enforcement is particularly important in areas of growth, pointing to her own district that has seen increased development.

She said local governments need to be willing to take on the responsibility of inspecting septic systems if they give the go-ahead for more development.

"We have an incredible problem here," Schumacher said. "We need to invest in the PCA so it can help the counties."

★ GOVERNMENT

Rules changes

A 2001 law changed the state's rulemaking process in an attempt to streamline the complex procedures while making the process more accessible for the people affected by various agency rules.

The House Governmental Operations and Veterans Affairs Policy Committee considered another bill (HF2779) Feb. 4 that aims to further simplify the process.

The committee took no formal action on the bill, but Rep. Jim Rhodes (R-St. Louis Park) asked Rep. Eric Lipman (R-Lake Elmo), the sponsor of the measure, to address concerns brought up during the hearing. Rhodes said the bill would be discussed further at a later hearing.

A 2000 law established a Rules Reform Task Force to make recommendations on how the state could improve its rulemaking process.

Part of the 2001 law, adopted from the task force's recommendations, makes it easier for agencies to repeal obsolete rules by identifying them in its annual report and publishing a legal notice notifying those that might be affected by the repeal. If 25 or more people request in writing that they want a more thorough examination, the customary rulemaking process would need to be followed.

Lipman said that HF2779 would extend that process to "noncontroversial" rules as well. He said many agencies do not take the time to periodically review rules because the process to repeal rules in existing law is so complex and cumbersome.

However, the bill does not define what rules would be deemed noncontroversial, an issue which Rhodes suggested should be clarified before the committee acts on the bill.

The bill also establishes a notice and comment process for adoption of rules.

Under the measure, agencies would not be required to draft a statement of need and reasonableness or go through the public hearing process after an administrative law judge approves a plan for notifying people who may be significantly affected by rule changes.

If 25 people request that the existing procedures be used, agencies would be required to follow the procedures that are in existing law.

John Knapp, representing the Minnesota Business Partnership, and a 2000 rules task force member, spoke against those changes. He said that because rules have the force of law, passing them should be at least as difficult as it is to pass legislation. He said the bill would shift the burden away from state agencies that currently have to show why the rule is needed, and onto the public who would have to show that the rule was not needed.

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Creating a new city

A new, historic city would be formed under a measure approved by the House Local Government and Metropolitan Affairs Committee Feb. 6.

HF2933, sponsored by Rep. Doug Stang (R-Cold Spring), would allow the cities of Rockville and Pleasant Lake to consolidate with Rockville Township.

"This is a very good example of local governments working together and doing what we expect them to do, to provide services to taxpayers," Stang said.

Rockville Mayor John Koerber said the consolidation will enable the community to provide better services to residents while cutting taxes "and maintaining the quality of life we enjoy."

"This will allow us to control growth aspects and develop the commercial base," he added.

He said that the three communities will soon hold public hearings on the proposed consolidation and a referendum on the matter is being planned.

However, under current law consolidation is allowed to occur between cities but not between a city and a township.

Rep. Jerry Dempsey (R-Red Wing), the committee chair, said he thought the reason townships and cities are not allowed to now consolidate is because they function in different ways. He added that if the consolidation occurs it would probably be the first of its type in state history.

Rep. Mark Buesgens (R-Jordan) offered a successful amendment to eliminate a section of the bill that would have prohibited annexation of any town land without the approval of the town board during the consolidation process.

Buesgens said the prohibition would take away rights from property owners that they have under current law.

Stang, who supported the amendment, said the prohibition was included because the township is located near St. Cloud, and there was some concern of that city annexing part of the township during the consolidation process.

Koerber said the name of the new city would be Rockville and its population will be around 2,400.

The bill now goes to the House floor.

Discounting drugs

The House Health and Human Services Policy Committee approved a bill Feb. 7 that calls for a statewide prescription drug discount program for Minnesotans.

The bill provoked considerable debate as more than 100 senior citizens filed into the committee room to hear testimony.

Under the program, those who qualify could purchase discounted drugs at participating pharmacies. In turn, pharmacies would be reimbursed through a manufacturer rebate program administered by the state.

Opponents of HF2646, sponsored by Committee Chair Rep. Fran Bradley (R-Rochester), argued that the discount program would only serve as a "Band-Aid solution to the problem."

Meanwhile, supporters said it would mark an important first step toward helping the state's senior citizens purchase prescription drugs without facing financial hardship.

"We can't afford to wait," Bradley said, adding the bill attempts to "put the brakes" on the escalating drug costs.

Opponents, however, including representatives of the medical and pharmaceutical industries, argued that the solution to the problem lies at the feet of federal lawmakers who have the power to modify Medicare and establish a drug benefit.

Under the bill, a Minnesotan would be

eligible for the discount program if he or she met the following requirements:

- is a permanent resident of the state;
- not be enrolled in a state health care or another prescription drug program;
- not be enrolled in and have a drug coverage through a private health plan or through Medicare; and
- have a gross household income that does not exceed 250 percent of the federal poverty guidelines, which would be \$21,475 a year.

Whether the bill should have a means' test sparked the most contentious debate. The Minnesota Senior Federation, one of the strongest proponents of the bill at the hearing, argued for striking the income exemption.

Rhoda Meyer of Minnetonka said that prescription drug expenses take up a significant portion of her budget, costing her thousands of dollars.

"Because of the high costs, I haven't been able to enjoy my retirement," she said.

However, an amendment to strike the means' test and one to replace it with an income limit of 300 percent of federal poverty guidelines failed.

Bradley said the means' test was necessary to avoid unduly burdening businesses, adding that many local pharmacies are already financially strapped.

The bill now goes to the House Health and Human Services Finance Committee.

Assuring patient safety

Temporary nursing agencies would be required to register with the state and secure financial safeguards, under a proposal heard by the House Health and Human Services Policy Committee Feb. 5.

Sponsored by Rep. Fran Bradley (R-Rochester), HF2664 would require that both independent contractors who provide nursing homes with temporary staff and "in-house" temporary nursing pools carry a surety bond, which are issued to companies to limit liability.

Additionally, the agencies would need to maintain workers' compensation insurance and file with the state Department of Revenue. The annual registration fee for the agencies would be \$891.

The nursing temporary agencies would also have to show documentation verifying that employees meet the necessary licensing and training requirements for the position they will be filling, under the proposal.

The state's nursing shortage has forced many nursing homes to increasingly rely on temporary workers to care for patients.

John Hustad represents the Minnesota



Kate Stahl, right, Juanita Sarkas, center, and Rhoda Meyer, left, members of the Minnesota Senior Federation, testified before the House Health and Human Services Committee, Feb. 7 in favor of a bill that would establish a discount drug program.

Health and Housing Alliance, which primarily includes nonprofit nursing homes. He said that some temporary agencies have operated with shaky business practices.

"We have found that there are some temporary agencies who, for a lack of a better phrase, operate out of the trunk of their car," Hustad said. "They don't have permanent business addresses. In some cases, employees have found out that they are really not employees."

Some temporary staff have been required to pay thousands to the Internal Revenue Service after their employer failed to properly report their earnings, Hustad said.

Rep. Luanne Koskinen (DFL-Coon Rapids) said the agencies need to be regulated with laws that have "some teeth."

Meanwhile, Rep. Kevin Goodno (R-Moorhead) said current state law already provides for sufficient penalties. Instead, he said, the focus should be on reporting violators to the Internal Revenue Service and the Department of Labor.

Randy Morris, who represents the Staffing Association of Minnesota, said that the nursing temporary agencies don't oppose the registration requirement. However, agencies have objected to a law passed last year that caps their rates at 150 percent of the wages earned by permanent workers, he said.

The committee took no action on the bill, and it will discuss it further at a later date.

Expanding facilities

Two funding requests for expanded health facilities were pitched to the House Health and Human Services Finance Committee Feb. 4.

Urging legislators to support a new \$84.6 million building for the state's Health and Agriculture department laboratories in St. Paul, health officials said that current facilities are too cramped and prone to security problems. The amount is part of Gov. Jesse Ventura's bonding request. The committee took no action on the proposal.

The fall 2001 anthrax scare on the East Coast has heightened awareness of vulnerabilities at the Minneapolis facility that houses the state's public health labs.

For instance, the process for receiving samples of dangerous biological agents needs to be revamped to prevent contamination, said Dr. Norman Crouch, head of the public health laboratory. Currently, samples are walked through a mailroom, raising concerns about the potential spread of the disease.

"There's virtually no storage space for hazardous materials," Crouch said.

The new building would be located at Lafayette Park on land donated to the state.

Committee members also considered a

\$3 million bonding proposal for a "high performance office building" in St. Paul. Rep. Kathy Tingelstad (R-Andover) is sponsoring the bill (HF2900).

Under the plan, the American Lung Association of Minnesota is partnering with the city of St. Paul to establish the Healthy Design project, a 60,000 square foot facility that would serve as a "living laboratory" to study ways to improve indoor environments.

The site would include walls with "peel-back sections," allowing builders to study the best ways to reduce energy costs and improve building ventilation.

Indoor air pollutants can trigger asthma, said Colleen Naughton, the association's director of strategic development. The condition has been linked to high rates of school- and work-related absenteeism.

Rep. Fran Bradley (R-Rochester) voiced concerns about a nonprofit seeking direct state aid and questioned whether the American Lung Association of Minnesota had also launched a fund-raising campaign.

Naughton said the state has sought grants from foundations and lobbied the Minnesota congressional delegation for the \$14.5 million project.

The committee voted Feb. 6 against recommending the American Lung Association project to the House Capital Investment Committee, which is charged with sorting through all of the bonding proposals. The St. Paul public health laboratory received backing from the committee.

Bonding recommendations

The House Health and Human Services Finance Committee approved a prioritized list of bonding proposals for fiscal year 2002 at its Feb. 6 meeting, forwarding a recommendation for more than \$200 million in projects to the House Capital Investment Committee.

The list largely followed Gov. Jesse Ventura's bonding proposal for projects requested by the state Health and Human Services departments.

The committee remained neutral on eight projects totaling more than \$23 million that were forwarded to the House Capital Investment Committee. They included requests to build a \$766,000 wandering area at the Luverne Dementia Unit and a \$375,000 grant for the Minneapolis Community Development Agency that would have been used to renovate a building for a nonprofit that serves the mentally ill in north Minneapolis.

A proposed \$84.6 million building for a public health laboratory housed jointly by the departments of Agriculture and Health topped the list as the most costly project. The state-of-the-art facility is slated to be built in St. Paul to replace the departments' overcrowded labs.

Other projects that received a green light from the committee include:

- \$8.5 million to preserve a Minnesota veterans home in Hastings;
- \$6.5 million for system-wide asset preservation for the Department of Human Services;
- \$3 million to upgrade the Fergus Falls

REMEMBERING VICTIMS



PHOTO BY ANDREW VON BANK

Elizabeth Cregan, spokesperson for the Million Mom March Twin Cities chapter, sounds a gong 28 times on Feb. 4 to honor the 28 Minnesotans who died in February 2001 from gun violence. Members of the group plan to meet on the State Capitol steps the first Monday of every month to remember those who died from handgun violence last year.

- Regional Treatment Center; • \$2.8 million for system-wide roof replacement for Department of Human Services buildings;
- \$2.3 million to replace a roof at the Silver Bay veterans home (committee members said they want to further examine ways to reduce this expense);
- \$2.25 million to demolish buildings and other structures owned by the Department of Human Services;
- \$2 million to preserve Veterans Home Board assets;
- \$775,000 for a Lake Superior Community Dental Clinic; and
- \$580,000 to demolish buildings at a Cambridge regional treatment center.

The committee voted against recommending \$108 million requested by the Department of Human Services for leasing additional office space, and HF2900, a bill sponsored by Rep. Kathy Tingelstad (R-Andover) that would have appropriated \$3 million to the city of St. Paul in partnership with the American Lung Association.

The grant would help fund construction of a “high performance” office building designed to showcase sustainable practices that improve indoor air quality.

★ HIGHER EDUCATION

Reciprocity update

In December the state sent Wisconsin a check for \$2.43 million to cover the difference in tuition costs for Minnesota students going to Wisconsin colleges and universities and paying Minnesota tuition rates.

North Dakota received nearly \$1.39 million from Minnesota for tuition reciprocity.

Why? Because more Minnesota students are going to school in those neighboring states than North Dakota or Wisconsin students are coming here.

To help keep these funds from leaving the state, last session’s omnibus higher education finance law called for negotiations with neighboring states to minimize Minnesota’s obligations, while not limiting access for state students to study across the border.

Representatives from the Higher Education Services Office gave an update to the House Higher Education Finance Committee Feb. 6.

Current agreements call for students to pay approximately the same tuition they would at a comparable home state institution, with taxpayers paying the remaining instructional costs after subtracting tuition paid by reciprocity students.

In the fall of 2000 about 21,000 Minnesotans took advantage of the program to study

elsewhere, while nearly 17,000 students studied in Minnesota instead of their home state.

Jack Rayburn, with HESO’s program and services division, said there was a couple of years four or five years ago when Wisconsin paid Minnesota. He said the amount was “less than a couple million dollars each time.”

As for North Dakota, Rayburn said the amount Minnesota pays is on a downward trend. That is due to a decrease in the difference between Minnesota students studying in North Dakota and vice versa. Additionally, the tuition rates Minnesota students pay in North Dakota is increasing.

North Dakota and Wisconsin are the only two states Minnesota has reciprocity with that have payment obligations.

Robert Poch, director of the Higher Education Services Office, said staff from the office have met with representatives of North Dakota and Wisconsin in order to understand where both sides are coming from. “There is tremendous interest in both states on what the agreements should be,” he said.

“I can’t imagine a plan can’t be developed so all students pay the same rate at a school no matter where you are from,” said Rep. Steve Dehler (R-St. Joseph).

Rayburn said it would be difficult, but added “the parties we are working with want to work with us.”

Helping student-athletes

Ensuring college student-athletes are not taken advantage of by sports agents is the goal of a bill approved by the House Higher Education Finance Committee Feb. 4.

HF2719, sponsored by Rep. Peggy Leppik (R-Golden Valley), would eliminate the “unscrupulous ways some agents get clients to sign a contract for professional representation,” she said.

The bill was drafted by the National Conference of Commissioners on Uniform State Laws, and it has been enacted in 28 states. It is designed to standardize state regulations that will govern agents conduct with student-athletes.

“There have be too many issues nationwide of the unethical performance of agents jeopardizing the eligibility of student-athletes,” Leppik said.

Under the plan, agents wanting to represent student-athletes must register with the state commerce commissioner. Any registered agent can contact a student-athlete.

If they are not already registered when contacted by a student-athlete, they must register within seven days, and they cannot enter into an agreement until registered. Included on the

registration would be the agent’s formal training, experience, and others represented by the person. Filing fees have not yet been determined.

The bill also calls for a contract to clearly state that signing with an agent could affect the student-athlete’s eligibility. It also gives student-athletes 14 days to cancel an agreement after it is signed. Furthermore, once an agreement is signed the student-athlete’s school must be notified within 72 hours, or before the next game, whichever is earlier.

Agents who violate the act could be assessed a civil penalty of no more than \$25,000 per incident.

Frank Kara, compliance director at the University of Minnesota, said the institution supports the plan. He said this “is not a huge issue at the university, but is becoming more of an issue for us.” The National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) also supports the measure.

Kara said a few athletes have left the university after their junior season, and in his view it was the not the best decision. “This allows those of us that are a little more neutral (when compared to coaches) to make sure the person has the best information when making a decision.”

No witnesses spoke in opposition to the bill.

The bill now moves to the House Commerce, Jobs, and Economic Development Policy Committee.

★ INSURANCE

Scoring change

The House Commerce, Jobs, and Economic Development Policy Committee considered a bill (HF2492) Feb. 5 that would prohibit insurance companies from using credit scoring when underwriting automobile and homeowner insurance policies.

Commerce Commissioner Jim Bernstein said a credit score is different from a credit report. He said that mortgage lenders developed credit scoring as a method to try and predict whether an applicant was likely to default on mortgage payments.

Bernstein said that a person with a good credit rating could receive a poor credit score because it is based on factors such as a person’s ability to accrue debt. He said that someone who has historically paid off their credit cards in a timely manner can receive a poor score because they have a larger credit line available to them. He said those who have never used credit cards also receive poor credit scores.

“I can’t imagine why your credit score would affect your ability to drive a vehicle,”

Bernstein said. "This is a common sense issue. There may be a statistical correlation but there is no cause and effect."

He said the department receives around 50 calls per week from consumers complaining about the use of credit scoring.

Committee Chair Rep. Greg Davids (R-Preston) the bill's sponsor and an insurance agent, said approximately 25 other states are considering similar legislation.

Rep. Andy Westerberg (R-Blaine), who is also an insurance agent, offered an amendment that would allow insurers to use credit scores as one factor for underwriting a policy. The amendment also would prohibit the use of a credit score when the consumer has a non-existent credit history.

"I strongly believe credit scoring should be used in the calculation of an insurance premium but it shouldn't be the sole factor," he said.

Rep. Rob Leighton (DFL-Austin) said the amendment would "gut the bill." He said the testimony heard by the committee was some of the "most overwhelming testimony I've heard in my eight years here."

Davids said because the committee ran out of time to hear testimony from those opposed to the bill the measure would be taken up again at a later date.

METRO AFFAIRS

★ Claiming impounded vehicles

Residents in the Twin Cities metropolitan area may have less time to reclaim vehicles that have been towed.

The House Transportation Policy Committee approved a bill Feb. 5. that would reduce the time the operator of an impound lot must keep a towed vehicle if the owner hasn't made arrangements to pick it up.

Under existing law, all lots outside of Minneapolis and St. Paul must keep vehicles for 45 days before disposing of them. The proposed law would reduce that waiting period to 15 days.

In the two cities, the law was changed several years ago to accommodate for overcrowding in city impound lots.

Jeff Tuthill, vice-president of Dick's Valley Service in Apple Valley, which tows vehicles for four law enforcement agencies, said a similar law is needed in the suburbs.

After a car is towed, the towing company sends a certified letter to the owner requesting that they claim the car, Tuthill said. Under the proposal, the owner could then claim the car right away or request the company hold the vehicle for up to 45 days. If the owner doesn't respond, the vehicle would be disposed after 15 days.

Rep. Chris Gerlach (R-Apple Valley), the sponsor of HF2643, said it's excessive to expect that a company hold a vehicle for 45 days if the owner has not made arrangements to pick it up within 15 days.

"If they don't pick it up within the first few days, the odds are next to nothing it will be reclaimed," he said.

The bill was originally drafted to include Greater Minnesota as well, but Rep. Larry Howes (R-Walker) and Rep. Al Juhnke (DFL-Willmar) pointed out that overcrowding at impound lots is not a problem for rural communities. The committee responded by amending the bill to include only the seven-county metropolitan area.

HF2643 now goes to the House floor.

Asphalt plant partnership

The House Local Government and Metropolitan Affairs Committee approved a measure Feb. 6 that would allow the city of Minneapolis to partner with a private company in building an asphalt plant.

Rep. Dennis Ozment (R-Rosemount), the sponsor of HF2796, said there is currently a privately run asphalt plant and a city run plant within two blocks of each other that need upgrades.

He said a jointly run plant would provide environmental benefits, as well as have a positive impact in the neighborhood.

The bill would allow the joint venture to occur but would require the city to issue a request for proposals to allow competitive bidding for the project.

John Herman, an attorney with the law firm that represents the private facility owner, said the plan is a cooperative effort between neighborhood organizations, the city, and the private business.

"This is an extraordinary unique idea that is a step beyond what the Legislature has allowed cities to do in public-private relationships," he said.

Herman said the bill ensures a competitive process so that there is no advantage to any potential bidders.

Gary Schiff, a Minneapolis city council member, said it is anticipated that the new facility would bring in more tax revenue than currently exists from the two existing facilities. He said that the ongoing repair costs of the current public facility makes a new facility necessary.

Herman said it is likely that the new plant would be built where the existing city facility is located and would save 40 percent to 50 percent in asphalt production costs.

Ozment offered a successful amendment

that requires the joint venture to provide a lower cost and reliable supply of asphalt over a 25-year period when compared to the current city facility.

The amendment also specifies that the bill does not require the city to enter into a joint venture.

The bill now goes to the House floor.

MILITARY



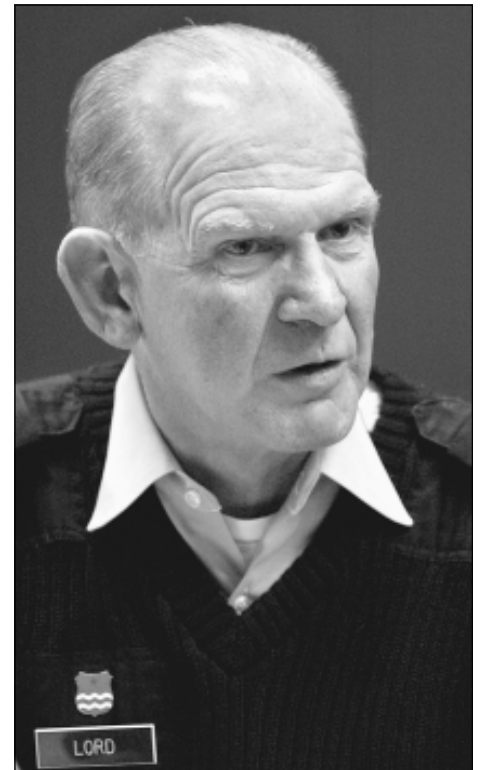
Keeping paychecks coming

The House Governmental Operations and Veterans Affairs Policy Committee approved a measure Feb. 1 that would ensure state employees who serve in the military continue to receive their regular income.

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

HF2567, sponsored by Rep. Rob Eastlund (R-Isanti), would require that state agencies make up the difference between the employee's basic active duty military salary and the salary the person would be paid as an active state employee.

The bill also authorizes local units of government to take similar actions, at their discretion.



Army Col. Dennis Lord, head of the Department of Military Affairs, testifies Feb. 1 before the House Governmental Operations and Veterans Affairs Policy Committee in support of a bill that would require state salary payments to National Guard and other military reserve units called to active duty on or after Sept. 11, 2001, and authorize local governments to pay similar salary differentials.

"Since Sept. 11 we've seen a new awareness about just how much the military plays a part in our life and just how much our military personnel sacrifice," Eastlund said.

He said the bill is modeled after a law that applied to state employee military personnel involved in the Persian Gulf War.

The bill would affect an estimated 500 state employees, said Army Col. Dennis Lord, executive director for the state Department of Military Affairs.

"A number of companies and a number of states have been doing this for quite some time," Lord said. "This allows the state to be a leader."

Rep. Loren Solberg (DFL-Bovey) questioned whether the committee should adopt "such a broad policy" for any time the National Guard is called up.

Solberg is concerned the bill would apply to when the National Guard personnel are activated not just to fight terrorism but on other assignments such as last fall's state employee strike and help with floods and other disasters.

"To be called up by the president, that's one thing, but if you're called up by the governor that's another thing," Solberg said.

Eastlund said the bill was deliberately drafted to be broad because the current "war on terrorism" is different from previous wars the country has been engaged in. He said current law provides that the state cover pay differential for a 15-day period.

Solberg offered a successful amendment that would sunset the law June 30, 2006 thereby allowing the Legislature time to determine whether the extension of pay was still needed.

★ SAFETY

Precautionary step

The state would create a biological agents registry under a measure approved by the House Governmental Operations and Veterans Affairs Policy Committee Feb. 6.

The bill (HF2846), sponsored by Rep. John Tuma (R-Northfield), would require people or entities that possess or maintain a biological agent to register with the Department of Health. The registry would include the purpose for which the agent is used and verification that the individual or entity is adequately equipped to safely handle the agent.

Drivers of hazardous materials would also be required to undergo a background check before they are licensed to transport the materials, under the bill.

The proposal would use federal guidelines for defining biological agents. However, when

questioned at the hearing, Tuma said he would make sure the list was comprehensive enough and would suggest amendments as necessary.

Tuma said the bill is one of seven related to anti-terrorism measures making their way through House committees. He said the House Crime Prevention Committee, which he chairs, would ultimately combine the bills into a single bill.

Rep. Len Biernat (DFL-Mpls) asked Tuma if it would not be more effective for the federal government to address the issue rather than have all 50 states create separate registries.

Tuma said that Minnesota is at the "front of homeland defense" and that while it is an important issue dealing with national defense, local police officers and agencies are better equipped to deal with the specific safety needs of the community.

Don Gerdesmeier, representing the Minnesota Teamsters, expressed concern that a section of the bill that would allow for the cancellation of a driver's license to transport hazardous materials was too broad.

As the proposal is written, a license could be cancelled if the driver is found guilty of such offenses as criminal sexual conduct, theft, larceny, burglary, and narcotics possession.

Gerdesmeier said that while many of those crimes are serious in nature, some have nothing to do with a person's ability to drive.

Tuma said the section was drafted using laws relating to school bus driver licensure. He said he would continue to work with Gerdesmeier and others from the trucking industry to address concerns.

The bill now goes to the House Crime Prevention Committee.

Emergency 911 services

A bill (HF2550) approved Feb. 4 by the House Regulated Industries Committee would make technical changes to the law regulating emergency 911 services, as well as change which service providers are reimbursed for providing the service.

The original 911 law was passed in 1977. Since then, it has not been updated to reflect technological changes — such as wireless telecommunications — and other system changes that were instituted within the past several years, said Jerry Knickerbocker, representing the Minnesota Telephone Association. He testified in favor of the bill.

Sponsored by Rep. Mike Osskopp (R-Lake City), the bill now goes to the House Governmental Operations and Veterans Affairs Policy Committee.

Among substantive changes in the bill, one



Jerry Knickerbocker, representing the Minnesota Telephone Association, testifies Feb. 4 before the House Regulated Industries Committee in support of a bill that would modify emergency 911 telephone provisions.

section would allow competitive local exchange carriers, defined as those who have only been offering services in a local service area since 1995, to be reimbursed for 911 services.

Under existing law, all companies providing 911 service collect a fee from customers that is sent to the state. Incumbent providers, those who have been the primary service provider since prior to 1995, are eligible for reimbursement from the state for providing those services. Competitive providers are not, according to state law.

The bill would also remove the state Public Utilities Commission from the billing process. Existing law requires that the commission sign off on payments from service providers who are being reimbursed for providing 911 service.

In addition, the bill would require that the Department of Administration, which handles the reimbursements, pay the invoices within 30 days of receiving them, rather than 90 days, as provided in existing law.

Rep. Loren Jennings (DFL-Harris) asked Osskopp if this bill could become a vehicle for raising 911 surcharges, to which Osskopp replied that it would not.

However, informational discussion later in the meeting about a proposed anti-terrorism package suggested that bill will request that surcharges be raised, as will the governor, whose budget included an increase in 2001 that was not granted.

★ TAXES

Funding for food plant

During the summer of 2001, a fire destroyed the Farmland Foods plant in Albert Lea. The House Local Government and Metropolitan Affairs Committee heard a bill Feb. 4 that would help the company build a new facility in the city.

HF2667, sponsored by Rep. Dan Dorman (R-Albert Lea), would allow the city to create a tax increment financing district with exemptions from a law requiring that districts address blight conditions.

The committee referred the bill to the House Taxes Committee without recommendation.

Dorman said that in addition to costing the city one of its largest employers, the tragedy was made even worse because Farmland had planned on hiring about 100 more employees.

He said that the plant was built near a lake and the current proposal is for it to relocate to an industrial park.

Because tax increment financing would be used to both cleanup the old site and help build the new facility, an exemption is needed because both sites would not fall under the blight test requirement.

Bob Graham, a planner for Albert Lea, said the city has applied for grants from both the state and federal government to address the \$5 million cost to cleanup the old site and build the new plant. He said the cost for a new facility is estimated at between \$60 million and \$80 million.

The tax increment finance district would be used to make up a \$2 million gap after all the grants are applied to the project, Graham said.

Rep. Jim Davnie (DFL-Mpls) said that he appreciates how important the company is for Albert Lea but wanted assurances that if the state provides Farmland Foods a "substantial bailout with public funds" the company would guarantee to provide "decent wages." He said the meatpacking industry has seen declining wages over the last few years.

Graham said the company has made a commitment to the union to rehire employees based on their seniority, and that it is expected the average wage of the jobs would be around \$12 an hour.

Extending sales tax

The House Taxes Committee heard Feb. 4 from a stream of representatives from different industries saying Gov. Jesse Ventura's tax increase proposals would have negative consequences for many in the state.

The committee took testimony on the governor's proposal at the meeting. It will

consider the governor's plan for inclusion in a possible omnibus tax bill that would be compiled later this session.

David Steffens, owner of an auto repair shop in Minneapolis for 35 years, called the administration's proposed expansion of the sales tax to auto repairs "a misery tax."

Steffens said the tax would fall upon those who can least afford to pay it because service on new cars generally is covered under warranty, and therefore would not be taxed, while service on used cars would generally be taxed. By their nature those cars tend to break down more often, he said.

"Auto repairs are not discretionary spending. No one chooses to get their car fixed," he said. "Why balance the budget on the backs of the people who can least afford it?"

Wood Foster, past president of the Minnesota Bar Association, also labeled the governor's proposed sales tax expansion to legal services for individuals as a "misery tax."

Foster said that for most people legal services are only needed in difficult times, such as personal injury, divorce proceedings, or debt counseling.

He said Ventura has portrayed the expansion as a tax on lawyers but it would instead fall disproportionately on middle and lower income people.

Rep. Ron Abrams (R-Minnetonka), the committee chair, said the proposed taxing of legal services was "not very well thought out."

Abrams said a person who seeks the services of someone certified as a public accountant and an attorney would face a sales tax on the services provided. But a person who goes to just a certified public accountant would not be subject to the sales tax, even if the same type services were provided.

Mark Anfinson, an attorney with the Minnesota Newspaper Association, said extending the sales tax to newspapers is a "bad, dumb idea."

Anfinson said adding the tax would reduce circulation by increasing the costs of a newspaper, and it would risk the existence of many smaller community papers in the state.

He also said collecting the tax would be difficult both at news boxes on the street and by requiring carriers to become tax collectors.

Abrams said some states, including California, Florida and Pennsylvania, already tax newspaper sales. Anfinson said California newspapers "eat" the tax cost.

★ TRANSPORTATION

Congestion relief

The House Transportation Finance Committee considered a bill Feb. 4 that would fund a commuter rail project designed to relieve

rush hour congestion in the northwest part of the Twin Cities metropolitan area.

No action was taken on HF2818, sponsored by Rep. Kathy Tingelstad (R-Andover).

The Northstar Corridor commuter rail would run 82 miles from Rice, 16 miles north of St. Cloud, to Minneapolis, with stops in St. Cloud, Clear Lake, Becker, Big Lake, Elk River, Ramsey, Anoka, Coon Rapids, and Fridley.

Using rail line already in place, 18 trains would shuttle commuters, visitors, and students between Minneapolis and Rice.

The project also includes an inter-modal connection in Minneapolis allowing passengers to transfer to buses or the Hiawatha light-rail transit line, which is currently under construction. That line will extend to Minneapolis/St. Paul International Airport and the Mall of America.

State Transportation Commissioner Elwyn Tinklenberg told committee members the commuter rail line would help clear up congestion along U.S. Highway 10.

Nearly 10,000 people are expected to use the rail when it opens in late 2005, removing about a lane and a half of traffic, he said.

Since the rail is already in place, the commuter rail is an economical way to clear up congestion in the area, he said.

Eighty percent of area residents surveyed said they think the commuter rail is a good idea, Tinklenberg said.

One of those supporters is Jim Stahlmann, who has worked in downtown Minneapolis for the past 27 years, and now commutes from Big Lake. Making use of track already in place makes sense, he said.



Big Lake resident Jim Stahlmann testifies before the House Transportation Finance Committee Feb. 4 in support of a bill that would provide funding for the Northstar Corridor commuter rail.

He encouraged committee members to approve funding for the commuter rail.

"The longer we wait, the more it's going to cost," he said.

The rail project is expected to cost about \$294 million. Of that, the federal government would pay 50 percent, and the state would pay 40 percent, or \$108 million. The state and federal government would split the \$23.4 million cost of the multi-modal connection.

Gov. Jesse Ventura has included \$120 million for the project in his budget recommendations.

Shoulder usage

If city buses are allowed to use the shoulder of the road during periods of heavy traffic, charter buses should be allowed to as well, the House Transportation Policy Committee decided Feb. 5.

The committee approved HF2632, which now goes before the full House.

Rep. Carol Molnau (R-Chaska), bill sponsor, said the state has encouraged people to use mass transit and should reward those who choose to ride a bus, whether it is a public or chartered bus.

The bill would allow charter buses to drive on the shoulder of roads in areas where public transit buses are allowed to do so. Buses

transporting children to and from school would not be included.

Charter buses would take advantage of the new law mainly during large events such as Minnesota Vikings games or the state fair, Molnau said.

Todd Telin, manager of Gray Line Tours in Lakeville, said charter buses would only take advantage of the law during certain peak times and on certain roads.

Buses are allowed to drive 35 miles per hour on the shoulder if traffic is moving slowly, and 15 mph if traffic is stopped, he said. If there were no congestion, the buses would remain in traffic.

But Maj. Gene Halvorson of the Minnesota State Patrol said he is nervous about allowing more traffic onto the shoulder of the road. He said he has heard about many accidents involving buses using the shoulder, although some of those were minor scrapes.

Bob Winter, acting metro division engineer for the state Department of Transportation, said he also is concerned about putting more buses on the shoulder.

Although the department has found that crashes involving buses on the shoulder are not a significant problem, he said transit drivers are given extensive training and charter bus drivers will not be as familiar with driving on the shoulder.

CRIME WATCH



PHOTO BY TOM OLMSCHIED

Six-year-old Molly Tuma, right, peeks over the shoulder of her father, Rep. John Tuma, during a visit to the House Crime Prevention Committee Feb. 7. Rep. Tuma is the committee chair.



A stinky subject

Oklahoma considering tax break to manure buyers

Poultry manure is at the center of a debate in "The Sooner State."

A bill in the Oklahoma House would provide a \$5 per ton tax break to buyers of poultry litter in portions of the state. The law is co-sponsored by Rep. Kent Friskup (R-Chandler), who was born in New Ulm, Minn.

The rationale behind the measure is that with the tax break purchasers would be able to pay more for the animal waste, making it more worthwhile for farmers to sell instead of spreading on their own land. Soil only needs a certain amount of phosphorus, a nutrient in the waste.

In eastern parts of the state where farmers dispose of excess waste on their fields, excessive amounts of phosphorus is getting into waterways when it rains, threatening the amount of oxygen for fish and causing bad-tasting water for humans.

The plan says the manure could instead be spread across nutrient-limited land in the other parts of the state. It is estimated that 75 percent of Oklahoma's soil could use more phosphorus.

Tulsa officials have lobbied state officials for some sort of similar legislation, as the city gets about one-half of its water from two lakes where phosphorus levels are increasing.

Rep. Clay Pope (D-Loyal), the bill's other co-sponsor, told *The Daily Oklahoman* that it is a matter of paying now or paying later. "If we don't move poultry litter from northeastern watersheds, municipalities like Tulsa will be seeking assistance anyway through state loans or grants to address its water quality issues."

"I think Oklahoma would be better served by removing litter nutrients than trying to clean up the mess later. And we can do it in a way that will bring additional economic growth to the state."

Discussion on the bill, forecasted to cost about \$297,000 in year one and \$732,000 annually thereafter until its Dec. 31, 2006 sunset, is expected in 2002.

(M. Cook)



Session deadlines approach

House and Senate leadership have set the following deadlines for committees to complete their business this session:

- **Friday, Feb. 22** — Bills must have passed out of all policy committees in the house of origin.
- **Friday, March 1** — All House and Senate bills must have passed out of all policy committees in the other body.
- **Friday, March 8** — Omnibus finance bills must be out of House finance committees, and Senate divisions and finance committees.

There are exceptions to these deadlines. For example, bill sponsors may appeal to the rules committee so a bill may be considered after the deadline. In addition, the taxes and Capital Investment committees are not bound by the deadlines.

Surrogate protection

Bill would create new regulations for residents assisting in reproduction process

By LISA HILTON

Debate heated up in the House Civil Law Committee Feb. 6 over a bill that defines and regulates agreements between surrogate mothers and future parents, and regulates other forms of assisted reproduction.

The bill's sponsor, Rep. Kathy Tingelstad (R-Andover), said the bill is needed because, although a law addressing male infertility options has been on the books for 15 years, Minnesota law does not presently address the issue of female assisted reproduction.

HF2819 would help couples who want to have children but are unable to on their own, Tingelstad said.

The bill allows agreements to be formed between surrogate mothers and the child's future parents, she said. That agreement is legally binding and is formed before conception of the embryo. If the surrogate mother does not turn over the child after birth, the bill would give the intended parents the right to sue to obtain custody.

The bill would also allow for the intended parents to compensate the surrogate mother for her "time, effort, pain and suffering, inconvenience, and health risks associated with medical evaluation, gestation, and delivery."

Sperm or egg donors could also be reasonably compensated, although that compensation cannot be dependent on the quality of the gamete donated, nor on the donor's traits.

According to Daonna Depoister, president of Resolve, an organization that supports and assists infertile couples, the bill is very important because there are 160,000 citizens in Minnesota who are infertile.

There are many surrogate agreements made every year in Minnesota, but the state has no laws regarding the issue, she said.

"There are over 50 agreements made without any guidelines or boundaries being set," she said. "That is a very dangerous thing."

Although Minnesota doesn't have a law in place governing surrogate mothers, it should have one before a problem arises, she said.

"Agreements prevent disagreements," Depoister said.



PHOTO BY ANDREW VON BANK

Daonna Depoister, president of Resolve of Minnesota, testifies before the House Civil Law Committee Feb. 6 in support of a bill that would address assisted reproduction.

Maple Grove attorney Steve Snyder, an expert on carrier law who co-chaired an assisted reproduction subcommittee during 2001, said he has handled about 30 surrogate cases during the last 10 years. He agreed it was time for the state to regulate the practice.

"If it remains unregulated, you will have headlines in Minnesota as there have been all over the country," he said. "There are a whole lot of issues that need to be addressed."

The bill would specifically require the surrogate mother to have had children before so she knows what she can expect before getting into the agreement, Snyder said. This also

reduces the risk of the mother having complications during pregnancy and childbirth.

In addition, surrogate mothers would have to receive legal counseling before entering into the agreement.

However, while supporters of the measure said it would help build families, opponents argued that it would do just the opposite by breaking the connection between a child and the birth mother.

Tom Prichard, president of the Minnesota Family Council, said the bill redefines the role of motherhood and depersonalizes the role of the birth mother.

Since it allows surrogate mothers to be compensated, it commercializes children, he said. Sixteen other states prohibit compensating surrogate mothers, he added.

Curtis Herbert, a life sciences research attorney, also argued that the bill creates a legal contract for the sale of children.

"The idea is one party hands over the money, and one party hands over the baby," he said. "It's absurd for me to tell you that buying babies is bad."

While having great sympathy for couples who cannot have children, the proposed law would allow people with money to buy babies, while institutionalizing surrogate mothers, he said.

Gregory Troy, a St. Paul attorney who practices adoption law, also opposed the bill.

"It really comes down to children being a gift, not a right," he told committee members.

If embryos are going to be treated like commodities, will there be sales tax on them, he asked the committee. The contract could also open up the door for product liability suits against surrogate mothers that hurt the child while it is still in the womb, he said.

The bill also does not include any background checks for the intended parents of the child as it does in adoption cases, he said.

Troy agreed to write out his objections to the bill by Feb. 11 when the House Civil Law Committee is scheduled to hear further testimony on the bill. 🐼

Monday, February 4

HF2801—Ness (R)

Education Policy

Charter school students allowed to fully participate in extracurricular activities of resident school district.

HF2802—Sykora (R)

Family & Early Childhood Education Finance

Early childhood through adult education general revenues provided for academic excellence, special programs, facilities and technology, nutrition, school accounting, other programs, and libraries; and money appropriated.

HF2803—Ness (R)

Agriculture & Rural Development Finance

Agricultural and food sciences educational facility funding provided, bonds issued, and money appropriated.

HF2804—Ozment (R)

Environment & Natural Resources Finance

Wetland replacement funding provided, bonds issued, and money appropriated.

HF2805—Mulder (R)

Family & Early Childhood Education Finance

At-home infant childcare program family income definition modified.

HF2806—Skoe (DFL)

Family & Early Childhood Education Finance

Fosston Public Library accessibility improvements grant provided, bonds issued, and money appropriated.

HF2807—Leighton (DFL)

Commerce, Jobs & Economic Development Policy

Occupational safety and health standard ergonomic standard adoption required.

HF2808—Holsten (R)

Local Government & Metropolitan Affairs

Washington County motor vehicle registration renewal electronic processing authorized, and additional fee imposed for payment by credit card.

HF2809—Holsten (R)

Local Government & Metropolitan Affairs

Voting equipment grants made applicable for reimbursement of earlier equipment purchases, and insufficiency of resources requirement removed.

HF2810—Johnson, S. (DFL)

Higher Education Finance

Metropolitan State University community library funding provided, bonds issued, and money appropriated.

HF2811—Abrams (R)

Jobs & Economic Development Finance

Guthrie Theater in Minneapolis funding provided, bonds issued, and money appropriated.

HF2812—Stanek (R)

Judiciary Finance

Transportation, public safety, criminal justice, and other agency appropriations modified and reduced; law enforcement and community grants reduced; bonds issued; fees provided; and language clarified.

HF2813—Molnau (R)

Health & Human Services Policy

Childcare providers required to develop policies for reporting suspected child maltreatment.

HF2814—Ozment (R)

Environment & Natural Resources Policy

State agencies required to purchase clean fuels and vehicles capable of running on clean fuels, if available.

HF2815—Ozment (R)

Environment & Natural Resources Policy

Waste electronic products stewardship provided.

HF2816—Gerlach (R)

K-12 Education Finance

Basic skills revenue use consolidated, and districts required to collaborate with school site decision-making team in allocating compensatory education revenue.

HF2817—Stang (R)

Taxes

Homestead property tax classification extended to certain property used for non-homestead purposes.

HF2818—Tingelstad (R)

Transportation Finance

Northstar commuter rail line funding provided, bonds issued, and money appropriated.

HF2819—Tingelstad (R)

Civil Law

Assisted reproduction act adopted authorizing collaborative reproduction agreements and embryo agreements.

HF2820—Greiling (DFL)

Environment & Natural Resources Policy

Smoke detector battery manufacturers required to provide for safe disposal of radioactive batteries.

HF2821—Tingelstad (R)

Governmental Operations & Veterans Affairs Policy

Teacher retirement association optional accelerated retirement annuities payment age revised.

HF2822—Clark, J. (R)

Taxes

Homestead property tax classification extended to certain property used for non-homestead purposes.

HF2823—Mahoney (DFL)

Jobs & Economic Development Finance

St. Paul Phalen corridor contamination remediation and land acquisition grant provided, bonds issued, and money appropriated.

HF2824—Opatz (DFL)

Education Policy

Student employment upon obtaining a degree data collection provided.

HF2825—Leighton (DFL)

Crime Prevention

Attorney general authorized to prosecute commercial crimes against insurers.

HF2826—Dawkins (DFL)

Civil Law

Hmong Mej Koob marriage solemnization recognized.

HF2827—Winter (DFL)

Jobs & Economic Development Finance

Murray County; Lake Shetek centralized wastewater system funding provided, bonds issued, and money appropriated.

HF2828—Opatz (DFL)

Higher Education Finance

Interstate tuition reciprocity agreement requirements modified.

HF2829—Smith (R)

Governmental Operations & Veterans Affairs Policy

Minnesota State Retirement System allowable service time definition expanded to include time on strike.

HF2830—Osthoff (DFL)

Local Government & Metropolitan Affairs

St. Paul local bonding authority limits set through 2008.

HF2831—Tingelstad (R)

K-12 Education Finance

High performance facility grant program established, bonds issued, and money appropriated.

HF2832—Finseth (R)

Environment & Natural Resources Finance

Flood hazard mitigation projects funding provided, bonds issued, and money appropriated.

HF2833—Bradley (R)

Taxes

Third-party purchasers required to comply with provisions authorizing transfer of the health care provider tax.

HF2834—Dorn (DFL)

Higher Education Finance

Minnesota State University athletic facilities project phase 3 funding provided, bonds issued, and money appropriated.

HF2835—Dawkins (DFL)

Education Policy

Minnesota Commission on National and Community Service authorized to create and delegate duties to a private nonprofit corporation.

HF2836—Gunther (R)

Local Government & Metropolitan Affairs

Region Nine Development Commission authorized to establish a specific nonprofit corporation to reduce the region's dependence on tax dollars.

HF2837—Clark, K. (DFL)

Commerce, Jobs & Economic Development Policy

Housing administrator grants factors clarified.

HF2838—Winter (DFL)

Jobs & Economic Development Finance

Wastewater infrastructure funding program funding provided, and money appropriated.

HF2839—Clark, K. (DFL)

Commerce, Jobs & Economic Development Policy

Mortgage loan prepayment penalty regulation authority by the states urged of the President and Congress by resolution.

<p>HF2840—Clark, J. (R) Crime Prevention Criminal prosecution estoppel provisions modified relating to certain license revocation hearings, juvenile jurisdiction provided, child endangerment definition expanded relating to controlled substances, and penalties prescribed.</p>	<p>HF2850—Winter (DFL) Jobs & Economic Development Finance Tracy central business district revitalization funding provided, bonds issued, and money appropriated.</p>	<p>HF2860—Swenson (R) Transportation Finance Rail service improvement program funding provided, bonds issued, and money appropriated.</p>	<p>HF2871—McElroy (R) Jobs & Economic Development Finance Small city economic development grants provided, bonds issued, and money appropriated.</p>
<p>HF2841—Penas (R) Crime Prevention Local correctional fees defined to include room and board, and collection of those fees authorized from persons convicted of a crime.</p>	<p>HF2851—Seagren (R) Local Government & Metropolitan Affairs Metropolitan Council activities relating to the Dan Patch commuter rail line prohibited.</p>	<p>HF2861—Rhodes (R) Transportation Finance St. Louis Park Belt Line Boulevard pedestrian crossing provided, bonds issued, and money appropriated.</p>	<p>HF2872—Bakk (DFL) Environment & Natural Resources Finance Silver Bay Marina additional docking piers construction provided, bonds issued, and money appropriated.</p>
<p>HF2842—Tuma (R) Crime Prevention Laboratory blood sample reports electronic signature authorized.</p>	<p>HF2852—Marko (DFL) Transportation Finance High speed rail line funding provided for state share of St. Paul to Chicago rail line, bonds issued, and money appropriated.</p>	<p>HF2862—Goodno (R) Health & Human Services Policy Human services, health, and corrections programs provided; funding provided and earlier appropriations reduced with certain conditions; and money appropriated.</p>	<p>HF2873—Wilkin (R) Local Government & Metropolitan Affairs Client-directed support programs provided.</p>
<p>HF2843—Tuma (R) Civil Law Sexual abuse damage action statute of limitations modified.</p>	<p>HF2853—Marquart (DFL) Transportation Policy Restricted farm work drivers' license motor vehicle operating conditions modified.</p>	<p>HF2863—Eastlund (R) Health & Human Services Finance Cambridge Regional Treatment Center administration building demolished, bonds issued, and money appropriated.</p>	<p>HF2874—Ozment (R) Environment & Natural Resources Finance Dakota County farmland and natural areas protection grant provided, bonds issued, and money appropriated.</p>
<p>HF2844—Tuma (R) Regulated Industries Emergency telephone access fees provided, Metropolitan Council bonds authorized, trespassing on public works prohibited, and penalties provided.</p>	<p>HF2854—Leighton (DFL) Environment & Natural Resources Finance Shooting Star Trail funding provided, bonds issued, and money appropriated.</p>	<p>HF2864—McGuire (DFL) Jobs & Economic Development Finance Ramsey County pre-design funding provided for the Gibbs Museum of Pioneer and Dakotah Life, bonds issued, and money appropriated.</p>	<p>HF2875—Abrams (R) Taxes Tax data classification and disclosure provisions technical changes provided.</p>
<p>HF2845—Tuma (R) Higher Education Finance Foreign students in post-secondary institutions monitored.</p>	<p>HF2855—Juhnke (DFL) Regulated Industries Telecommunications customers authorized to cancel services under certain circumstances.</p>	<p>HF2865—Cassell (R) Agriculture Policy Feedlot permit rules pastures exemption clarified.</p>	<p>HF2876—Abrams (R) Taxes Bakery goods including bread specifically exempted from the prepared food sales tax.</p>
<p>HF2846—Tuma (R) Governmental Operations & Veterans Affairs Policy Biological agents registry established, hazardous materials driver's license endorsement regulations provided, and endorsements canceled for certain offenses.</p>	<p>HF2856—Skoe (DFL) K-12 Education Finance Independent School District No. 38, Red Lake, school construction and improvement grant provided, bonds issued, and money appropriated.</p>	<p>HF2866—Dorman (R) K-12 Education Finance Independent School District No. 241, Albert Lea, declining pupil unit aid authorized, and money appropriated.</p>	<p>HF2877—Harder (R) Education Policy Shared time aid provisions modified relating to district of attendance.</p>
<p>HF2847—Tuma (R) Transportation Policy Temporary licenses issued for certain foreign persons, hazardous materials drivers' endorsement regulations established, endorsements canceled for specified offenses, and money appropriated.</p>	<p>HF2857—Paymar (DFL) Commerce, Jobs & Economic Development Policy Credit card statements required to disclose in monthly statements the time required to pay balance off when paying the minimum payment due.</p>	<p>HF2867—Dorman (R) K-12 Education Finance Equity revenue for school districts modified.</p>	<p>HF2878—Abrams (R) Taxes Taxation technical and administrative modifications provided.</p>
<p>HF2848—Tuma (R) Health & Human Services Policy Biological agents registry established, rulemaking and civil penalties authorized, and money appropriated.</p>	<p>HF2858—Seifert (R) Environment & Natural Resources Finance Prairie Farm Preservation Education and Exhibit Center funding provided, bonds issued, and money appropriated.</p>	<p>HF2868—Tuma (R) Crime Prevention Predatory offender registration expanded to include certain offenders under the age of 18.</p>	<p>HF2879—Abrams (R) Local Government & Metropolitan Affairs County and municipal public finance definitions and authorizations modified.</p>
<p>HF2849—Tuma (R) Local Government & Metropolitan Affairs Closed public meetings authorized to discuss items relating to security.</p>	<p>HF2859—Bakk (DFL) Jobs & Economic Development Finance Policy Lake Superior border municipalities wastewater facilities funding provided, bonds issued, and money appropriated.</p>	<p>HF2869—Dorman (R) Environment & Natural Resources Finance Albert Lea and Freeborn county dam and lake improvements grants provided, bonds issued, and money appropriated.</p>	<p>HF2880—Howes (R) Environment & Natural Resources Policy Yellow perch daily and possession limits set.</p>
		<p>HF2870—Dorman (R) Commerce, Jobs & Economic Development Policy Albert Lea additional on-sale liquor licenses authorized.</p>	<p>HF2881—McElroy (R) Local Government & Metropolitan Affairs Tax increment financing deficit reduction provisions modified.</p>

- HF2882—Workman (R)**
Transportation Policy
 Electric personal assistive mobility device roadway and sidewalk regulations established.
- HF2883—McElroy (R)**
Jobs & Economic Development Finance
 Public ownership of rental housing loans provided, bonds issued, and money appropriated.
- HF2884—Osskopp (R)**
Transportation Policy
 Maximum weight limit for milk trucks regulated.
- HF2885—McElroy (R)**
Environment & Natural Resources Finance
 Minnesota Zoological Garden facilities and business master plan phase I funding provided, bonds issued, and money appropriated.
- HF2886—Howes (R)**
Governmental Operations & Veterans Affairs Policy
 Leech Lake Reservation tribal band members additional Election Day identification procedures established.
- HF2887—Kuisle (R)**
Environment & Natural Resources Finance
 Wetland replacement funding provided, bonds issued, and money appropriated.
- HF2888—Jennings (DFL)**
Environment & Natural Resources Policy
 Solid waste management practices modified.
- HF2889—Howes (R)**
Environment & Natural Resources Policy
 Individual sewage treatment system installation authorized in certain circumstances.
- HF2890—Greiling (DFL)**
Transportation Finance
 Rush Line Transitway bus improvements provided, bonds issued, and money appropriated.
- HF2891—Penas (R)**
K-12 Education Finance
 Career and technical levy made permanent and program language modified.
- HF2892—Tuma (R)**
Environment & Natural Resources Finance
 Water and land resource improvement funding provided, bonds issued, and money appropriated.
- HF2893—Mullery (DFL)**
Governmental Operations & Veterans Affairs Policy
 Minneapolis Police Relief Association optional annuity eligibility clarified.
- HF2894—Skoe (DFL)**
Agriculture Policy
 Feedlot regulations pastures definition clarified.
- HF2895—Pawlenty (R)**
Environment & Natural Resources Finance
 Dakota County Lebanon Hills Regional Park flood mitigation improvements provided, bonds issued, and money appropriated.
- HF2896—Gerlach (R)**
Transportation Finance
 Cedar Avenue transitway improvements funded, bonds issued, and money appropriated.
- HF2897—Osthoff (DFL)**
Jobs & Economic Development Finance
 Ramsey County purchase of Union Depot authorized, bonds issued, and money appropriated.
- HF2898—Marko (DFL)**
Transportation Finance
 Red Rock commuter rail line planning funded, bonds issued, and money appropriated.
- HF2899—Holberg (R)**
Local Government & Metropolitan Affairs
 Livable community demonstration account provisions modified.
- HF2900—Tingelstad (R)**
Health & Human Services Finance
 St. Paul high performance office building and educational center construction grant provided, bonds issued, and money appropriated.
- HF2901—Sykora (R)**
Family & Early Childhood Education Finance
 Child care provider annual market rate surveys required.
- HF2902—Sykora (R)**
Education Policy
 Childcare center experienced aide supervision regulation sunset provision removed.
- HF2903—Goodno (R)**
Health & Human Services Policy
 Radiation therapy facility major spending commitment requirements modified.
- HF2904—Larson (DFL)**
Commerce, Jobs & Economic Development Policy
 Air bag repair or replacement required in motor vehicle collision repair, and penalties provided.
- HF2905—Jennings (DFL)**
Regulated Industries
 Public Utilities Commission authority to remedy inadequate or discriminatory service clarified.
- HF2906—Abrams (R)**
Local Government & Metropolitan Affairs
 Hennepin County Board real property leasing and off-street parking facility construction limitations removed.
- HF2907—Solberg (DFL)**
Transportation Finance
 Aitkin County Great River Road construction funding provided, and money appropriated.
- HF2908—Hilty (DFL)**
Local Government & Metropolitan Affairs
 Pine County recorder and assessor office combination authorized.
- HF2909—Stanek (R)**
Crime Prevention
 Terrorism prevention integrated public policy established, data classification and sharing authorized, penalties provided, and money appropriated.
- HF2910—Davnie (DFL)**
K-12 Education Finance
 Special School District No. 1, Minneapolis, integration revenue restored and student mobility study proposed.
- HF2911—Solberg (DFL)**
State Government Finance
 Mt. Itasca biathlon training project completion funding provided, bonds issued, and money appropriated.
- HF2912—Folliard (DFL)**
Health & Human Services Policy
 Asthma surveillance system established, MinnesotaCare and medical assistance provisions modified, minimum wage increased, child tax credit allowed, taxes on tobacco products modified, and money appropriated.
- HF2913—Mariani (DFL)**
Jobs & Economic Development Finance
 St. Paul Raspberry Island and Upper Landing capital improvements provided, bonds issued, and money appropriated.
- HF2914—Ness (R)**
Environment & Natural Resources Policy
 Meeker County sale of certain tax-forfeited land bordering public water authorized.
- HF2915—Bakk (DFL)**
Local Government & Metropolitan Affairs
 Cook County powers and authority in relation to the Cook County hospital district clarified, and maximum tax levy provided.
- HF2916—Huntley (DFL)**
Environment & Natural Resources Policy
 Sanitary district payment receiving authority clarified.
- HF2917—Kahn (DFL)**
Jobs & Economic Development Finance
 Minneapolis empowerment zones sub-projects improvements provided, bonds issued, and money appropriated.
- HF2918—Jennings (DFL)**
K-12 Education Finance
 Independent School District No. 578, Pine City, disabled access levy extended.
- HF2919—Jennings (DFL)**
Regulated Industries
 Telecommunications standards of conduct provided, private customer information consent required for marketing purposes, and competition within local exchange marketplace promoted.
- HF2920—Ozment (R)**
Environment & Natural Resources Policy
 Timber permit and lease provisions modified, prairie chicken hunting license created, turtling requirements modified, aquatic plant restoration provisions established, criminal penalties provided, and money appropriated.
- HF2921—McElroy (R)**
Regulated Industries
 Minnesota Economic, Environmental, and Energy Security Act of 2002 established.
- HF2922—Sertich (DFL)**
Commerce, Jobs & Economic Development Policy
 Background check, credit check, testing, or orientation costs payment by employees prohibited.
- HF2923—Jennings (DFL)**
Regulated Industries
 Large incumbent local exchange carrier biennial service and investment plan filing required.

HF2924—Solberg (DFL)**Taxes**

Limited market value phase-out repealed.

HF2925—Boudreau (R)**Commerce, Jobs & Economic Development Policy**

Health care service prior authorization agreements modified, and provider contracting requirements established.

HF2926—Schumacher (DFL)**Environment & Natural Resources Policy**

Sherburne County private sale of surplus state land authorized.

HF2927—Dorman (R)**Education Policy**

High school level Minnesota comprehensive assessments replaced with a college-level placement test.

HF2928—Seifert (R)**Higher Education Finance**

Southwest State University in Marshall library remodeling funded, bonds issued, and money appropriated.

HF2929—Winter (DFL)**Transportation Policy**

Property tax replacement aid to new transit systems provided.

HF2930—Seifert (R)**Environment & Natural Resources Finance**

LQP-25/Lazarus Creek floodwater retention project funding provided, bonds issued, and money appropriated.

HF2931—Kahn (DFL)**Capital Investment**

People, Inc. North Side Community Support Program previous Hennepin County grant redirected to Minneapolis Community Development Agency.

HF2932—Sykora (R)**Health & Human Services Policy**

Communicable disease disclosure to a foster care provider required.

HF2933—Stang (R)**Local Government & Metropolitan Affairs**

Rockville and Pleasant Lake consolidation plan joint development required.

HF2934—Jennings (DFL)**Regulated Industries**

Landowner payments for hosting transmission facilities authorized.

Thursday, February 7**HF2935—Penas (R)****Health & Human Services Policy**

Health Maintenance Organization rural demonstration project authorized.

HF2936—Knoblach (R)**Jobs & Economic Development Finance**

Workers' compensation assigned risk plan funds transferred to the workforce development fund.

HF2937—Abrams (R)**Taxes**

Corporate franchise tax phasing-in apportionment based solely on sales.

HF2938—Buesgens (R)**K-12 Education Finance**

School districts not required to comply with state mandates unless revenue to comply is identified.

HF2939—Workman (R)**Transportation Policy**

Motor vehicle sales tax fund established, proceeds dedicated to highways and public transit, highway bonding limitation removed, motor fuel tax increased, bonds issued, money appropriated, and constitutional amendment proposed.

HF2940—Wasiluk (DFL)**Crime Prevention**

Service animal negligent interference of unauthorized control prohibited, restitution required, and penalties prescribed.

HF2941—Blaine (R)**Taxes**

Military pay income tax deduction provided.

HF2942—Blaine (R)**Judiciary Finance**

Camp Ripley joint military/law enforcement anti-terrorism training facility pre-design funding provided, and money appropriated.

HF2943—Wasiluk (DFL)**Transportation Finance**

McKnight Road and Highway 36 interchange construction funding provided, bonds issued, and money appropriated.

HF2944—Walz (R)**Environment & Natural Resources Policy**

Cuyuna Lakes State Trail established in Crow Wing and Aitkin counties.

HF2945—Walz (R)**Environment & Natural Resources Finance**

Cuyuna Country state recreation area in Crow Wing County improvements funding provided, bonds issued, and money appropriated.

HF2946—Murphy (DFL)**Crime Prevention**

Terrorism; closed meetings authorized to discuss security, drivers' licenses limited, first-degree murder expanded to include terrorism, biological agent crimes established, homeland security and training funded, and money appropriated.

HF2947—Blaine (R)**Agriculture & Rural Development Finance**

Biogas; on-farm biogas recovery facility loan program established.

HF2948—Walz (R)**Environment & Natural Resources Policy**

Cuyuna Country state recreation area additions provided in Crow Wing County.

HF2949—Kahn (DFL)**Environment & Natural Resources Policy**

Littering offenses expanded to include partially burnt cigarettes.

HF2950—Buesgens (R)**Education Policy**

Basic skills test on line capability required.

HF2951—Sykora (R)**Family & Early Childhood Education Finance**

Early childhood and family education technical and clarifying language provided, rulemaking authorized, and adult basic education consortia authorized to act as own fiscal agents.

HF2952—Abeler (R)**Transportation Policy**

Senior citizens street crossings designated.

HF2953—Abeler (R)**Civil Law**

Volunteer health care provider program established, and state employee status provided relating to tort claims.

HF2954—Abeler (R)**K-12 Education Finance**

School district staff development revenue flexibility provided.

HF2955—Tuma (R)**Higher Education Finance**

University of Minnesota regents appointed by the governor with the advice and consent of the Senate, and constitutional amendment proposed.

HF2956—Lenczewski (DFL)**Commerce, Jobs & Economic Development**

Annuity contracts with surrender charges sales to elderly customers regulated.

HF2957—Sertich (DFL)**Transportation Policy**

Impounded vehicle notice required to cite state statute or local ordinance that authorized taking the vehicle.

HF2958—Vandever (R)**Governmental Operations & Veterans Affairs Policy**

Law enforcement income tax check-off provided to fund benefits for survivors of law enforcement officers and firefighters, and provide maintenance of peace officer and firefighter memorials.

HF2959—Carlson (DFL)**K-12 Education Finance**

Intermediate school districts authorized to levy for judgements.

HF2960—Blaine (R)**Agriculture & Rural Development Finance**

Biogas recovery facility loan program funding provided, bonds issued, and money appropriated.

HF2961—Mares (R)**K-12 Education Finance**

Intermediate school districts authorized to issue tax and aid anticipation certificates.

HF2962—Osthoff (DFL)**Jobs & Economic Development Finance**

St. Paul Roy Wilkins Auditorium roof repair and ADA compliance funding provided, bonds issued, and money appropriated.

HF2963—Blaine (R)**Agriculture & Rural Development Finance**

Farm manure digester loan eligibility expanded.

HF2964—Mares (R)**Education Policy**

K-12 education programs provided including general education, education excellence, special education, facilities and technology, and nutrition and other programs.

HF2965—Kuisle (R)**Agriculture Policy**

Pollutant discharge into state waters prohibition clarified, and new open-air swine basin permits prohibited.

HF2966—Peterson (DFL)
Education Policy
Profile of Learning repealed.

HF2967—Kahn (DFL)
Health & Human Services Policy
Genetic parentage or forensic DNA testing laboratories required to be accredited, fees established, rulemaking authorized, and penalties provided.

HF2968—Vandevor (R)
State Government Finance
Legislative and constitutional officer salary decrease provided.

HF2969—Kuisle (R)
Education Policy
Special education data recording in electronic format authorized.

HF2970—Hackbarth (R)
Environment & Natural Resources Finance
Recreational motor vehicle use maintenance, monitoring, and enforcement activities funding provided; and money appropriated.

HF2971—Hackbarth (R)
Local Government & Metropolitan Affairs
Shooting ranges generally accepted operation practices defined relating to ordinances, closing, relocation, and nuisance liability.

HF2972—Wolf (R)
Regulated Industries
Omnibus energy bill of 2001 technical corrections provided.

HF2973—Holsten (R)
Environment & Natural Resources Finance
Leased property maintenance provided, aquatic plant grants permitted, state park exemptions authorized, federal compliance provided, and money appropriated.

HF2974—Ruth (R)
Taxes
Electric generation facility personal property tax exemption provided.

HF2975—Rifenberg (R)
Taxes
Houston fire and ambulance station construction materials sales tax exemption provided.

HF2976—Holsten (R)
Governmental Operations & Veterans Affairs Policy
Gambling lawful purpose expenditures trade area definition modified.

HF2977—Hackbarth (R)
Taxes
Shooting range property defined as class 4c for property tax purposes.

HF2978—Cassell (R)
Local Government & Metropolitan Affairs
Alexandria; lakes area economic development authority established, powers granted, and duties prescribed.

HF2979—Jennings (DFL)
Local Government & Metropolitan Affairs
Wyoming township and Chisago city; previous municipal annexation reimbursements repealed.

HF2980—Sykora (R)
Judiciary Finance
Faribault Correctional Facility prison industry building funding provided, bonds issued, and money appropriated.

HF2981—Huntley (DFL)
Family & Early Childhood Education Finance
Child advocacy center grants provided and money appropriated.

HF2982—Howes (R)
Health & Human Services Policy
Ah-Gwah-Ching Center hiring and layoff freeze implemented, provision of information on center programs required, and task force on collocation of services and functions established.

HF2983—Howes (R)
Governmental Operations & Veterans Affairs Policy
Service credit for past uncredited legislative service and Itasca State Park employment granted for former Hubbard County legislator.

HF2984—Seagren (R)
Education Policy
Alternative school district organization provided.

HF2985—Anderson, I. (DFL)
Taxes
Low-income housing tax credit provided.

HF2986—Bakk (DFL)
Higher Education Finance
Vermilion Community College land acquisition bonds issued, and money appropriated.

HF2987—Bakk (DFL)
Local Government & Metropolitan Affairs
Cook County Mineral Center cemetery conveyance to Grand Portage Reservation authorized.

HF2988—Haas (R)
Health & Human Services Policy
Insurance licenses, fees, and coverages regulated in certain instances.

HF2989—Haas (R)
Commerce, Jobs & Economic Development Policy
Health information data classified, certain continuing education requirements regulated, contractor's recovery fund regulated, uniform conveyancing forms adopted, and obsolete rules repealed.

HF2990—Winter (DFL)
K-12 Education Finance
Lakeview residential program included in the tuition amounts billed to resident school districts.

HF2991—Knoblach (R)
Health & Human Services Finance
Nursing facilities designated as metropolitan facilities for purposes of medical assistance reimbursement.

HF2992—Rhodes (R)
Health & Human Services Policy
Occupational therapist temporary licensure terms modified.

HF2993—Howes (R)
Health & Human Services Policy
Nursing overtime limits provided.

HF2994—Bishop (R)
Jobs & Economic Development Finance
Rochester Art Center construction bonds issued and money appropriated.

HF2995—Howes (R)
Local Government & Metropolitan Affairs
Water tank service contract bidding exception provided.

HF2996—Mares (R)
Governmental Operations & Veterans Affairs Policy
Local government correctional service retirement plan contribution rate increases eliminated.

HF2997—Rukavina (DFL)
Higher Education Finance
Mesabi Range Community and Technical College renovation bonds issued and money appropriated.

HF2998—Gray (DFL)
Health & Human Services Finance
Hennepin County Reuben Linde family services facility grant provided, and money appropriated.

HF2999—Ozment (R)
Local Government & Metropolitan Affairs
Municipal aggregate material removal fee in the metropolitan area provided.

HF3000—Rukavina (DFL)
Environment & Natural Resources Policy
Snowmobile auxiliary light power and switches required.

HF3001—Rukavina (DFL)
Health & Human Services Policy
MinnesotaCare eligibility requirements modified.

HF3002—Holsten (R)
Transportation Policy
Emergency responder operation of vehicles with flashing lights and sirens permitted.

HF3003—Knoblach (R)
Environment & Natural Resources Finance
Minnesota public regional parks organizations grants provided, bonds issued, and money appropriated.

HF3004—Jacobson (R)
Governmental Operations & Veterans Affairs Policy
Veterans organizations expenditures allowed as lawful purpose gambling expenditures in certain instances.

HF3005—Howes (R)
Family & Early Childhood Education Finance
Mighty books grant program established, bonds issued, and money appropriated.

HF3006—Gray (DFL)
Taxes
Education income tax credit modified.

HF3007—Olson (R)
Local Government & Metropolitan Affairs
Local government state mandate opt-out procedure provided.

HF3008—Olson (R)
Jobs & Economic Development Finance
Bakery products including bread specifically exempted from the prepared food sales tax, and biomedical and commercialization initiative repealed.

HF3009—Olson (R)
Taxes
Motor vehicle sales tax deposited in highway user tax distribution fund.

HF3010—Olson (R)
Education Policy
American Heritage Education in Minnesota Public Schools Act adopted.

HF3011—McElroy (R)
Jobs & Economic Development Finance
Dakota County Housing Opportunity Enhancement Fund and supportive housing matching grants provided, bonds issued, and money appropriated.

HF3012—Mulder (R)**Civil Law**

Health care provider client information release without consent of the client permitted in certain instances.

HF3013—Mulder (R)**Health & Human Services Policy**

Psychology practice definition modified; emeritus registration of psychological practitioners provided; and mental, physical, or chemical dependency examinations for regulated individuals provided.

HF3014—Huntley (DFL)**Taxes**

Duluth sales tax collection date delayed.

HF3015—Seifert (R)**Education Policy**

State mathematics exam administered to the commissioner of Children, Families and Learning, and results published on-line.

HF3016—Opatz (DFL)**Jobs & Economic****Development Finance**

Workers' compensation assigned risk plan surplus transferred to state dislocated worker program.

HF3017—Clark, K. (DFL)**Jobs & Economic****Development Finance**

Transitional housing loans funded, bonds issued, and money appropriated.

HF3018—Ozment (R)**Environment & Natural****Resources Finance**

Citizens advisory committee for the environment and natural resources trust fund funding provided for specified projects and money appropriated.

HF3019—Hausman (DFL)**Transportation Finance**

Central Corridor Transitway bonds issued and money appropriated.

HF3020—Koskinen (DFL)**Crime Prevention**

False information presentation for background studies prohibited, hiring of persons convicted of violent crimes prohibited in licensed health and human services facilities, and penalties prescribed.

HF3021—Juhnke (DFL)**Health & Human Services Policy**

Willmar and Fergus Falls regional treatment centers hiring and layoff freeze implemented.

HF3022—Bernardy (DFL)**K-12 Education Finance**

Basic education formula allowance locally controlled inflationary increase authorized when the state responsibility is not met.

HF3023—Juhnke (DFL)**Health & Human Services Policy**

Willmar Regional Treatment Center hiring and layoff freeze implemented.

HF3024—Opatz (DFL)**Transportation Finance**

Northstar commuter rail system construction bonds issued and money appropriated.

HF3025—Peterson (DFL)**Environment & Natural****Resources Policy**

Land acquisition procedures and certain local planning regulations modified, certain state parks and state recreation area land modified, state land sales in specified counties authorized, and money appropriated.

HF3026—Kuisle (R)**Governmental Operations &****Veterans Affairs Policy**

School district elections administered by county.

HF3027—Kuisle (R)**K-12 Education Finance**

Interactive television and telecommunications access permanent revenue provided.

HF3028—Bishop (R)**Judiciary Finance**

Rochester area public safety training center bonds issued and money appropriated.

HF3029—Boudreau (R)**Governmental Operations &****Veterans Affairs Policy**

Energy building code requirements changed in certain instances.

HF3030—Buesgens (R)**Local Government &****Metropolitan Affairs**

Metropolitan Council existing service capacity external use provided, depreciation rate modified as pertains to ownership of existing facilities, and obsolete rules repealed.

HF3031—Mulder (R)**Health & Human Services Policy**

Minnesota Emergency Health Powers Act adopted, emergency declaration provisions modified, health conditions reporting required, property control special powers authorized, penalties provided, and money appropriated.

HF3032—Pugh (DFL)**Environment & Natural****Resources Finance**

South St. Paul North Urban Regional Trail completion bonds issued, and money appropriated.

HF3033—Seagren (R)**Education Policy**

Minnesota State Colleges and Universities property agreements limitation modified.

HF3034—Holberg (R)**Civil Law**

School bus driver background check procedure modified, criminal history checks for certain liquor license applicants authorized, and use of data collected on employees of certain license holders clarified.

HF3035—Boudreau (R)**K-12 Education Finance**

Minnesota state academies capital improvements provided, bonds issued, and money appropriated.

HF3036—Seifert (R)**Environment & Natural****Resources Finance**

LQP-25/Lazarus creek floodwater retention project bonds issued and money appropriated.

HF3037—Workman (R)**Governmental Operations &****Veterans Affairs Policy**

Camp Coldwater Springs diminishing water flow prohibition repealed.

HF3038—Penas (R)**Agriculture Policy**

Anthrax vaccine administration to livestock regulations modified.

HF3039—Westrom (R)**Transportation Policy**

Trunk Highway 55 reconstruction project enacted.

HF3040—Walker (DFL)**Health & Human Services Policy**

Minnesota Family Investment Program assistance 60-month time limit moratorium imposed.

HF3041—Marquart (DFL)**Civil Law**

Non-designated addresses on license applications declared private data.

HF3042—Ozment (R)**Environment & Natural****Resources Finance**

Scientific and natural area acquisition, restoration, and improvement funding provided, bonds issued, and money appropriated.

HF3043—Clark, J. (R)**Environment & Natural****Resources Finance**

Stream restoration project funding provided, bonds issued, and money appropriated.

HF3044—Mulder (R)**K-12 Education Finance**

Consolidated school district facility funding provided for Independent School District Nos. 402, 403, 404, 409, 411, 418, and 584; bonds issued, and money appropriated.

HF3045—Seagren (R)**Education Policy**

School board sponsorship of autonomous charter school allowed.

HF3046—Jacobson (R)**Governmental Operations &****Veterans Affairs Policy**

Lawful gambling premises rent limits provided and certain persons prohibited to be employed in the sale of pull-tabs.

HF3047—Kuisle (R)**Transportation Policy**

Joint county highway status provisions, requirements mandating a list of engineers and rule transmission to county auditors, and obsolete rules abolished; commissioner authority modified, and driveway design standards repealed.

HF3048—Workman (R)**Crime Prevention**

Criminal penalties for persons who promote, advocate, and take responsibility for criminal acts provided.

HF3049—Tuma (R)**Crime Prevention**

Predatory offender lifetime registration required after second conviction.

HF3050—Westerberg (R)**Taxes**

Smoking cessation devices exempted from sales taxes.

HF3051—Olson (R)**Commerce, Jobs &****Economic Development**

Loan default notice to third party cosigners required.

HF3052—Peterson (DFL)**Agriculture Policy**

Permission to work in public waters requirement clarified and criteria for wetland replacement plans modified.

HF3053—Olson (R)**Commerce, Jobs &****Economic Development**

Migrant labor camp rules made effective until July 1, 2003.

HF3054—Ozment (R)**Redistricting**

Legislature redistricting plan adopted for use in 2002 and thereafter.

HF3055—Pawlenty (R)**Jobs & Economic****Development Finance**

Property tax-free zones established, tax exemptions for individuals and businesses in tax-free zones provided, repayment of tax benefits and state aid provided, and money appropriated.

HF3056—Finseth (R)**Environment & Natural****Resources Finance**

Red River state recreation area visitor center construction bonds issued, and money appropriated.

HF3057—Kielkucki (R)**Education Policy**

Minnesota State High School League corporate partnerships permitted.

HF3058—Pugh (DFL)**Commerce, Jobs & Economic Development**

West St. Paul additional on-sale liquor licenses authorized.

HF3059—Larson (DFL)**Civil Law**

Putative father notice provision modified.

HF3060—Finseth (R)**Agriculture Policy**

Ethanol production facility authorized.

HF3061—Dibble (DFL)**Local Government & Metropolitan Affairs**

Metropolitan sewer interceptor facility transfer or disposal provided.

HF3062—Smith (R)**Civil Law**

Hennepin and Ramsey counties juvenile court judge term of service limitations repealed.

HF3063—Cassell (R)**Environment & Natural Resources Policy**

Douglas County sale of tax-forfeited land bordering public water authorized.

HF3064—Rifenberg (R)**Taxes**

Food and drink sale, purchase, and food products defined for purposes of taxation.

HF3065—Workman (R)**Transportation Finance**

Trunk highway turnback and contemplated turnback rehabilitation funding provided, bonds issued, and money appropriated.

HF3066—Osthoff (DFL)**Capital Investment**

Park building projects of local metropolitan governments exempted from state pre-design requirements.

HF3067—Clark, J. (R)**Jobs & Economic****Development Finance**

Children's Theatre Company renovation and construction funding provided, Hennepin County art museum and auditorium project authorized, and money appropriated.

HF3068—Wolf (R)**K-12 Education Finance**

School district staff development revenue reservation requirement lifted.

HF3069—Wolf (R)**Education Policy**

School district timely submission of teacher contract settlement information required.

HF3070—Bradley (R)**Health & Human Services Policy**

Medical assistance and MinnesotaCare billing consent requirements modified for covered individual education plan services.

HF3071—Mullery (DFL)**Transportation Policy**

License plates; "Proud to be an American" and "Proud to be a Veteran" special license plates created.

HF3072—Seagren (R)**Jobs & Economic Development Finance**

Bloomington Center for the Arts funding provided, bonds issued, and money appropriated.

HF3073—Osskopp (R)**Governmental Operations & Veterans Affairs Policy**

Bingo electronic devices and linked bingo games provided, lawful gambling prize amounts and definitions provided, and pull-tab dispensing device procedures modified.

HF3074—Ruth (R)**Local Government & Metropolitan Affairs**

Steele County recorder appointment authorized.

HF3075—Ruth (R)**Agriculture & Rural Development Finance**

FarmAmerica emergency operating expenses funding provided, and money appropriated.

HF3076—Knobloch (R)**Transportation Policy**

Funeral procession escort private vehicle authorized to use flashing red lights and to access traffic control signal override system.

HF3077—Stang (R)**Environment & Natural Resources Finance**

Lake Koronis recreational trail funding provided, bonds issued, and money appropriated.

HF3078—Stang (R)**Commerce, Jobs & Economic Development**

Real estate industry licensee conduct regulated, disclosures modified, and investigations by commerce commissioner regulated.

HF3079—Holberg (R)**Civil Law**

Residential real estate sale disclosure requirements provided.

HF3080—Stanek (R)**Governmental Operations & Veterans Affairs Policy**

Metropolitan transit police part-time officers pension coverage provided, employment restriction removed, and search warrant powers granted.

HF3081—Bernardy (DFL)**K-12 Education Finance**

Independent School District No. 14, Fridley, levy authorized.

HF3082—Jennings (DFL)**Commerce, Jobs & Economic Development**

Wage credits earned by school food service employees used for specified unemployment benefit purposes.

HF3083—Hausman (DFL)**Transportation Finance**

Highway construction mitigation bus service spending limit provision abolished.

HF3084—Murphy (DFL)**Higher Education Finance**

University of Minnesota, Duluth, rapid prototype machine funding provided, bonds issued, and money appropriated.

HF3085—Gunther (R)**Jobs & Economic Development Finance**

Fairmont athletic facilities expansion and improvement grant provided, bonds issued, and money appropriated.

HF3086—Haas (R)**Family & Early Childhood****Education Finance**

Childcare assistance data and information provisions modified.

HF3087—Tingelstad (R)**Education Policy**

School building construction and repair 10-year warranty required.

HF3088—Jacobson (R)**Transportation Finance**

I-35W and County Road J interchange construction funding provided, bonds issued, and money appropriated.

HF3089—Gerlach (R)**Crime Prevention**

Dakota County inmates required to contribute to costs of incarceration.

HF3090—McGuire (DFL)**Family & Early Childhood****Education Finance**

Childcare assistance basic sliding fee appropriation for 2003 modified.

HF3091—Abeler (R)**Health & Human Services Policy**

Licensed programs serving persons with mental retardation or related conditions incident and emergencies reporting standards modified.

HF3092—Abeler (R)**Civil Law**

Health care provider immunity granted for providing specific reference check data to a prospective new employer.

HF3093—Boudreau (R)**Health & Human Services Finance**

ICF/MRs downsizing, relocation, and access needs funding provided, and money appropriated.

HF3094—Osskopp (R)**Agriculture & Rural****Development Finance**

Minnesota Extension Service funding provided, mission clarified, and money appropriated.

HF3095—Tingelstad (R)**Health & Human Services Policy**

Asthma surveillance system established, and money appropriated.

HF3096—Gerlach (R)**Local Government & Metropolitan Affairs**

Metropolitan Airports Commission civil air patrol lease agreements regulated.

HF3097—Folliard (DFL)**Education Policy**

School districts and charter schools required to use a uniform teacher employment application form.

HF3098—Jennings (DFL)**K-12 Education Finance**

Interactive web-based and independent study programs extended.

HF3099—Rukavina (DFL)**Commerce, Jobs & Economic Development**

Additional unemployment benefits requirements modified.

HF3100—Sertich (DFL)**Commerce, Jobs & Economic Development**

Unemployment insurance benefits alternate base period provided.

HF3101—Seifert (R)**Education Policy**

State-mandated school district reports reduction task force established.

HF3102—Osskopp (R)**Health & Human Services Finance**

Rate increase provided for a specified hospital, and money appropriated.

HF3103—Stanek (R)**Jobs & Economic Development Finance**

Colin Powell Youth Center construction provided for educational and job training support to disadvantaged youth, and money appropriated.

HF3104—Dorn (DFL)**Jobs & Economic Development Finance**

DM&E railroad mitigation grants provided to cities, bonds issued, and money appropriated.

HF3105—Kuisle (R)**Environment & Natural Resources Policy**

Pollutant release into state waters prohibition modified.

HF3106—Huntley (DFL)**Agriculture Policy**

Congress and the Food and Drug Administration urged by resolution to take steps to protect the health of the people and to maintain effectiveness of human antibiotics.

HF3107—Blaine (R)**Agriculture & Rural Development Finance**

Agricultural fund revolving account language clarified.

HF3108—Rhodes (R)**Regulated Industries**

911 emergency telephone services maximum fee increased and department of administration assessable expenses eliminated.

HF3109—Gunther (R)**Jobs & Economic Development Finance**

Wastewater infrastructure funding program modified.

HF3110—Abeler (R)**Crime Prevention**

Chiropractic practice restricted to authorized firms, fee splitting specified, and criminal penalties provided.

HF3111—Stanek (R)**Transportation Finance**

Northwest metro busway between Rogers and Minneapolis funded, bonds issued, and money appropriated.

HF3112—Eastlund (R)**Local Government & Metropolitan Affairs**

Counties authorized to require dedication of land for public parks.

HF3113—Rhodes (R)**K-12 Education Finance**

Independent School District No. 283, St. Louis Park, metropolitan magnet school grant authorized, bonds issued, and money appropriated.

HF3114—Stanek (R)**Transportation Finance**

Transportation department radio communications system infrastructure funding provided, and money appropriated.

HF3115—Blaine (R)**Agriculture & Rural Development Finance**

University of Minnesota veterinary diagnostic laboratory building funding provided, bonds issued, and money appropriated.

HF3116—Ozment (R)**Environment & Natural Resources Policy**

Environmental and natural resources trust fund responsibilities and fund availability modified, land compliance failure penalty provided, and notices required.

HF3117—Ozment (R)**Civil Law**

Minnesota environmental response and liability act statute of limitations to recover response costs clarified.

HF3118—Seagren (R)**Education Policy**

Charter school formation by school board provided.

HF3119—Juhnke (DFL)**Higher Education Finance**

Ridgewater Community and Technical College laboratories renovation funding provided, bonds issued, and money appropriated.

HF3120—Kubly (DFL)**Agriculture & Rural Development Finance**

Minnesota center for agricultural innovation funding provided, bonds issued, and money appropriated.

HF3121—Koskinen (DFL)**Civil Law**

Human services licensing background check provisions modified and penalties provided.

HF3122—Knoblach (R)**Capital Investment**

Capital improvements funding provided, state bonds issued, previous appropriations canceled, Greater Minnesota redevelopment program created, and money appropriated.

HF3123—Osskopp (R)**Environment & Natural Resources Finance**

Wabasha County Great River Ridge trail funding provided, bonds issued, and money appropriated.

HF3124—Osskopp (R)**Environment & Natural Resources Finance**

Goodhue Pioneer trail funding provided, bonds issued, and money appropriated.

HF3125—Wolf (R)**Regulated Industries**

Telecommunications access for communication-impaired persons program renamed telecommunications access Minnesota program, and contracting provisions modified.

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Extent and Nature of Circulation	Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months	No. Copies of Single Issue Published nearest to Filing date	
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f. Total Free Distribution (Sum of 15d and 15e)	2,211	2,365	
g. Total Distribution (Sum of 15c and 15f)	17,613	20,220	
h. Copies Not Distributed	180	180	
i. Total	17,793	20,400	
j. Percent paid and/or Requested Circulation (15c/15i x 100)	87%	88%	

This Statement of Ownership will be printed in the Feb. 8, 2002 issue of this publication.

Signature and Title of Editor, Publisher, Business Manager, or Owner

LeClair G. Lambert

Date

September 17, 2001

I certify that all information furnished on this form is true and complete. I understand that anyone who furnishes false or misleading information on this form or who omits material or information requested on the form may be subject to criminal sanctions (including fines and imprisonment) and/or civil sanctions (including multiple damages and civil penalties).

MONDAY, Feb. 11

8:15 a.m.

GOVERNMENTAL OPERATIONS & VETERANS AFFAIRS POLICY

Basement Hearing Room
State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Jim Rhodes
Agenda: HF2698 (Paulsen) Board of Physical Therapy rulemaking authority on licensee ethics extended.
HF2550 (Osskopp) Emergency 911 telephone system provisions modified to establish emergency telecommunications system.
More to be announced.

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES POLICY

10 State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Fran Bradley
Agenda: HF2925 (Boudreau) Health care service prior authorization agreements modified, and provider contracting requirements established.
HF2755 (Haas) Health insurance form and rate filing requirements modified, task force on small business health insurance extended, geographic premium variations modified, and renewal premium increases cap established.
HF2641 (Bradley) Health plan company regulation modified, prescription drug discount program established, Minnesota provider tax and tobacco tax provisions modified, malpractice punitive damage limit imposed, and money appropriated.

JOBS & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FINANCE

200 State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Dan McElroy
Agenda: Monday Morning Meeting - Presentation of Governor's supplemental budget reductions: Department of Trade and Economic Development; Department of Economic Security; Minnesota Technology Inc.; Bureau of Mediation.
Public testimony.
Note: The committee will reconvene Monday evening at 6:15 p.m. in 200 State Office Building.
Monday Evening Meeting - Presentation of agency bonding projects: Minnesota Historical Society; Minnesota Housing Finance Agency; Department of Trade and Economic Development; Iron Range Resources and Rehabilitation Board.

TRANSPORTATION FINANCE

5 State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Carol Molnau
Agenda: Mike Schadauer, MnDOT's Northstar Commuter Rail Project Manager.

10:15 a.m.

CIVIL LAW

Basement Hearing Room
State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Steve Smith
Agenda: HF2819 (Tingelstad) Assisted reproduction act adopted authorizing collaborative reproduction agreements and embryo agreements.
HF2735 (Greiling) Civil commitment standards conformity provided, and courts authorized to commit certain persons with mental illnesses to community hospitals.
HF2627 (Holberg) Employee and employer identity information exchange between Department of Labor and Industry and Department of Revenue authorized.
HF2785 (Goodno) Limited liability companies and business corporations, corporate name usage, and investment company share issuance procedures regulated; electronic record and signature legal recognition provided.
Note: Any agenda items not completed in the morning will be heard in 300S State Office Building 15 minutes after session.

ENVIRONMENT & NATURAL RESOURCES FINANCE

10 State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Mark Holsten
Agenda: Omnibus budget discussion.
Note: The committee will meet 10:15 a.m. to 12 noon and reconvene at 4 p.m. or after session.

HIGHER EDUCATION FINANCE

300S State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Peggy Leppik
Agenda: HFXXXX (Leppik) 2002 Supplemental Appropriations Bill mark-up.

K-12 EDUCATION FINANCE

5 State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Alice Seagren
Agenda: HF2866 (Dorman) Authorizing declining pupil unit aid to Independent School District No. 241, Albert Lea.
HF2867 (Dorman) Modifying equity revenue for school districts.
HF1052 (Leighton) Extending the disabled access levy for Independent School District No. 500, Southland.
HF2918 (Jennings) Extending the disabled access levy for Independent School District No. 578, Pine City.
HF2910 (Davnier) Restoring integration revenue to Special School District No. 1, Minneapolis; proposing a study on student mobility.

Property Tax Division/TAXES

200 State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Ron Erhardt
Agenda: HF2817 (Stang) Homestead property

tax classification extended to certain property used for non-homestead purposes.

HF2822 (Clark, J.) Homestead property tax classification extended to certain property used for non-homestead purposes.

HF2718 (Mulder) Homestead property tax classification extended to specified non-homestead property.

HF2614 (Dehler) Local government aid city aid base increased for specified cities.

HF2633 (Ness) Local government aid city aid base increased for City of Hutchinson.

HF2638 (Ness) Local government aid city aid base increased for City of Darwin.

12:30 p.m.

FAMILY & EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION FINANCE

5 State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Barb Sykora
Agenda: Agency Bill - Department of Children, Families and Learning (Revisor #02-4843 to be introduced 02-07-02).

LOCAL GOVERNMENT & METROPOLITAN AFFAIRS

200 State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Jerry Dempsey
Agenda: Report to the Minnesota Legislature on Municipal Boundary Adjustments: Dean Barkley, director of Minnesota Planning, Office of Strategic and Long Range Planning; Christine Scotillo, executive director, Municipal Boundary Adjustments, Office of Strategic and Long Range Planning.
HF1297 (Dempsey) Office of Strategic and Long-range Planning authority transfer from municipal board statutory conforming changes provided, and delegation by the director authorized.
HF2637 (Ozment) Temporary town officeholders authorized in the event of inability or refusal to serve.
HF2849 (Tuma) Closed public meetings authorized to discuss items relating to security.

REGULATED INDUSTRIES

10 State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Ken Wolf
Agenda: HFXXXX (Wolf) Relating to energy; making technical corrections to the 2001 omnibus energy bill.
HFXXXX (Wolf) Relating to telecommunications; changing the name of telecommunications access for communication-impaired persons program.
Continued discussion of the following bills:
HF2778 (Wolf) Relating to telecommunications, establishing a special master, authorizing the PUC to order structural separation, and increasing civil and administrative penalties.
HF2919 (Jennings) Relating to telecommunications; promoting competition within local exchange marketplace; providing

criteria for structural separation of retail and wholesale activities of large incumbent local exchange carriers into affiliated companies for violations of standards of conduct.

3 p.m.

THE HOUSE MEETS IN SESSION.

6 p.m.

AGRICULTURE POLICY

5 State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Tim Finseth

Agenda: HF2909 (Stanek) Terrorism prevention integrated public policy established, data classification and sharing authorized, penalties provided, and money appropriated.

TUESDAY, Feb. 12

8:15 a.m.

EDUCATION POLICY

200 State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Harry Mares

Agenda: HF1149 (Mares) Educational data classification and dissemination provided.

HF2598 (Cassell) Pledge of allegiance recitation required in all public schools, and United States flag respect instruction provided.

Other items may be added.

HEALTH & HUMAN

SERVICES POLICY

10 State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Fran Bradley

Agenda: HF2932 (Sykora) Communicable disease disclosure to a foster care provider required.

HF2903 (Goodno) Radiation therapy facility major spending commitment requirements modified.

HF2757 (Abeler) Human services licensure; commissioner's authority to set aside a disqualification limited.

HF2635 (Bradley) Individual education plan services billing consent requirements modified for billing medical assistance and MinnesotaCare.

HFXXXX (Abeler) Modifying standards for reporting incidents and emergencies in licensed programs serving people with mental retardation or related conditions.

HF2640 (Wilkin) Medical assistance, MinnesotaCare, or general assistance medical care; persons wrongfully obtaining assistance disqualified.

HFXXXX (Abeler) Providing employer immunity for reference checks for certain health care providers and facilities.

HF2848 (Tuma) Biological agents registry established, rulemaking and civil penalties authorized, and money appropriated.

HFXXXX (Mulder) Minnesota Emergency Health Powers Act.

HF2625 (Seifert) Minnesota clean indoor air act new or amended rules legislative approval required.

HF2664 (Bradley) Supplemental nursing services agencies requirements modified.

More bills may be added.

Note: This meeting will continue in 10 State Office Building at 4 p.m.

JUDICIARY FINANCE

Basement Hearing Room

State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Rich Stanek

Agenda: Discussion of Judiciary Finance funding bill.

10:15 a.m.

CRIME PREVENTION

Basement Hearing Room

State Office Building

Chr. Rep. John Tuma

Agenda: Department of Public Safety Initiatives: HF2842 (Tuma) DPS - Electronic signatures for blood samples.

HF3049 (Tuma) Lifetime registration for certain sex offenders.

HFXXXX (Tuma) Minnesota Center for Crime Victim Services - clean-up.

HF2618 (Holberg) Requiring public employees to report certain crimes.

HF2687 (Entenza) Sales tax on motor vehicles (criminal penalties).

Note: Additional bills may be added.

ENVIRONMENT & NATURAL RESOURCES POLICY

10 State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Dennis Ozment

Agenda: HF3116 (Ozment) Environmental and Natural Resources Trust Fund responsibilities and fund availability modified, land compliance failure penalty provided, and notices required.

HF2604 (Ozment) Deer hunting lifetime firearms and archery license provided.

HF2775 (Mulder) Casey Jones State Trail length and use provisions expanded.

STATE GOVERNMENT FINANCE

300N State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Philip Krinkie

Agenda: Review of Governor's bonding recommendations: Department of Administration.

Local arts organization bonding requests.

TAXES

200 State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Ron Abrams

Agenda: Continuation of public testimony on Governor's tax proposal.

Department of Revenue response to public testimony.

HF2878 (Abrams) Department of Revenue; Taxation technical and administrative modifications provided.

HF2875 (Abrams) Department of Revenue; tax data classification and disclosure provisions technical changes provided.

HFXXXX (Abrams) Department of Revenue; taxation; policy and administrative changes.

HF2666 (Dorman) Tax amnesty program established.

12:30 p.m.

AGRICULTURE & RURAL DEVELOPMENT FINANCE

10 State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Bob Ness

Agenda: Consideration of capital bonding requests from the Minnesota Department of Agriculture.

HF2963 (Blaine) Farm manure digester loan eligibility expanded.

HF3115 (Blaine) University of Minnesota veterinary diagnostic laboratory building funding provided, bonds issued, and money appropriated.

HFXXXX (Ness) Omnibus Agriculture and Rural Development Finance Bill.

Note: Those wishing to testify on the above bills should contact Committee Administrator Craig Clark.

CAPITAL INVESTMENT

5 State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Jim Knobloch

Agenda: Discussion of proposals for capital budget funding including:

Cambridge Regional Treatment Center demolition schedule (Eastlund);

Hastings hydro-electric Plant (Dempsey);

Bemidji State University/Northwest Tech co-location (Fuller);

Wastewater infrastructure funding, Terry Kuhlman, Public Facilities Authority Executive Director; and

Flood hazard mitigation, Kent Lokkesmoe, Department of Natural Resources Waters Division.

COMMERCE, JOBS & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT POLICY

200 State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Greg Davids

Agenda: HF2570 (Wolf) Automobile insurance authorized to cover damage to glass on the same basis as damage to other parts of an automobile, auto glass market survey revolving account repealed, and money appropriated.

HF2714 (Rukavina) Auto glass repair and replacement regulated.

HF175 (Ozment) Relating to fire safety; requiring the state fire marshal to adopt rules for fire retardant standards for cigarettes.

HF2517 (Clark, K.) Ovarian cancer screening insurance coverage provided.

HF2766 (Haas) Motor vehicle fuel franchise sale federal code compliance expiration date removed.

HF2573 (Juhnke) Real estate task force funding surcharge omission corrected.

*****NOTE TIME & ROOM CHANGE*****

**ENVIRONMENT & NATURAL RESOURCES
FINANCE**

400N State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Mark Holsten

Agenda: Omnibus budget discussion.

6 p.m.

**Legislative Commission on Pensions and
Retirement**

112 State Capitol
Chr. Sen. Dean Johnson
Agenda: To be announced.

WEDNESDAY, Feb. 13

8:15 a.m.

**GOVERNMENTAL OPERATIONS &
VETERANS AFFAIRS POLICY**

Basement Hearing Room
State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Jim Rhodes
Agenda: HF2662 (Stanek) Interstate compact for adult offender supervision adopted, existing compact repealed, advisory council created, administrator appointed, and money appropriated.
More to be announced.

**HEALTH & HUMAN
SERVICES POLICY**

10 State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Fran Bradley
Agenda: HF1517 (Wilkin) Swimming pool requirements established for family day care homes and municipalities provided immunity from claims based on provider's failure to comply.
HF2600 (Mulder) Wading pools at family day care homes exempted from public swimming pool requirements.
HF2702 (Mulder) Nurse licensure compact enacted.
More bills may be added.

**JOBS & ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT FINANCE**

200 State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Dan McElroy
Agenda: Presentation of local bonding projects: HF2644 (Pawlenty) Veterans and single homeless adult housing projects authorized, bonds issued, and money appropriated.
HF990 (Dawkins) St. Paul community center and armory grant provided, bonds issued, and money appropriated.
HF2859 (Bach) Lake Superior border municipalities wastewater facilities funding provided, bonds issued, and money appropriated.

HF932 (Swenson) Regional sludge management demonstration project appropriated money.
HF483 (Solberg) Floodwood business and industrial park grant provided, bonds issued, and money appropriated.
HF2648 (Ness) Dassel wastewater treatment facilities improvements authorized, bonds issued, and money appropriated.

TRANSPORTATION FINANCE

5 State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Carol Molnau
Agenda: Proposed budget cuts.

10:15 a.m.

CIVIL LAW

Basement Hearing Room
State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Steve Smith
Agenda: HF2826 (Dawkins) Hmong Mej Koob marriage solemnization recognized.
HF2649 (Smith) Personal data related to operation of a motor vehicle disclosure by the Department of Public Safety provided.
HF856 (Kielkucki) Liability limited for specified nonprofit corporations maintaining homes for dependent children, providing day training and habilitation services or day services for children with mental retardation and related conditions.
HF2723 (Clark, K.) Undocumented noncitizens qualified as Minnesota residents for higher education purposes.
Note: Any agenda items not completed in the morning will be heard in 300S State Office Building 15 minutes after session.

**ENVIRONMENT & NATURAL
RESOURCES FINANCE**

10 State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Mark Holsten
Agenda: Omnibus budget bill.
Note: The committee will meet 10:15 a.m. to 12 noon and reconvene in 5 State Office Building at 4 p.m. or after session.

HIGHER EDUCATION FINANCE

300S State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Peggy Leppik
Agenda: HFXXXX (Leppik) 2002 Supplemental Appropriations Bill mark-up.

K-12 EDUCATION FINANCE

5 State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Alice Seagren
Agenda: To be announced.

Sales and Income Tax Division/TAXES

200 State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Elaine Harder
Agenda: Overview presentation by the Department of Revenue regarding recent actions of the Streamline Sales Tax Project and problems with the implementation of last year's changes. After the presentation, the committee will take up one bill:

HF2876 (Abrams) Exempts certain bakery products from the definition of prepared food.

12:30 p.m.

AGRICULTURE POLICY

10 State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Tim Finseth
Agenda: HF2909 (Skoe) Clarifies definition of pastures for animal feedlot regulation.
HF2865 (Cassell) Clarifying exemptions for pastures under animal feedlot permit rules.
HF2739 (Dorman) Modifying expenditure limits for upgrading feedlots.
HF2708 (Ness) Clarifying a definition related to the Minnesota Extension Service.
Note: If necessary, the committee will reconvene after session in 10 State Office Building.

**COMMERCE, JOBS &
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT POLICY**

Basement Hearing Room
State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Greg Davids
Agenda: HF2492 (Davids) Credit scoring; consumer credit information use prohibited for homeowner and auto insurance underwriting.
HF2719 (Leppik) Uniform athlete agents act providing student athlete agent registration adopted, and money appropriated.
HF2726 (Stang) Motor vehicle dealer transfers deadline clarified.
HF2525 (Hackbarth) Employers required to allow unpaid leave for employees performing volunteer firefighter duties.
HF2629 (Stanek) Retired individuals license by the Board of Architecture, Engineering, Land Surveying, Landscape Architecture, Geoscience, and Interior Design authorized to use a retired professional designation.

**FAMILY & EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION
FINANCE**

5 State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Barb Sykora
Agenda: Delete All Amendment to HF2901 (Sykora) To be Committee Omnibus Bill.

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT & METROPOLITAN
AFFAIRS**

200 State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Jerry Dempsey
Agenda: HF2836 (Gunther) Region Nine Development Commission authorized to establish a specific nonprofit corporation to reduce the region's dependence on tax dollars.
HF2774 (Howes) Annexation of unincorporated land procedures and criteria provided.
HF2753 (Hilty) Carlton County recorder appointment authorized.
HF2908 (Hilty) Pine County recorder and assessor office combination authorized.

3 p.m.

THE HOUSE MEETS IN SESSION.

4 p.m. or 30 minutes after session

**Health Care Licensing and Mandates
Subcommittee/HEALTH & HUMAN
SERVICES POLICY**

5 State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Fran Bradley

Agenda: HF813 (Goodno) Licensed mental health counseling board established, licensure requirements provided, rulemaking authorized, penalties imposed, and money appropriated. HF1224 (Davids) Medical response unit registration provided.

6 p.m.

JUDICIARY FINANCE

200 State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Rich Stanek

Agenda: Discussion of Judiciary Finance funding bill.

THURSDAY, Feb. 14

8:15 a.m.

EDUCATION POLICY

200 State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Harry Mares
Agenda: To be determined.

**HEALTH & HUMAN
SERVICES POLICY**

10 State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Fran Bradley
Agenda: To be announced.

JUDICIARY FINANCE

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

Agenda: Discussion of Judiciary Finance funding bill.

TRANSPORTATION POLICY

5 State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Tom Workman
Agenda: HF2847 (Tuma) Temporary licenses issued for certain foreign persons, hazardous materials drivers' endorsement regulations established, endorsements canceled for specified offenses, and money appropriated. HF1885 (Workman) Licensed motor vehicle dealer bonding requirements clarified. HF2884 (Osskopp) Maximum weight limit for milk trucks regulated.

10:15 a.m.

CRIME PREVENTION

Basement Hearing Room
State Office Building
Chr. Rep. John Tuma

Agenda: HF1543 (Holsten) Legalizing certain fireworks.

Note: Other bills will be added.

**ENVIRONMENT & NATURAL
RESOURCES POLICY**

10 State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Dennis Ozment

Agenda: HF2814 (Ozment) State agencies required to purchase clean fuels and vehicles capable of running on clean fuels if available. HF2691 (Tingelstad) Pollution Control Agency required to amend rule to provide for bioremediation technologies in failed individual sewage treatment systems. HF2889 (Howes) Individual sewage treatment system installation authorized in certain circumstances.

Note: Additional bills may be added.

TAXES

200 State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Ron Abrams
Agenda: To be announced.

STATE GOVERNMENT FINANCE

300N State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Philip Krinkie
Agenda: Review of Governor's supplemental budget proposals.

12:30 p.m.

**AGRICULTURE & RURAL
DEVELOPMENT FINANCE**

10 State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Bob Ness

Agenda: Committee consideration of the Omnibus Agriculture and Rural Development Finance Bill.

CAPITAL INVESTMENT

5 State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Jim Knoblach

Agenda: Overview of Transportation Finance and related issues including: Local roads and bridges; Northwest Commuter Busway; and North Star Commuter Rail.

**COMMERCE, JOBS & ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT POLICY**

200 State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Greg Davids

Agenda: HF2751 (Stang) Relating to financial institutions; providing for the organization, operation, and regulation of credit unions. HFXXXX (Ruth) Overinsurance Bill. HF2922 (Sertich) Background check, credit check, testing, or orientation costs payment by employees prohibited.

3 p.m.

THE HOUSE MEETS IN SESSION.

FRIDAY, Feb. 15

8:15 a.m.

**GOVERNMENTAL OPERATIONS &
VETERANS AFFAIRS POLICY**

Basement Hearing Room
State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Jim Rhodes
Agenda: To be announced.

**HEALTH & HUMAN
SERVICES FINANCE**

10 State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Kevin Goodno
Agenda: To be announced.

10:15 a.m.

CRIME PREVENTION

Basement Hearing Room
State Office Building
Chr. Rep. John Tuma
Agenda: To be announced.

Note: This meeting is scheduled to last until 6 p.m. or as needed to complete the agenda.

HIGHER EDUCATION FINANCE

300S State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Peggy Leppik
Agenda: University of Minnesota capital investment request.

K-12 EDUCATION FINANCE

5 State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Alice Seagren
Agenda: To be announced.

12:30 p.m.

**Subcommittee on Metropolitan Council
and Agencies/LOCAL GOVERNMENT &
METROPOLITAN AFFAIRS**

Room to be announced
State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Mark Buesgens
Agenda: To be announced.

WAYS & MEANS

200 State Office Building
Chr. Rep. David Bishop
Agenda: To be determined.

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Minnesota House of Representatives 2002 Members

District/Member/Party			Phone (651) 296-	District/Member/Party			Phone (651) 296-
		Room*				Room*	
49A	Abeler, Jim (R)	581	1729	27B	Leighton, Rob (DFL)	289	4193
45A	Abrams, Ron (R)	585	9934	40B	Lenczewski, Ann (DFL)	337	4218
19B	Anderson, Bruce (R)	411	5063	45B	Leppik, Peggy (R)	485	7026
3A	Anderson, Irv (DFL)	343	4936	2A	Lieder, Bernie L. (DFL)	323	5091
6A	Bakk, Thomas (Tom) (DFL)	345	2190	33A	Lindner, Arlon (R)	417	7806
48B	Bernardy, Connie (DFL)	329	5510	56B	Lipman, Eric (R)	567	4244
59A	Biernat, Len (DFL)	303	4219	47A	Luther, Darlene (DFL)†	349	3751
30B	Bishop, Dave (R)	453	0573	67A	Mahoney, Tim (DFL)	377	4277
12B	Blaine, Greg (R)	387	4247	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)	389	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, D. 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	Wasiluk, Scott (DFL)	225	1188
16B	Knobloch, Jim (R)	451	6316	51A	Westerberg, Andrew (R)	523	4226
49B	Koskinen, Luanne (DFL)	301	4231	13A	Westrom, Torrey (R)	557	4929
53A	Krinkie, Philip (R)	365	2907	38A	Wilkin, Tim (R)	413	3533
15B	Kubly, Gary W. (DFL)	315	4346	22A	Winter, Ted (DFL)	247	5505
31A	Kuisle, William (R)	565	4378	41B	Wolf, Ken (R)	571	5185
40A	Larson, Dan (DFL)	221	7158	43A	Workman, Tom (R)	537	5066

Note: Room numbers are subject to change.

*All rooms are in the State Office Building unless otherwise noted, St. Paul, MN 55155; List as of Jan. 30, 2002

†- Rep. Darlene Luther passed away Jan. 30, 2002; a special election will be held March 4, 2002 to fill her seat.

Minnesota Memorials



PHOTO BY ANDREW VON BANK

The Spirit of St. Louis

The year 2002 features a couple of anniversaries in the life of one of Minnesota's most famous people.

Charles Lindbergh, who grew up in Little Falls and was the first person to fly solo across the Atlantic Ocean, would have been 100 years old Feb. 4.

This year also marks the 75th anniversary of his famous flight. Piloting the Spirit of St. Louis, "Lucky Lindy" left Long Island, New York at 7:52 a.m. May 20. He landed in Paris more than 33 hours later as a crowd estimated at 150,000 watched him land.

A replica of his plane hangs in the Lindbergh Terminal at the Minneapolis/St. Paul International Airport. The original is at the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D.C.

In 1985 a memorial of the famous aviator was dedicated on the Capitol Complex across John Ireland Boulevard from the Department of Transportation building.

Sculpted by Paul Granlund, the memorial features Lindbergh as a boy in overalls with outspread arms on a lower step. A standing figure of Lindbergh as an adult in aviator gear stands on a higher step. Three comments attributed to the aviator are engraved on the walkway around the memorial.

Donated by the Lindbergh Foundation, the statue awaited the state's decision on where it would be placed and how it would fund landscaping of the memorial. Much of that landscaping was recently redone to repair some storm damage and cut back some overgrown trees.

Lindbergh died on Aug. 26, 1974. His wife, Anne, passed away on Feb. 7, 2001.

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Reflections

The 2002 Legislative Session began on a somber note Jan. 29 due to the death of one member, and because of the serious illness of another.

An empty seat in the Senate chamber once belonged to Sen. Sam Solon (DFL-Duluth) who died Dec. 28. Over in the House chamber, a single red rose was placed on the desk of Rep. Darlene Luther (DFL-Brooklyn Park) by her long-time friend and neighbor, Sen. Linda Scheid (DFL-Brooklyn Park).

Luther, who had already survived a liver transplant, was seriously ill again. She died the next evening.

Since 1971 more than a dozen legislators died in office while serving their constituents.

One of the most colorful was Rep. James Rice (DFL-Mpls.).

Rice, who served in the House for 26 years, died in his fifth floor office in the State Office Building in 1996. He was noted for his literary soliloquies in the chamber, and when he spoke, the normally noisy chamber would become very quiet while everyone listened.

Each of these legislators shared a common thread of dedication, passion, and vision. Although Rep. Gloria Segal (DFL-St. Louis Park) resigned one month before her term ended in January 1993 because of ill health, she died shortly thereafter. Her dedication and passion was directed toward fighting for the human rights of all people.

More recently, House members who left a never-forgotten memory in the chamber and around the Capitol were Rep. Ken Otremba (DFL-Long Prairie) and Rep. Barb Vickerman (R-Redwood Falls), who

both died in 1997, and "Mr. Environment" Rep. Willard Munger (DFL-Duluth), who passed away in 1999.

In the previous two decades three House members died in office: Rep. Charlie Miller (DFL-Wabasha) in 1971, Rep. Ben Omann (IR-St. Joseph) in 1986, and Rep. John Rose (IR-Roseville) in 1988.

Rose is still remembered as a community activist in his hometown, and by more tenured members and staff in the House as the seer "Carnac the Magnificent."



PHOTO BY ANDREW VON BANK

Legislators and staff sign the registry in the St. Paul Cathedral at the Feb. 5 funeral of Rep. Darlene Luther.

On the last night at the end of a legislative session, Rose would dress in a cape and turban — not unlike former television host Johnny Carson — then make predictions about Minnesota's future from the well of the chamber.

In addition to Solon, senators who died in office, include Sen. Bob Lewis (DFL-St. Louis Park) in 1979. In 1972, Lewis and Rep. Ray Pleasant (IR-Bloomington) were the first African-Americans to be elected to the Legislature since J. Francis Wheaton (R-Edina) in 1898.

Other senators dying in office during the past 30 years are Sen. Eugene Stokowski (DFL-Mpls.) in 1979, Sen. Ed Schrom (DFL-Albany) in 1980, and Sen. Janet Johnson (DFL-North Branch) in 1999.

Our lives are reflective of the transitions and the choices that we make while we live them. As people pass in and out of our lives, we have the choice to take on the positives of those who pass on. By embracing those attributes, individually we may hope to build our own strength, dedication, commitment, and vision.

—LECLAIR GRIER LAMBERT

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

MINNESOTA INDEX

Motor vehicle crash facts

Licensed drivers in Minnesota, 2000	3.69 million
Registered motor vehicles, 2000	4.2 million
Traffic crashes in Minnesota, 2000	103,591
Motor vehicles involved	189,541
Drivers involved	180,545
People injured in crashes, 2000	44,740
In 1999	44,538
People killed in crashes, 2000	625
In 1999	626
In 1968 (record high)	1,060
Men killed in traffic crashes, 2000	405
Women	220
Male drivers involved in crashes, 2000	102,883
Female drivers	69,638
Gender not stated in report	8,024
Drunken driving incidents involving arrests, 2000	34,803
Percent male	73
Drunken driving incidents involving arrests, 1999	34,529
Known alcohol-related traffic fatalities, 2000	245
In 1999	195
Bicyclists killed in collisions with a motor vehicle, 2000	14
Pedestrian fatalities, 2000	41
In 1999	51
In 1971 (record high)	157
Fatalities on two-lane, two-way roads, 2000	378
On freeways and other divided highways	117
Fatal crashes in which illegal or unsafe speed was a contributing factor, 2000	158
Injury crashes	5,336
Fatal crashes in which driver inattention or distraction was a contributing factor, 2000	131
Injury crashes	10,549
People killed in crashes in which driver use of a cellular phone or CB radio was a contributing factor, 2000	3
People injured	101
Motorcycles registered in Minnesota, 2000	132,352
Licensed motorcycle operators, 2000	311,825
Motorcycle crashes, 2000	1,135
Motorcyclists killed, 2000	35
Those wearing helmets	6

Source: *Minnesota Motor Vehicle Crash Facts, 2000*, Office of Traffic Safety, Minnesota Department of Public Safety.

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