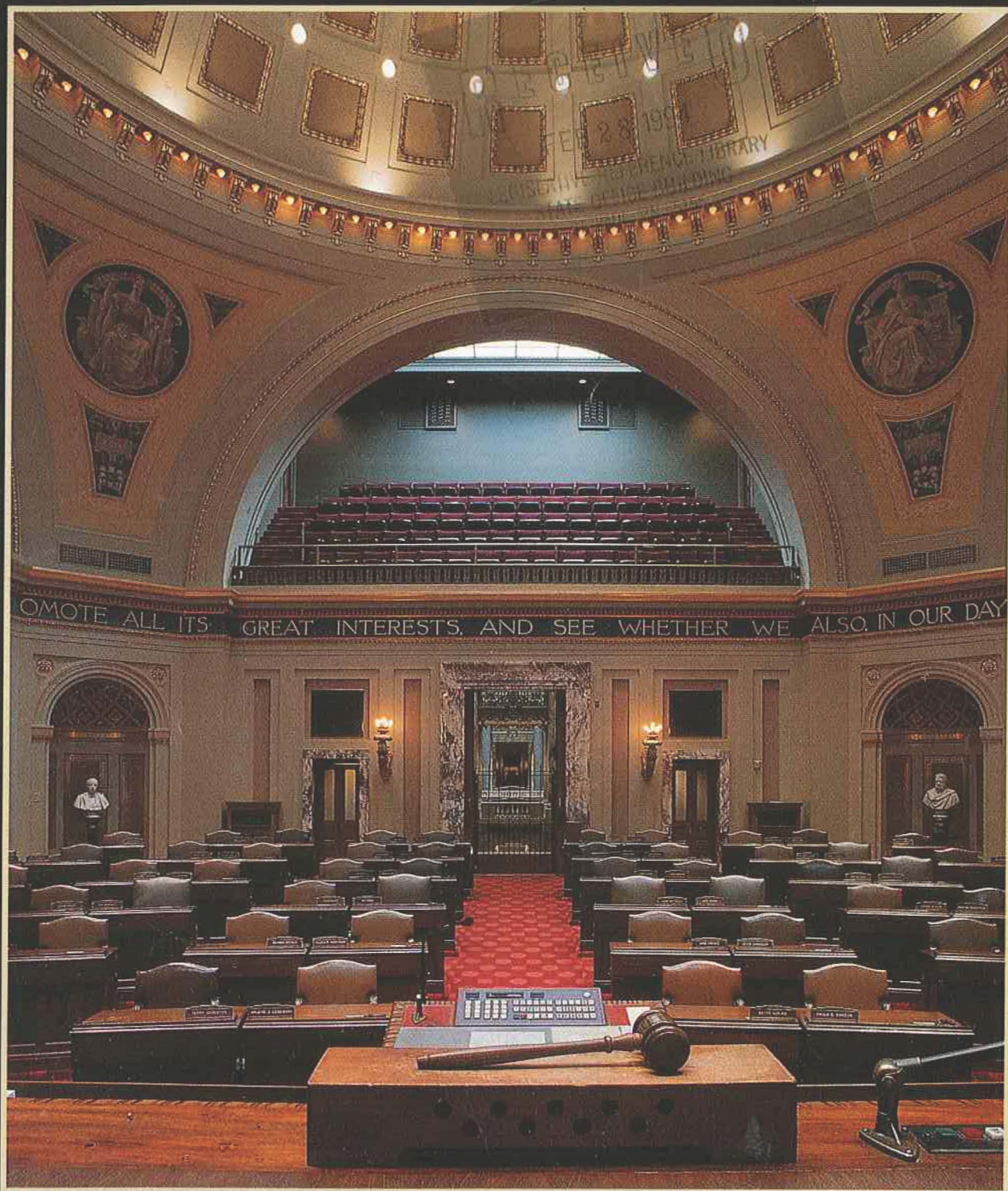


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Perspectives

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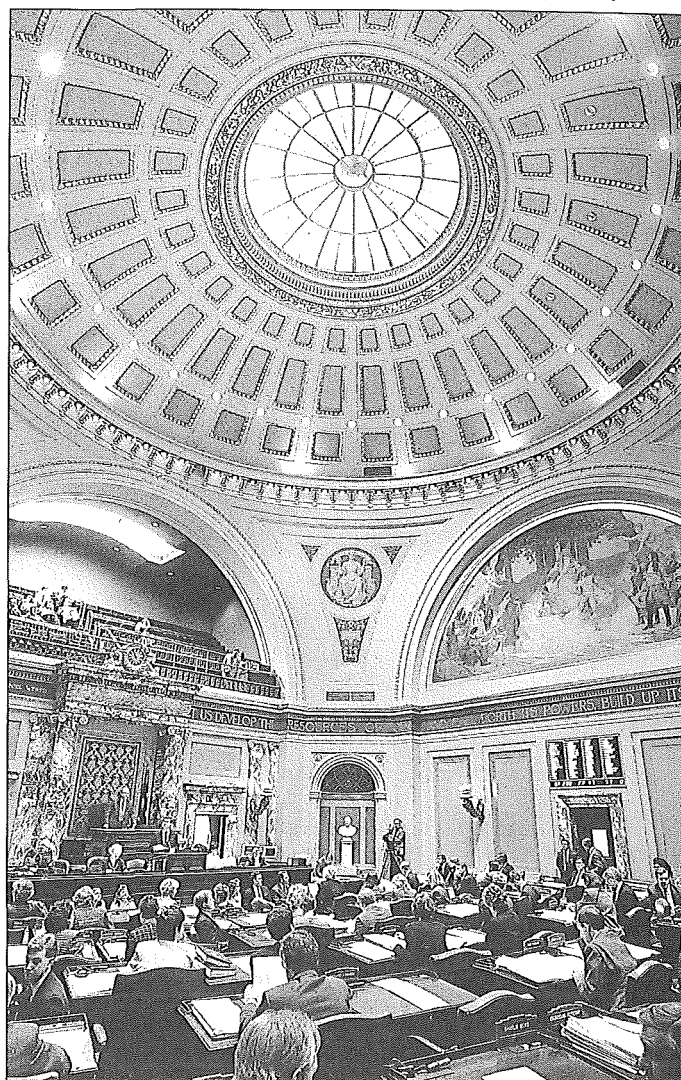
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On the cover:

The empty Senate Chamber awaits the hustle and bustle of the 1994 session.
Photo by David J. Oakes

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A look ahead

By Karen L. Clark

The 1994 Legislative Session promises to be short, intense and productive. Issues ranging from flood relief for farmers to proposals for revamping metropolitan governance will confront lawmakers over the course of the next few weeks.

Some of the key issues expected to come before the Senate include property taxes, highway and transit funding, workers compensation, higher education system merger, ethics, video gambling, welfare reform, health care, crime prevention and nuclear waste storage. All of the issues are complex and offer no simple solutions. Legislators will devote hour upon hour of committee time to hearing all sides of the various proposals. They will weigh the differing arguments and offer numerous amend-

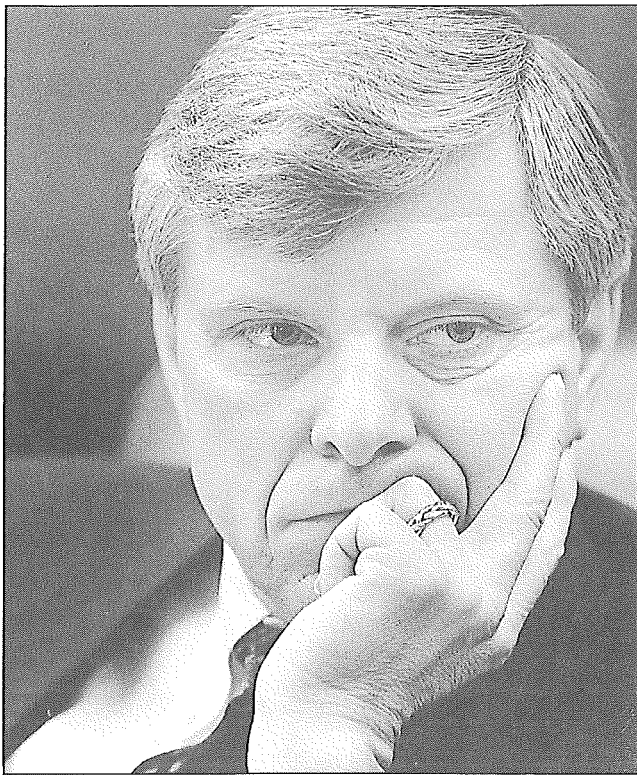
ments to try and improve the bills designed to address the issues. More debate on the floor of the Senate and final resolution of differences with the other body will result in solutions to many of the issues facing the citizens of the state.

All of this must be done in a relatively short time. Deadlines for committee action have been set to insure that this even numbered year session is, indeed, a short session. The first deadline, for bills originating in the Senate to be heard by Senate policy committees, is Friday, March 25. The second deadline, for bills originating in the House to be heard by Senate policy committees, is Thursday, March 31. The third deadline, for funding division omnibus appropriations bills to be heard

by policy committees, is Friday, April 8.

Initially, Senators will meet in floor session twice a week, at 10 a.m. on Mondays and at 8 a.m. on Thursdays. Senate committees will maintain the schedules established during last year's session.

This issue of *Perspectives* profiles two of the major issues expected to be of major importance this session--crime prevention and nuclear waste storage. In addition, both the majority leader and the minority leader have outlined their perspectives on the issues before the Senate in 1994. Finally, this issue contains a review of the legislative information services available to interested citizens.



Majority preview

Roger D. Moe

by Sen. Roger D. Moe
Senate Majority Leader

Although the 1994 legislative session will be short, there are several important issues which demand our attention. Some of the committees have been meeting already this year, in an effort to grant sufficient time to exploring some of the more complicated issues which we will be asked to decide.

Projected surplus

Unlike previous years, the Legislature will be convening the session with a \$414 million "surplus" in projected revenues. However, a law passed in the 1993 legislative session stipulates how any expected surplus is to be spent. First, we are to increase the budget reserve from \$360 million to \$500 million, and then use the remainder to repay school aid payment shifts made in years when we had budget shortfalls. That leaves us with \$274 million available to repay some of the school aid shift under the new forecast.

I expect that, at a minimum, the Legislature will use the majority of the surplus to increase the reserve and repay school payment shifts. How the balance is spent will be a major decision of the 1994 session.

Juvenile crime

Another issue the Legislature is certain to address is crime. In recent years, the Legislature has addressed the need to get tougher with violent and dangerous adult criminal behavior, coupled with increased emphasis on preventative methods.

However, our juvenile justice system is no longer capable of dealing with violent and habitual juvenile offenders using the usual treatment and rehabilitation methods. Remedies such as the proposed Serious Youth Offender Sentencing Options, boot camps for repeat offenders and juveniles with weapons, and certification of violent juveniles to stand trial as adults will alert young criminals to the consequences of their actions.

Transportation

As funding for Minnesota road and bridge construction dwindles, our inability to keep up with transportation needs becomes increasingly apparent. Mn/DOT estimates the funding gap for 1994-96 is a whopping \$590 million. More than 300 road projects have been set aside until 1997 or later due to the lack of funds available.

A major reason for the shortfall is lack of adequate gas tax revenue. Although there are more vehicles on the road every year, gas tax revenue is not commensurate with the increase because cars are becoming more fuel-efficient.

It will be difficult to resolve this problem without some leadership from Governor Carlson, who is saying he would rather tackle this unpopular issue after the 1994 election.

Business issues

Minnesota is leading the way in the Upper Midwest with a healthy economy. We have the highest per capita income

in the region, and our diverse manufacturing and agricultural sectors provide stability. Most of the surveys that predict future business trends rank Minnesota in the top ten states nationally.

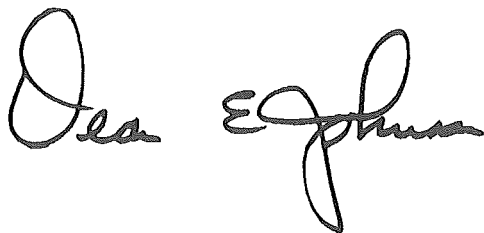
We can achieve those lofty expectations only if we continue our commitment to making Minnesota a good place to do business. Among the business needs likely to get a lot of attention from legislators this year are workers' compensation reform and industrial property taxes.

Also on the agenda in both the House and the Senate will be relief for victims of last summer's rain and flooding. The destructive weather we experienced last summer affected a wide range of people. Farmers as well as businesspeople are still feeling the effects of the devastation. We will be working on a basic flood relief package to try to reach those who were hurt by the floods but were not covered by any assistance programs.

Other issues

These issues are only a few of the topics we will be hearing about in the coming months. Others include government ethics, education, and nuclear power disposal. I am confident that we will enjoy a productive session and I look forward to the challenges which lie ahead.

Minority preview



by Sen. Dean E. Johnson
Senate Minority Leader



The people of Minnesota, and especially legislators, hope the 1994 legislative session will be short and productive. I concur with the goal of the Senate Majority Leader to adjourn by the end April. However, keep in mind that the timetable the Legislature runs on, and the agenda, are controlled and set by the majority DFL party. Cooperation and compromise are needed from everyone to assure a productive session.

The Senate IR caucus is planning to introduce legislation on several important matters. At the end of the last session, our caucus started work on major task force reports on welfare reform, crime and violence, and ethics. While there are many other important areas of interest to our caucus, these will be the focal points of our 1994 agenda.

Welfare reform

The IR caucus in the Senate worked with Republican House members and the Governor's office to create a welfare reform package which the Governor announced early in February. The IR proposal stresses 10 major points, including creating a "Work First" program; expanding the Minnesota Family Investment Plan; adopting a Working Family Credits joint venture; requiring minor parents receiving AFDC to live in the home of their parents; mandating enrollment in Project STRIDE (an employment and training program) after two years on welfare; eliminating government barriers to work; expanding the Parentage Recogni-

tion program; tightening AFDC paternity identification; and strengthening welfare fraud investigative efforts. If we are successful in enacting a major portion of this bill, Minnesota taxpayers will finally see substantial changes in the welfare system.

Safe schools and crime

By almost everyone's account, crime is the most important issue in Minnesota. We must do more to curb violence on our city streets and make our schools safe for children to learn.

Our major crime package addresses prevention through expansion of community associations and block groups; summer camps for at-risk youth; Head Start initiatives; parenting education programs; summer youth job programs; and violence prevention grants for school districts. We also propose a three-time loser provision with tough 15-year mandatory minimum sentences for repeat offenders. We support changes in the treatment of juvenile offenders in school by providing officials civil immunity for reasonable force to prevent injury or death of students or teachers. Our recommendations also change data privacy laws to allow better communication between law enforcement and school officials.

We are committed to a "victims first" philosophy by guaranteeing greater protection of witnesses, allowing victims to be present at juvenile sentencing, and reorganizing the Crime Victims Ombudsman office.

Ethics reform

The Senate IR caucus supports giving Minnesota voters the opportunity to decide for themselves whether to adopt a constitutional amendment to limit the terms of office for legislators. This is a major component of our ethics reform package, but will be introduced as a separate measure. All public opinion surveys show Minnesota voters overwhelmingly support placing the issue on next fall's general election ballot.

If passed, our legislation will dramatically change the way business is presently conducted between lawmakers and lobbyists. We suggest prohibiting gift-giving to legislators from lobbyists or PACs; disclosing food and beverage expenditures; limiting housing and per diem payments to actual out-of-pocket expenses; prohibiting immediate family members of legislators from serving as lobbyists; rotating committee chairs every six years; and staggering terms for Senate members so one-half of the Senate stands for election every two years.

Obviously, there will be many major issues to come before the Legislature during the next several weeks. Transportation funding is going to be one such issue, as will tax reform and bonding. Other significant proposals include changes in the workers' compensation system, the Prairie Island nuclear energy issue, proposals to expand gambling, the Target Center, metropolitan government concerns, flood relief, and education reforms.

Prairie Island: Nuclear storage dilemma

By Karen L. Clark

One of the issues generating a lot of discussion, even before the session begins, is the question of allowing the dry cask storage of nuclear waste at Northern States Power Company's Prairie Island plant.

Battle lines were drawn early between a consortium of environmental groups and a variety of governmental and industry officials. Sen. Steven Novak (DFL-New Brighton), chair of the Jobs, Energy and Community Development Committee, called a series of public hearings to thoroughly acquaint legislators with the issue and to gather as much information as possible on the pros and cons of storing the waste in dry casks at Prairie Island.

Although the issue began attracting the greatest public attention last summer when the Minnesota Court of Appeals ruled that the Legislature must authorize NSP to store spent nuclear fuel above ground, the discussion has been going on for several years.

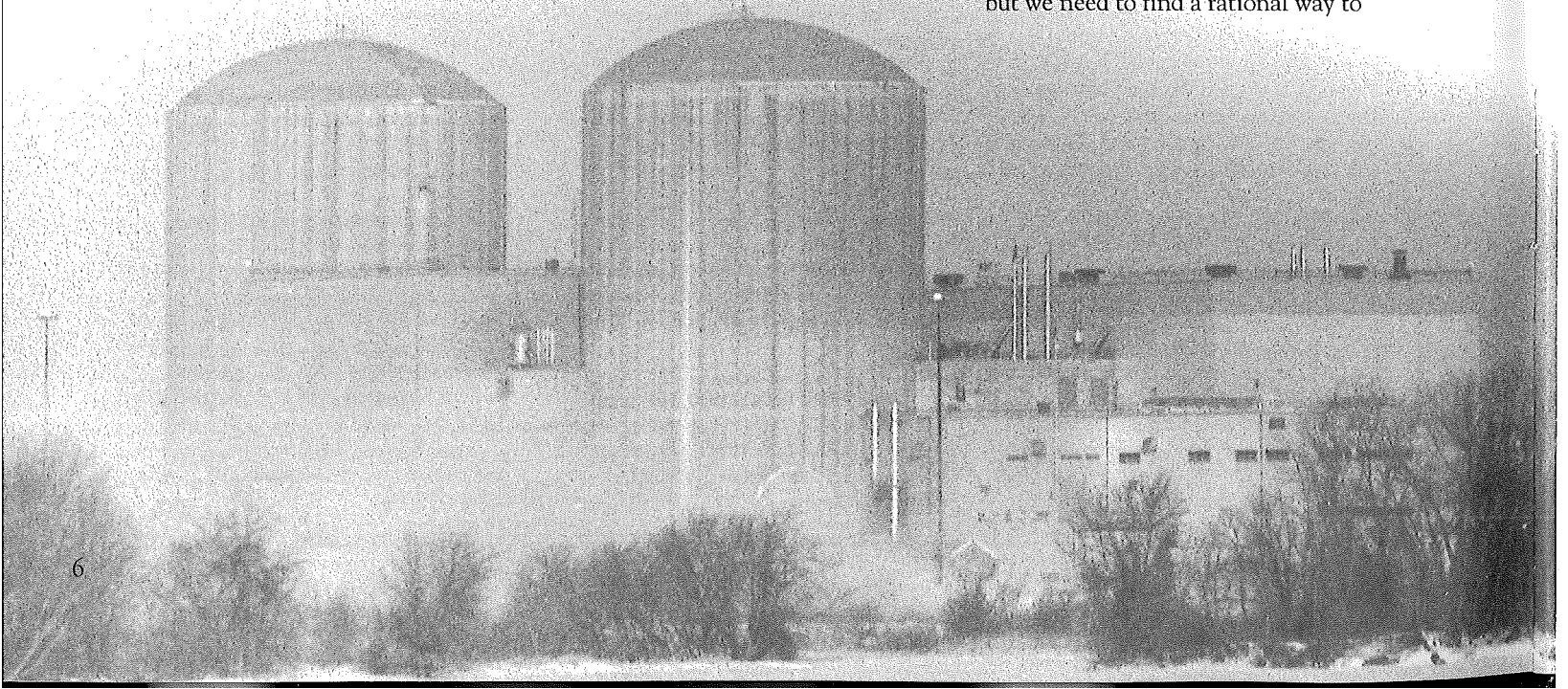
In 1990-91, NSP proposed using dry casks to store nuclear waste at the plant until the year 2014. According to NSP officials, the Prairie Island plant will run out of waste storage space in its underground pool in 1994. NSP officials said that if the plant ran out of storage space the plant would have to shut down in

1995. In 1991, hearings began before Administrative Law Judge Allan Klein on whether the dry cask storage space should be granted. Klein issued his recommendation, in April of 1992, that the Public Utilities Commission deny the certificate of need for above-ground dry storage casks at Prairie Island unless the Legislature authorizes the project or there is a reasonable certainty that the spent fuel will be removed from the state within a reasonable time. Klein cited three main arguments in coming to his decision. The first is that the federal government is unlikely to find a place to store the nation's radioactive wastes by the projected date of 2010 thus, the "temporary" site at Prairie Island would become a "permanent" site. The second argument is that, under state law, the Legislature, rather than the PUC, must make the decision about permanent storage of nuclear waste. The third argument is that there are alternatives and that NSP is able to run the plant at less than full power, stretching out the current storage space, and allowing more time to determine if the federal government is making progress on a permanent site and to develop alternative energy.

The Public Utilities Commission, however, was under no obligation to follow Klein's recommendations. In

June, 1992, the PUC ruled to allow NSP additional storage space for nuclear waste, scaling back the number of casks from the original proposal of 48 to 17. According to NSP officials, the 17 casks would allow NSP to continue operating the plant through the year 2005. In November, 1992, opponents of NSP's nuclear waste storage proposal filed a petition with the Minnesota Court of Appeals asking the court to overturn the PUC's approval of the storage plan. Early in 1993, 69 legislators filed a supplemental amicus brief with the Court asking to refer the matter of nuclear waste storage at Prairie Island to the Legislature for authorization under the provisions of the Radioactive Waste Management Act. The Minnesota Court of Appeals ruled in June, 1993, and concluded that NSP needed "express legislative authorization" to proceed with storing the waste at Prairie Island. The Minnesota Supreme Court declined to hear NSP's appeal last July.

Thus, the stage was set for a legislative showdown on the issue. Novak and the committee held a series of eight hearings over the course of the fall and winter, toured several facilities and participated in numerous meetings on the issue. "It is not going to be a simple solution," Novak said, "I am a strong supporter of alternative energy supplies but we need to find a rational way to

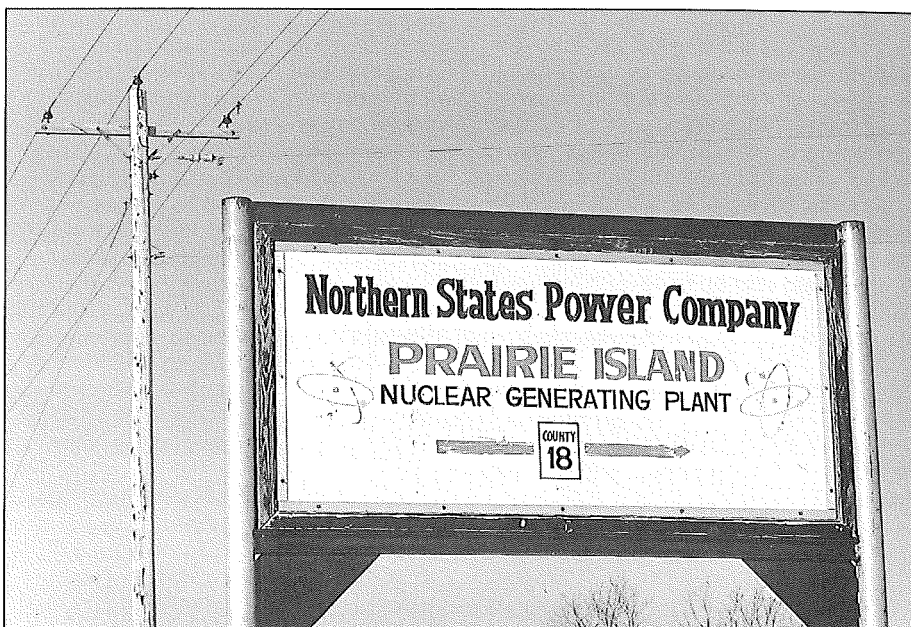


move away from nuclear energy without losing jobs or disrupting power." He added that if the Legislature does nothing, the plant will shut down and that that might impede the development of alternative energy solutions. "I concluded that closing the plant could potentially affect 80 percent of the state's population, 70 percent of the state's business activity and would affect 1,000 jobs directly," he said. The plant also contributes about \$22 million to the local property tax rolls, he added.

According to Novak, the issue is important, not only for Minnesota, but within a national context. The delay by the federal government in developing a permanent storage site has ramifications throughout the country, he indicated. "It is frustrating because people forget that even if we stopped all nuclear power plants today, we still have 20 years worth of waste to dispose of," he said, "We would still need to find a site and design a facility."

"We do have a constructive middle course," Novak said. "I am attempting to draft legislation to allow temporary storage that will act as a vehicle to accelerate non-nuclear, nonfossil fuel energy development." He pointed out that numerous state and local governmental agencies such as the Dept. of Health, the PUC and the Pollution Control Agency have found that NSP's dry cask storage proposal does not pose a health or safety hazard. Much of the controversy revolves around whether the site would be temporary or permanent, he added. Novak said that the legislative proposal he is developing would have a specific date and time for the temporary storage of 17 casks, would insure the environmental safety of the site and would have an end point, all without job or energy disruptions. At the same time, he said, he wants the proposal to encourage NSP in the development of alternative energy sources such as solar power and wind power generation.

The Prairie Island plant operates at



85 percent of capacity so it is quite efficient, Novak said. "If the plant is safe and efficient, why decommission it early, especially since the alternative fossil fuels also have undesirable environmental effects?" he asked. He added that the proposal may have a "trigger" mechanism that depends on permanent storage being found or on the level of efficiency of the plant.

Novak pointed out that one of the main reasons the issue arises in the first place is because of the failure of the federal government to follow through on its long standing commitment to find a permanent storage site for nuclear waste. He added that the legislature is faced with need to find a solution that balances the goals of providing affordable, stable energy supplies without risk to health, safety or the environment and without causing major economic disruption for the people of the state.

Sen. Dennis Frederickson (R-New Ulm), however, has reached a different conclusion as a result of the hearings and his study of the issue. He pointed out that, in 1985, the federal government's choice of some crystalline bedrock sites

in Minnesota as a possible nuclear depository raised awareness about the issue of nuclear waste storage. Frederickson cited his skepticism about the federal government's efforts to find a safe site.

Frederickson argues that NSP has known when the current storage space was going to be full and should have been taking realistic steps to force the federal government to fulfil its promise. If the Prairie Island plant is closed, it is not the fault of the state, Frederickson said. "For the Red Wing area it will no doubt be a major disruption, but at some point the plant will be closed, he said. He added that the plant's licensure expires in 2014 in any event.

Although Frederickson agrees that the casks are safe and low risk, that must be balanced with the realization of the consequences of catastrophe, he said. The bottom line is the potential exposure to radiation, Frederickson said. He said that the federal government has had four decades to solve the problem and yet has not done so. "We shouldn't take this risk," Frederickson said, "They are cauldrons of radiation and we must keep the lid on unless we can guarantee absolute safety for 10,000 years.

Sen. Steve Dille (IR-Dassel), however, feels that the level of risk is so low that the dry cask storage proposal should be approved. "My view is that many groups are basing their decisions on the issue on junk science, bad economics and emotionalism and that's a bad basis for making public policy," Dille said. "I want to make my decision on good science and sound economics," he said.

Dille said that he believes NSP has made their case. In addition, "every responsible unit of government, the PUC, the PCA, the DNR and others have reached the same decision, that the dry cask storage is safe and appropriate," he said. Dille also said that he believes that there is almost no risk of permanent storage. He cited the recent announcement of the Mescalero Apache Tribe in New Mexico of their willingness to explore maintaining a site as a business venture as an indication that progress is being made in the search for a permanent site.

Dille argued that the casks are almost indestructible. "Each cask weighs 122 tons, is 9 inches thick, filled with inert gas and sealed," he said. Dille said that there are six plants currently operating with similar storage casks. He also argued that replacing the Prairie Island plant with a coal fired plant would have grave environmental consequences.

"I am confident a decent package will pass the Senate. To me the choice is so clear," Dille concluded.

However, another committee member, Sen. Ellen Anderson (DFL-St. Paul), remains unconvinced. "It boils down to two main points, first, whether the dry cask storage would become a

permanent site and second, do we really need the above ground storage?" Anderson said. Expanding on the first point, whether the site would be permanent, she said, "I think, from all the testimony, it will be a permanent site." The Mescalero proposal has been promoted as a solution to the problem of the site becoming permanent but there are so many contingencies and roadblocks that it is totally irresponsible to rely on it, she added. Anderson said that the same arguments apply to relying on the federal government to find a permanent site for nuclear waste storage. "We are more years away from a federal repository than ever before," Anderson said.

Anderson went on to say that if the storage site is permanent it is irresponsible of us, as legislators, to place a permanent site on the shores of the Mississippi River in casks that are not safe for 10,000 years. The current temporary storage pools don't open us up to the same risk of permanent designation because they have always been designated temporary and can't be abandoned, Anderson said.

On her second point, Anderson asked, "Why continue operating the plant when we have all the alternative sources we need to provide an economic boon to Minnesota?" She emphasized the need for a responsible phase-out of nuclear energy and adoption of alternative energy sources to protect both the rate payers and jobs in the area. "We need a responsible transition plan; if we allow the above ground storage we let NSP off the hook," she said.

Anderson said that she has the same

goal as Novak but that she is worried about the ramifications of a permanent waste site designation. "I think people are afraid of blackouts and brownouts and I want to make it clear that we can replace the power generated at Prairie Island with natural gas, particularly cogeneration, wind energy, hydropower and other renewable sources," she said. Anderson said that the reality is that all the alternative sources can be phased in at no greater cost than NSP rate increases. She added that the other methods of producing power are also labor intensive so that there will be more jobs. "Another important issue is protecting workers from displacement and guaranteeing that the new jobs are quality, high paying jobs," she said.

"The plant is up for relicensure in 2014, and it will be 30 years old in just 10 years; the plant will shut down, it is just a matter of when," Anderson said. "NSP's plan just buys time, but the price is too high," she concluded.

Novak concluded, "What we are trying to do is find a transitional plan where we move away from nuclear power on a rational time line with the least disruption to jobs or energy supplies. The legislation I am introducing addresses specific solutions to some of the challenges presented during the hearings. We want to provide solutions that will lead to expansion of alternative energy---particularly wind power, expand our overall conservation efforts and address some of the concerns expressed by the Mdewakanton Sioux of the Prairie Island community. I am confident the legislation will do all of those things."



Sen. Dennis Frederickson



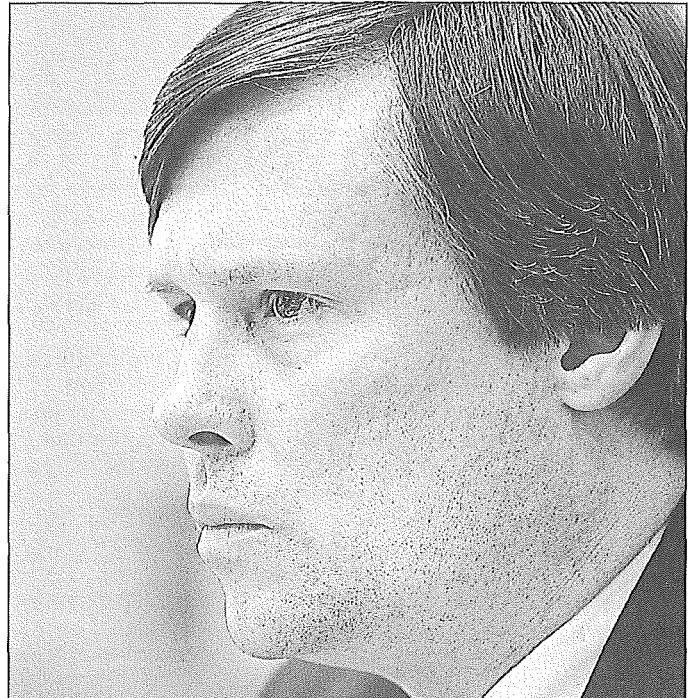
Sen. Steve Dille

The Jobs, Energy and Community Development Committee devoted eight hearings to the issue of nuclear waste storage during the interim.

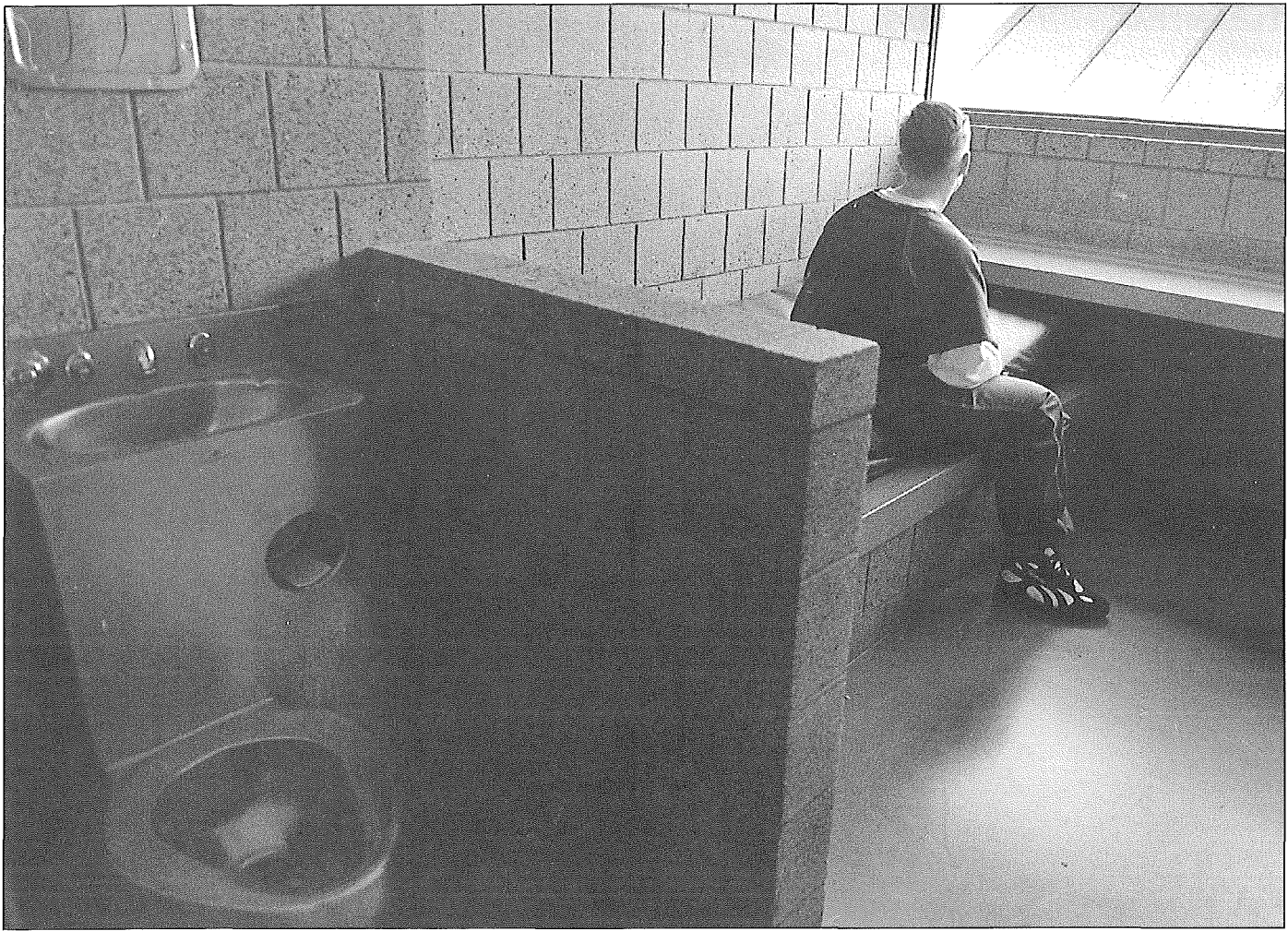
Photos by David J. Oakes



Sen. Ellen Anderson



Sen. Steven Novak



Forging new tools to more effectively handle serious juvenile offenders tops this year's crime agenda.

Juveniles, guns: Justice system reforms ahead

By Carol Gardener

Although a majority of Minnesotans have not been touched directly by crime, public concern about crime is at an all-time high. When we read in the newspaper that a teenager has shot a clerk at the gas station we frequent, when we turn on the television and learn that a band of youths has robbed our neighborhood convenience store at gunpoint, our perception of the safety of our neighborhoods changes. Despite FBI statistics that show a decrease in crime and that place Minnesota 35th among the states in overall crime and 37th in violent crime, the violence and randomness of the crimes we hear about and the seeming epidemic of crimes by young

people leave us wondering if we are as safe as we were a year ago or ten years ago.

Despite the reassuring large-scale statistics, Sen. Allan Spear (DFL-Mpls.), said that a closer look reveals that "there is no doubt that some of the violent crimes are increasing."

As the 1994 legislative session opens, much of the discussion about the Legislature's response to crime focuses on juvenile offenders. By most accounts, a small percentage of serious juvenile offenders is creating a high level of concern for public safety. The Senate will address the question of how to provide the justice system with the tools

it needs to handle youthful offenders, will grapple with the issue of how to effectively penalize offenders and how to prevent criminal behavior in the future.

Spear, chair of the Senate's Crime Prevention Committee, foresees 1994 as a year of juvenile justice reform.

At the outset of this change-making year, however, Spear is quick to say that Minnesota's juvenile justice system is largely effective: "The system works for the majority of people who come before it," he said, "If we don't say that we can lose perspective." Although the system works for at least 80 to 90 percent of juvenile offenders, Spear said, some areas of the system are due for improvements.

Most notably, the system's handling of serious juvenile offenders needs strengthening.

"We need to get tougher with the kids who are committing serious crimes," Spear said. "we have a minority of cases where kids are committing serious offenses and the system as set up a half-century ago is not equipped to deal with them."

In toughening the handling of serious juvenile offenders, Spear and his colleagues on the Crime Prevention Committee will be considering the recently released report of the Advisory Task Force on the Juvenile Justice System, prepared by the Minnesota Supreme Court at the request of the Legislature. One of the report's conclusions is that "Minnesotans wish to retain rehabilitation as one of the goals of the juvenile justice system and therefore, there is value in retaining a separate system of response to crime committed by juveniles."

One approach consistent with this conclusion creates a new, tougher category in the juvenile system for such offenders. Under the serious youth offender category, the offender's adult sentence is suspended and the juvenile sentence is in force. If, however, the offender violates the terms of the juvenile sentence, the adult sentence is imposed. Under this category, the juvenile justice system would retain jurisdiction over the offender until age 23 instead of 19, as it does now.

Supporters say this approach backs up the juvenile system with more clout, ensuring that a stiffer penalty will ensue if offenders do not take the juvenile sentence seriously.

Spear also agrees with the task force recommendation to strengthen and broaden the process through which juveniles can be tried as adults, particularly older juveniles who have committed serious crimes. Under the presumptive certification approach Spear supports, it would be presumed that 16- and 17-year-old juvenile offenders who commit certain felonies would be tried as adults.

Spear also foresees changes in the philosophy by which the juvenile justice system operates. One measure likely to be heard this session allows juvenile offenses to enhance later sentences offenders may be given as adults. The philosophy, Spear said, has been to give juvenile offenders a fresh start as adults, not permitting crimes they committed as juveniles to count against them later. "When we are talking about very serious offenses, I don't think we can do that anymore," he said.

Sen. Pat McGowan (IR-Maple Grove) said that while he and other IR



Sen. Allan Spear

senators agree in concept with their DFL colleagues about the need to toughen the treatment of serious juvenile offenders, he would put more emphasis on sending offenders to prison. He agrees with the move toward presumptive certification, but rather than establishing the serious youth offender category to keep some juveniles in the juvenile system, he favors trying those offenders as adults also. McGowan, a police officer, also supports the governor's "three-time loser" proposal, under which offenders with three convictions for serious felonies would receive a mandatory 15-year sentence.

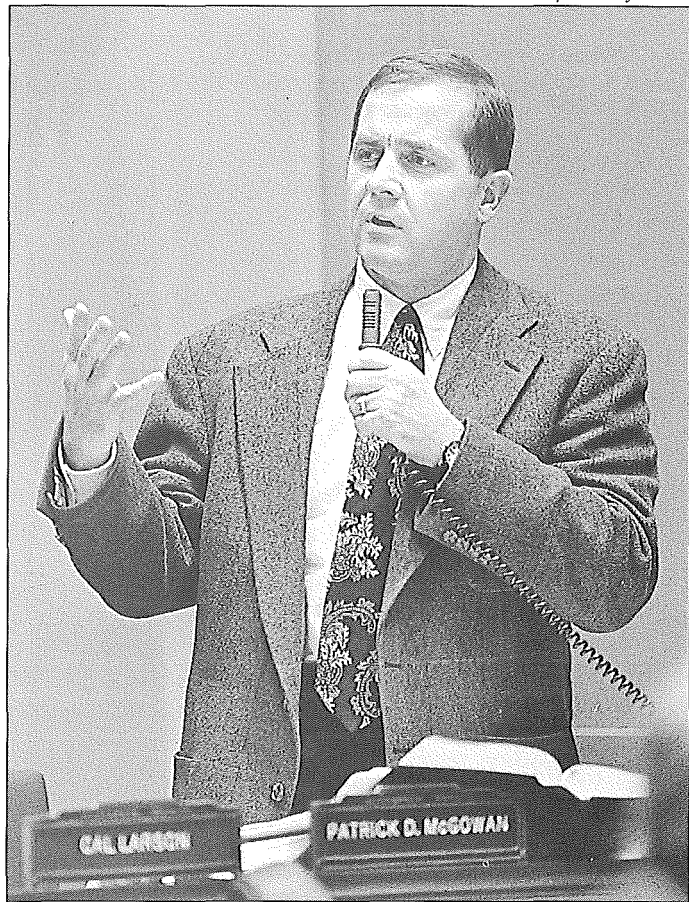
"I totally disagree with those who say that it doesn't do any good to lock people up," McGowan said. According to crime statistics, McGowan said, "five

percent of the offenders are committing 65-70 percent of the crime. If you incapacitate those people, you are changing something. We know that once a person hits 35 or 40 years old, their desire to commit crimes diminishes to almost nothing. We have got to get out of this notion that it is wrong to lock people up."

Despite the difference in philosophies about how to most effectively handle juvenile offenders overall, there is broader-based agreement that a small number of juvenile offenders does create a threat to public safety. Testimony from corrections officials has consistently pointed to the need for a lockup environment for these potentially dangerous offenders, a need not met by the designs of the current juvenile

Below: A proposal to create a lockup environment for a small number of juvenile offenders who pose a threat to public safety will receive attention this session.

Right: Sen. Patrick McGowan



correctional facilities. Spear said this need could probably be met with 50 or fewer beds, possibly divided among small, regional facilities. Another juvenile-related measure likely to receive a hearing this year proposes creating a challenge incarceration program, or boot camp, for youth, much like the adult boot camp being tested now. Another proposal creates a centralized juvenile criminal history databank.

Another priority issue that Spear cites is gun control measures specific to juveniles and to the Twin Cities. "We have got to get guns away from kids," Spear said. "We need to get back to the issue of tougher gun laws for the Twin Cities area. There's a different set of problems in the Twin Cities." Spear favors a two-tier approach that leaves gun laws much as they are now in Greater Minnesota, but includes tougher regulations for the Twin Cities, including additional restrictions on sales and transfers of guns, a system for licensing guns, and a ban on semi-automatic assault weapons. Spear said, "We have a very serious problem with guns in the Twin Cities. We have a very modest gun control law. We have a 5-day waiting period for handguns and assault weapons. This is clearly inadequate for the Metropolitan Area."

In addition, measures to prohibit individuals from purchasing handguns and assault weapons until age 21, create felony penalties for anyone up to the age of 21 who carries an assault weapon, and create felony penalties for sale of a handgun or an assault weapon to anyone under age 21 may all be considered. Another measure likely to receive a hearing prohibits gun ownership for ten years for juveniles who commit crimes of violence, a prohibition equal to that for adults.

McGowan differs on the approach to gun control for the Metropolitan Area, citing past testimony from police and judicial representatives that has said the state has enough gun control laws. "The problem is that we don't have the courage to enforce the laws we have," McGowan said. Instead, McGowan maintains that the tide of firearms crimes can be stemmed more effectively by insisting on offender accountability: "We have got to make people accountable for their actions," he said, "We have got to stop excusing behavior by saying, 'This person was poor and that's why they committed this crime.' Not all poor people commit crimes." In addition, McGowan supports the approach of educating people about responsible use of firearms, probably in school.

Not all the crime issues to be addressed by the Senate this session have the high visibility of gun control. Spear emphasized that it is also critical to provide funding for the invisible portions of the justice system, such as probation. "It's no good to arrest people if we can't expeditiously process their cases," he said, "If, for example, probation is going to be effective, we can't have probation officers handling 200 cases."

There is little disagreement in the Senate that prevention is the best medicine for the crime problem. Although crime prevention programs may not take the highest profile this session, Spear said he maintains a strong commitment to their stewardship and continued funding. To maximize the effectiveness of crime prevention efforts already begun, Spear said, the Legislature must follow through on its commitment to spend a dollar on prevention for every dollar spent on corrections. It is especially important, Spear said, to continue to fund efforts such as early intervention programs and anti-violence education. "There's a very serious public concern about getting criminals off the street. We have to address that," Spear said, "But ultimately, the root causes lay deep in our society and must be addressed with prevention."



The Minnesota Historical Society offers tours of the Capitol several times each day.

Information services

By Karen L. Clark

The Minnesota Legislature has long been a leader in providing public access to the legislative process. In addition to being among the most effective Legislatures in the nation, the Minnesota Legislature is also at the forefront in providing services to encourage citizen participation and awareness of the legislative process.

Both the Minnesota Senate and the Minnesota House of Representatives have Information Offices to help keep the public informed of legislative happenings.

The Senate Information Office is located in Room 231 of the Capitol (phone 296-0504). The office serves as a central clearinghouse for all information about Senate activities. Staff members help individuals determine who represents them in the Senate, provide daily meeting schedules, and answer questions about bill status, authorship and file numbers. Individuals may also obtain copies of bills, calendars,

journals and agendas from the Information Office. Staff members are available to answer general questions about the operations of the Senate. Computer terminals are also available for members of the public to use to determine bill status, Senate File and House File numbers and bill authorship.

The House Public Information Office is located in Room 175 of the State Office Building (phone 296-2146). The office publishes *Session Weekly*, a report of the week's committee meetings and floor action, articles of general interest about the House and the Representatives, bill introductions and the next week's committee schedule. In addition, the House Information Office publishes a number of brochures and pamphlets about the House of Representatives. A daily calendar is also published by the House Public Information Office. Staff members are available to answer questions about the operations of the House of Representatives and to help

individuals determine who represents them in the House.

Both the House and Senate maintain 24 hour telephone lines with recorded messages giving the next day's committee schedules. The Senate "Hotline" number is 296-8088. The House of Representatives "Housecalls" number is 296-9283.

The Senate Publications Office publishes *Briefly*, a weekly summary of Senate committee and floor action, along with the next week's committee schedule. The office also publishes a magazine-format newsletter about the Senate, which provides feature articles about Senators and various issues before the Legislature. A daily schedule of committee hearings, *Today in the Senate*, is also produced by the Publications Office for distribution within the Capitol Complex. To be placed on the mailing list for Senate publications, call 296-0504 or simply drop a card with your name and address to the Senate



The Senate Information Office is located in Room 231 of the Capitol.

Publications Office, Room 95 State Office Building, St. Paul, MN 55155.

The House Information Office and the Senate Publications Office jointly publish the *Members Directory* (the green book) and the *Official Directory of the Minnesota Legislature* (the red book). In recent years the two offices have teamed up to produce an end of session summary of all the bills signed into law.

In addition, both offices are making the daily and weekly schedules available to a private firm called MinnesotaLink. MinnesotaLink offers a legislink service that provides the daily and weekly schedules, via fax or modem, to customers for a fee. The fees are \$100 for both House and Senate schedules for the session; \$50 for just one body's schedules for the session; \$30 per month for just the House schedule; or \$30 per month for just the Senate schedule. For more information, call MinnesotaLink at 1-800-373-1719. The House Information Office is also in the process of making a number of publications, including schedules available on the INTERNET.

The House of Representatives Chief Clerk's Office is located in Room 211 of

the Capitol (phone 296-2314). The office provides copies of House bills for the public. In addition, the office distributes calendars and agendas for each day of the legislative session. The *Official Journal of the House of Representatives* is also available from the Chief Clerk's Office.

The House Index Office is the place to get information on specific House bills. The House Index Office is also located in Room 211 of the Capitol (phone 296-6646). House File numbers, authorship information and bill status may be obtained from the House Index Office. In addition, computer terminals are available for persons wishing to look up information for themselves.

One of the most exciting innovations in recent years has been the live television coverage of Senate floor sessions and selected committee hearings. This year, the House of Representatives is launching television coverage of House floor sessions.

Viewers at home are able to watch legislative proceedings, complete with all the action and drama, just as if they were seated in the galleries or committee

rooms. Viewers in the seven county Metropolitan Area can watch the Senate and House in action on Twin Cities Regional Channel 6. Viewers in Greater Minnesota can watch on various PBS stations throughout the state. Check local listings for times and channels of legislative television programming.

Senate Media Services, in addition to providing the live broadcasts, also produces *Senate Report*, a weekly public affairs program that examines current issues before the Legislature. *Capitol Call-In*, a live program in which state lawmakers outline their views on the issues and respond to viewer call-in questions, is also produced by Senate Media Services. A number of educational videotapes are also available for public checkout. Phone 296-0264 for more information.

The Legislative Reference Library, located in Room 645 of the State Office Building (phone 296-3398), has a range of services available to the public. Chief among these services is the collection of audio tapes of legislative committee hearings and House and Senate floor sessions. For convenient access to the tapes, there is a special listening room on the Ground Floor of the State Office Building. Call 296-0767 for more information about listening to the tapes. In addition, the legislative history of specific bills may be researched with the help of library staff.

The Minnesota Legislature is committed to making the legislative process open and available to everyone, including persons with special needs. Toward that end, the Legislature has initiated a number of services designed to enable individuals with disabilities to participate fully in legislative activities, programs and services. Both the Senate and House offer TDD service for those with hearing impairment. The TDD service allows individuals to find out bill status, bill content, bill authorship and other legislative information. The telephone number for the Senate TDD service is (612) 296-0250 and the number for the House TDD service is (612) 296-9896. The House Public Information Office also maintains a TDD 800 number for persons in Greater Minnesota. The number is 1-800-657-3550. In addition, a public access TDD pay telephone is located near the Capitol Information Desk on the first floor of the Capitol Building.

Senate and House of Representatives hearing rooms, the Senate West Gallery and the House of Representatives are all accessible to individuals using wheelchairs. Both the Capitol Building and the State Office Building have designated parking and entrance ramps to

provide easy access to the buildings.

In order to increase the accessibility of legislative committee hearings and floor session, the Senate and the House of Representatives will obtain the services of an interpreter. Advance notice is required. Please contact the Senate Sergeant at Arms at 296-1119 or the House Sergeant at Arms at 296-4860 at least 24 hours before the service is needed.

The Senate has installed sound reinforcement systems for all major hearing rooms and the Senate Chamber in the Capitol Building. These systems are available for use in Rooms 15, 107, 112, 123, 125 and the Chamber. Receivers may be signed out from the Senate Sergeant at Arms, Room 1, Capitol Building during normal business hours. In the House of Representatives, amplification devices may be checked out from the House Public Information Office and the Chief Clerk's Office. The system is available for use in the 10 hearing rooms in the State Office Building and in the House Chamber.

Raised numbers identify legislative offices and rooms in the Capitol and State Office Building. In addition, Braille signs have also been installed throughout the two buildings to assist those who are visually impaired. The elevators in both buildings are also equipped with control signs in Braille.

Some of the printed material handed out in committees may be enlarged on the copying machines used by the House and Senate. Contact personnel in the Senate Information Office or the House Information Office for assistance. Finally, Senate and House Information Office staff will be happy to arrange for readers for printed materials. Again, advance notice is necessary to insure timely assistance.

Visitors are allowed in the Senate and House Galleries during floor sessions. The entrances to the Senate and House Galleries are located on the third floor of the Capitol Building. Joint sessions of the House and Senate, held in the House Chamber, may have restricted seating. Committee hearings are open to the public and citizens are encouraged to attend. Each of the Senate and House committees has a regular schedule for meetings. However, seating is limited by the capacity of the room and is most often on a first come, first served basis. Senate committee meetings are held in the Capitol Building while House committee meetings are usually held in the State Office Building.

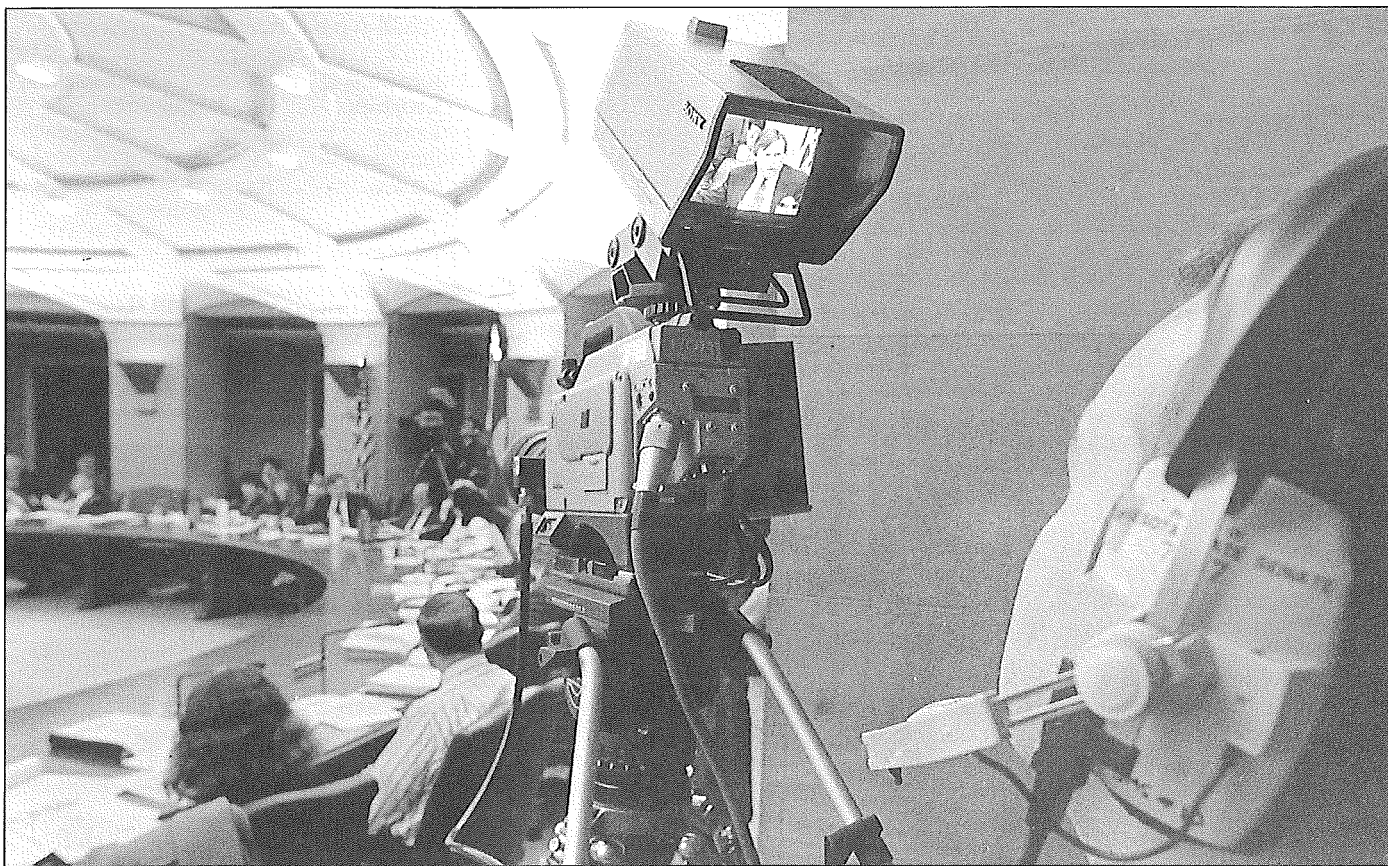
Tours of the Capitol are conducted by the Minnesota Historical Society. The tours, which include historical and architectural highlights, are conducted on the hour from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 3

p.m. Monday and Saturday, and 1 to 3 p.m. on Sunday. Groups of ten or more must make reservations by calling 296-2881. The Capitol Information desk, located on the first floor of the Capitol, can also direct visitors to the various hearing rooms throughout the Capitol. House and Senate daily schedules are also available at the Information desk.

There is a cafeteria located in the basement of the Capitol Building and, during the legislative session, a quick lunch counter is set up on the second floor of the Capitol. Also during the session, a coffee shop is open in the basement of the State Office Building. Cafeterias are also located in the adjacent Transportation Building and Judicial Building.

Parking is a perennial difficulty in the Capitol area. Metered spaces are available along the side streets adjacent to the Capitol Complex, in Lot D just north of the State Office Building and in Lot Q at Cedar and Sherburne.

All Minnesotans are welcome at committee hearings. Senators and Representatives need and want to know what their constituents think about the issues before the Legislature. We hope this brief outline of the services available will encourage everyone to learn more about the activities of the Minnesota Senate and House of Representatives.



Check your local television listings for broadcast times of live coverage of Senate and House action.

Senate Committee Assignments

Agriculture and Rural Development (10)

Chair: Bertram Vice Chair: Hanson
Office: 323 Telephone: 296-7405
Meets: M, W; 12 noon-2 p.m.; Room 107

Berg	Lesewski	Murphy	Stevens
Dille	Morse	Sams	Vickerman

Commerce and Consumer Protection (15)

Chair: Solon Vice Chair: Wiener
Office: 303 Telephone: 296-4158
Meets: M, W; 12 noon-2 p.m.; Room 112

Anderson	Janezich	Luther	Samuelson
Belanger	Johnston	Metzen	
Chandler	Kroening	Oliver	
Day	Larson	Price	

Crime Prevention (13)

Chair: Spear Vice Chair: Anderson
Office: G-27 Telephone: 296-4191
Meets: M, W, Th; 2-4 p.m.; Room 15

Beckman	Kelly	McGowan	Piper
Belanger	Laidig	Merriam	Ranum
Cohen	Marty	Neuville	

Crime Prevention Finance Division (9)

Chair: Beckman
Office: 301 Telephone: 296-5713

Kelly	Marty	Merriam	Ranum
Laidig	McGowan	Neuville	Spear

Education (22)

Co-Chair: Pogemiller Co-Vice Chair: Krentz
Co-Chair: Stumpf Co-Vice Chair: Price
Office: 235 Telephone: 296-4185
Meets: T, W, Th; 10 a.m.-12 noon; Room 112

Beckman	Langseth	Olson	Solon
Benson, J.E.	Larson	Pappas	Terwilliger
Hanson	Moe, R.D.	Ranum	Wiener
Janezich	Murphy	Reichgott Junge	
Knutson	Neuville	Robertson	

Education Funding Division (15)

Chair: Pogemiller Vice Chair: Krentz
Office: 235 Telephone: 296-7809

Beckman	Langseth	Ranum	Terwilliger
Hanson	Larson	Reichgott Junge	
Janezich	Olson	Robertson	
Knutson	Pappas	Stumpf	

Environment and Natural Resources (18)

Chair: Lessard Vice Chair: Chandler
Office: 111 Telephone: 296-1113
Meets: T 2-4 p.m., F 10-2 p.m.; Room 107

Anderson	Finn	Merriam	Olson
Benson, J.E.	Frederickson	Mondale	Pariseau
Berg	Johnson, J.B.	Morse	Price
Dille	Laidig	Novak	Riveness

Environment and Natural Resources Finance Division (12)

Chair: Morse
Office: G-24 Telephone: 296-5649

Berg	Johnson, J.B.	Merriam	Price
Finn	Laidig	Olson	Riveness
Frederickson	Lessard	Pariseau	

Ethics and Campaign Reform (12)

Chair: Marty Vice Chair: Luther
Office: G-9 Telephone: 296-8866
Meets: T, Th; 12 noon-2 p.m.; Room 107

Cohen	Johnson, D.J.	Moe, R.D.	Reichgott Junge
Flynn	Laidig	Pariseau	
Johnson, D.E.	McGowan	Pogemiller	

Family Services (16)

Chair: Piper Vice Chair: Betzold
Office: G-9 Telephone: 296-9248
Meets: T, Th; 12 noon-2 p.m.; Room 15

Adkins	Johnson, J.B.	Krentz	Solon
Benson, J.E.	Kelly	Riveness	Stevens
Berglin	Kiscaden	Robertson	
Chandler	Knutson	Samuelson	

Finance (21)

Chair: Merriam Vice Chair: Kelly
Office: 122 Telephone: 296-4157
Meets: M, T, W, Th; 4-6 p.m.; Room 123

Beckman	Johnston	Luther	Samuelson
Cohen	Kroening	McGowan	Spear
Frederickson	Laidig	Morse	Stumpf
Johnson, D.E.	Langseth	Piper	Terwilliger
Johnson, J.B.	Larson	Ranum	

Finance State Government Division (12)

Chair: Cohen
Office: 317 Telephone: 296-5931

Frederickson	Kroening	McGowan	Piper
Johnston	Langseth	Merriam	Terwilliger
Kelly	Luther	Morse	

Gaming Regulation (10)

Chair: Berg Vice Chair: Janezich
Office: 328 Telephone: 296-5539
Meets: T, W, F; 8-10 a.m.; Room 107

Adkins	Johnson, D.E.	McGowan	Neuville
Bertram	Marty	Mondale	Spear

Governmental Operations and Reform (13)

Chair: Metzen Vice Chair: Riveness
Office: 303 Telephone: 296-4175
Meets: T, W, F; 8-10 a.m.; Room 15

Beckman	Morse	Sams	Terwilliger
Benson, D.D.	Pogemiller	Stevens	Wiener
Hottinger	Runbeck	Stumpf	

Higher Education Division (10)

Chair: Stumpf Vice Chair: Price
Office: G-24 Telephone: 296-8660

Benson, J.E.	Moe, R.D.	Neuvill	Solon
Larson	Murphy	Pogemiller	Wiener

Health Care (12)

Chair: Berglin Vice Chair: Sams
Office: G-9 Telephone: 296-4151
Meets: T, W, Th; 10 a.m.-12 noon; Room 15

Benson, D.D.	Finn	Oliver	Vickerman
Betzold	Hottinger	Piper	
Day	Kiscaden	Samuelson	

Health Care and Family Services Finance Division (12)

Chair: Samuelson
Office: 124 Telephone: 296-4875

Benson, D.D.	Day	Riveness	Stevens
Berglin	Kiscaden	Sams	Vickerman
Betzold	Piper	Solon	

Jobs, Energy and Community Development (13)

Chair: Novak Vice Chair: Johnson, J.B.
Office: 322 Telephone: 296-1767
Meets: T, W, Th; 10 a.m.-12 noon; Room 107

Anderson	Dille	Kelly	Metzen
Chandler	Frederickson	Kroening	Runbeck
Chmielewski	Johnson, D.J.	Lesewski	

Jobs, Energy and Community Development Finance Division (10)

Chair: Kroening
Office: 124 Telephone: 296-4302

Anderson	Frederickson	Metzen
Chandler	Johnson, J.B.	Novak
Chmielewski	Lesewski	Runbeck

Judiciary (10)

Chair: Reichgott Vice Chair: Finn
Office: 306 Telephone: 296-2889
Meets: M, W; 12 noon-2 p.m.; Room 15

Berglin	Cohen	Knutson	Robertson
Betzold	Kiscaden	Krentz	Spear

Metropolitan and Local Government (15)

Chair: Adkins Vice Chair: Mondale
Office: 309 Telephone: 296-4150
Meets: M, W, Th; 2-4 p.m.; Room 107

Betzold	Janezich	Pappas	Wiener
Day	Langseth	Pariseau	
Flynn	Lessard	Robertson	
Hottinger	Oliver	Runbeck	

Metropolitan and Local Government Tax Division (9)

Chair: Flynn Vice Chair: Hottinger
Office: G-29 Telephone: 296-4274

Adkins	Mondale	Pappas	Runbeck
Lessard	Oliver	Pariseau	

Rules and Administration (30)

Chair: Moe, R.D. Vice Chair: Luther
Office: 208 Telephone: 296-4196
Meets: On call

Adkins	Flynn	McGowan	Pogemiller
Belanger	Frederickson	Merriam	Reichgott Junge
Benson, D.D.	Johnson, D.E.	Metzen	Solon
Berg	Johnson, D.J.	Novak	Spear
Berglin	Laidig	Olson	Stumpf
Bertram	Lessard	Pariseau	Terwilliger
Chmielewski	Marty	Piper	Vickerman

Taxes and Tax Laws (22)

Chair: Johnson, D.J. Vice Chair: Pappas
Office: 205 Telephone: 296-4839
Meets: M, T, W, Th; 4-6 p.m.; Room 15

Belanger	Day	Mondale	Pogemiller
Benson, D.D.	Finn	Neuvill	Price
Benson, J.E.	Flynn	Novak	Reichgott Junge
Berglin	Hottinger	Olson	Riveness
Bertram	Marty	Pariseau	Sams

Transportation and Public Transit (15)

Chair: Chmielewski Vice Chair: Ranum
Office: 325 Telephone: 296-4186
Meets: T, W, F; 8-10 a.m.; Room 112

Belanger	Johnston	Murphy	Vickerman
Dille	Krentz	Novak	
Flynn	Langseth	Olson	
Hanson	Lesewski	Pappas	

Transportation and Public Transit Finance Division (9)

Chair: Langseth
Office: G-24 Telephone: 296-3205

Belanger	Dille	Hanson	Novak
Chmielewski	Flynn	Johnston	Vickerman

Veterans and General Legislation (10)

Chair: Vickerman Vice Chair: Murphy
Office: 226 Telephone: 296-1771
Meets: T, Th; 12 noon-2 p.m.; Room 112

Bertram	Hanson	Larson	Lesewski
Chmielewski	Johnston	Lessard	Metzen

Senate Members --- 1994 Session

Party	Phone	Name	Room	Dist.	Party	Phone	Name	Room	Dist.
DFL	296-5981	Adkins, Betty A.	309	Cap. 19	DFL	8869	Luther, William P.	205	Cap. 47
DFL	5537	Anderson, Ellen R.	G-27	Cap. 66	DFL	5645	Marty, John	G-9	Cap. 54
DFL	5713	Beckman, Tracy L.	301	Cap. 26	IR	2159	McGowan, Patrick D.	129	SOB 33
IR	5975	Belanger, William V., Jr.	113	SOB 41	DFL	4154	Merriam, Gene	122	Cap. 49
IR	3903	Benson, Duane D.	119	SOB 31	DFL	4370	Metzen, James P.	303	Cap. 39
IR	6455	Benson, Joanne E.	153	SOB 16	DFL	2577	Moe, Roger D.	208	Cap. 2
DFL	5094	Berg, Charles A.	328	Cap. 13	DFL	7-8065	Mondale, Ted A.	309	Cap. 44
DFL	4261	Berglin, Linda	G-9	Cap. 61	DFL	5649	Morse, Steven	G-24	Cap. 32
DFL	2084	Bertram, Joe, Sr.	323	Cap. 14	DFL	4264	Murphy, Steve L.	226	Cap. 29
DFL	2556	Betzold, Don	G-24	Cap. 48	IR	1279	Neuville, Thomas M.	123	SOB 25
DFL	9307	Chandler, Kevin M.	111	Cap. 55	DFL	4334	Novak, Steven G.	322	Cap. 52
DFL	4182	Chmielewski, Florian	325	Cap. 8	IR	4837	Oliver, Edward C.	121	SOB 43
DFL	5931	Cohen, Richard J.	317	Cap. 64	IR	1282	Olson, Gen	131	SOB 34
IR	9457	Day, Dick	105	SOB 28	DFL	1802	Pappas, Sandra L.	G-27	Cap. 65
IR	4131	Dille, Steve	103	SOB 20	IR	5252	Pariseau, Pat	109	SOB 37
DFL	6128	Finn, Harold R. "Skip"	306	Cap. 4	DFL	9248	Piper, Pat	G-9	Cap. 27
DFL	4274	Flynn, Carol	G-29	Cap. 62	DFL	7809	Pogemiller, Lawrence J.	235	Cap. 59
IR	8138	Frederickson, Dennis R.	139	SOB 23	DFL	7-8060	Price, Leonard R.	235	Cap. 57
DFL	3219	Hanson, Paula E.	328	Cap. 50	DFL	7-8061	Ranum, Jane B.	325	Cap. 63
DFL	6153	Hottinger, John C.	G-29	Cap. 24	DFL	2889	Reichgott Junge, Ember D.	306	Cap. 46
DFL	8017	Janezich, Jerry R.	328	Cap. 5	DFL	7-8062	Riveness, Phil J.	317	Cap. 40
IR	3826	Johnson, Dean E.	147	SOB 15	IR	4314	Robertson, Martha R.	125	SOB 45
DFL	8881	Johnson, Douglas J.	205	Cap. 6	IR	1253	Runbeck, Linda	107	SOB 53
DFL	5419	Johnson, Janet B.	322	Cap. 18	DFL	7-8063	Sams, Dallas C.	G-9	Cap. 11
IR	4123	Johnston, Terry D.	117	SOB 35	DFL	4875	Samuelson, Don	124	Cap. 12
DFL	5285	Kelly, Randy C.	122	Cap. 67	DFL	4188	Solon, Sam G.	303	Cap. 7
IR	4848	Kiscaden, Sheila M.	143	SOB 30	DFL	4191	Spear, Allan H.	G-27	Cap. 60
IR	4120	Knutson, David L.	133	SOB 36	IR	8075	Stevens, Dan	127	SOB 17
DFL	7061	Krentz, Jane	235	Cap. 51	DFL	8660	Stumpf, LeRoy A.	G-24	Cap. 1
DFL	4302	Kroening, Carl W.	124	Cap. 58	IR	6238	Terwilliger, Roy W.	115	SOB 42
IR	4351	Laidig, Gary W.	141	SOB 56	DFL	5650	Vickerman, Jim	226	Cap. 22
DFL	3205	Langseth, Keith	G-24	Cap. 9	DFL	7-8073	Wiener, Deanna	303	Cap. 38
IR	5655	Larson, Cal	145	SOB 10	Capitol or State Office Building, St. Paul, MN 55155				
IR	4125	Lesewski, Arlene J.	135	SOB 21	TDD number 296-0250				
DFL	4136	Lessard, Bob	111	Cap. 3	Senate Information 296-0504				



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