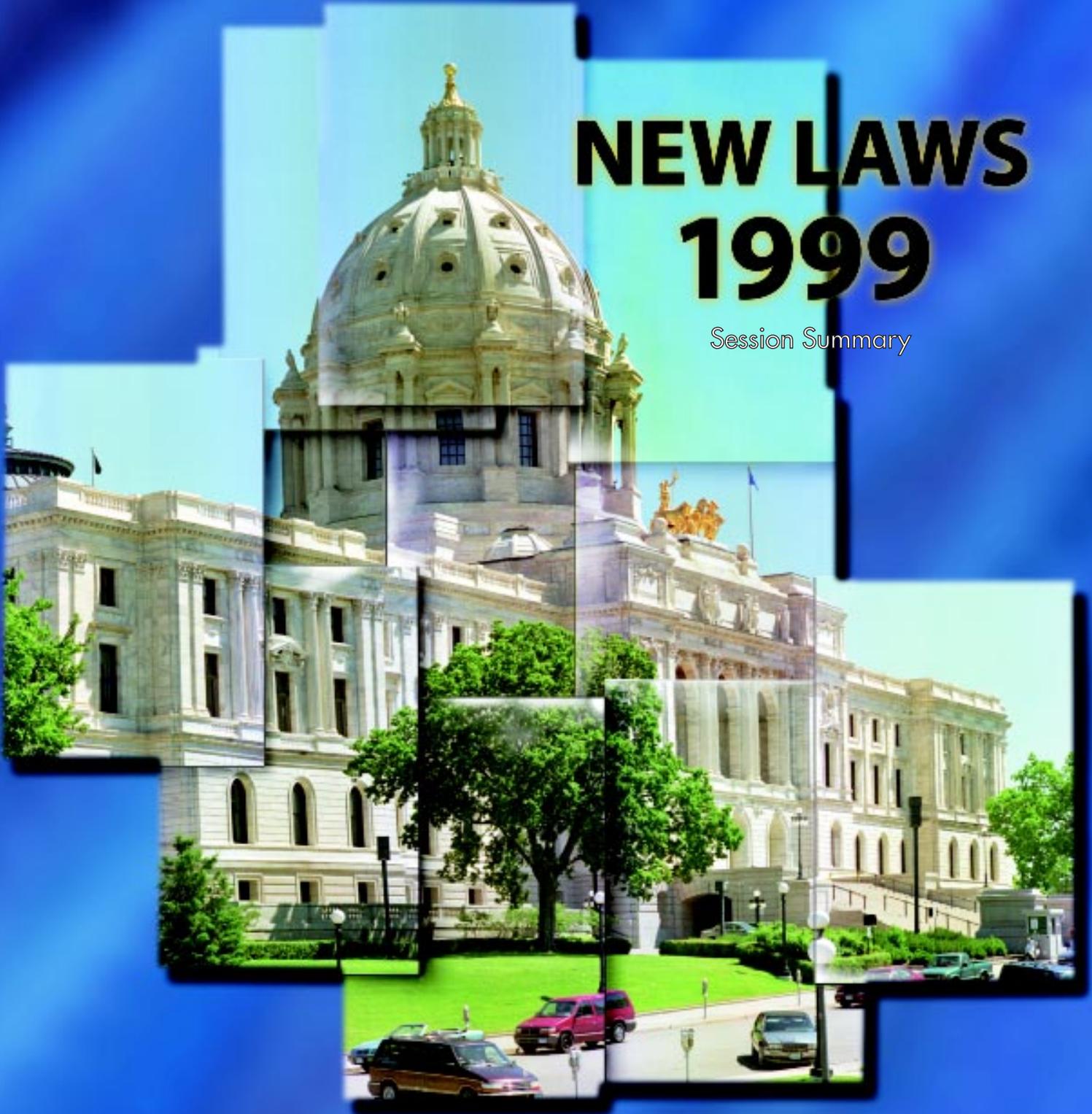


NEW LAWS 1999

Session Summary

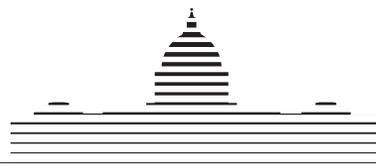


Minnesota House of Representatives
Public Information Office

NEW LAWS 1999

Session Summary

Prepared by



MINNESOTA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICE

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Photographs and photomontage by Andrew Von Bank.**



Contains 20% post-consumer content

Introduction

The 81st Session of the Minnesota Legislature convened on Jan. 5, 1999, and adjourned at midnight May 17, 1999, the last day lawmakers could meet as specified by the Minnesota Constitution.

A total of 67 legislative days were used — more than half the biennial allotment of 120 legislative days. (A legislative day is counted when a quorum of either the House or Senate is present to conduct business as a body.)

The 1999 session featured an unusual tripartisan government — with the state's first Reform Party governor, a DFL-led Senate, and, for the first time since 1986, a Republican-controlled House of Representatives. Lawmakers passed the state's biennial budget without having to be called into a special session to complete business unfinished at the time of adjournment, which has often been the case in recent history.

In 1999, 2,475 bills were introduced in the House and 2,285 in the Senate. Of the 250 bills and three resolutions sent to the governor, six bills were vetoed in full, and portions of 12 other bills were line-item vetoed. But for the first time since 1982, the Legislature voted to override one of the governor's vetoes.

Overall, the list of accomplishments from the 1999 session includes the largest tax cut in the state's history; a plan to use tobacco settlement funds to create endowments for health research; a repeal of the 8-year-old motor-vehicle emissions testing program; funds for light-rail transit; aid for farmers; and a record K-12 education funding plan.

New Laws 1999 is divided into five major parts:

First, the Highlights section beginning on page 9 is written in an easy-to-read style for those who want a quick overview of legislation approved in 1999.

Second, the Vetoed Bills section lists all the bills that were vetoed and line-item vetoed by the governor and synopses of his reasons for doing so.

Third, the Bills in Limbo section describes some of the bills discussed in 1999, but not passed by the House and Senate. Because this is the first year of the two-year spending cycle, these bills remain alive, or viable, for consideration next year.

Fourth, the Summary section gives a technical summary of each approved bill as it appeared on the bill when it was sent to the governor. Also included is a listing of all sections of *Minnesota Statutes* that the bill affects.

And fifth, the Index section provides a list of bills by Chapter number, House file number, Senate file number, bill title, effective date, and finally, by keywords. Many indexes are included to make it as easy as possible for people to find what they need.

If you wish to obtain a copy of a bill, call the House Chief Clerk's Office (651) 296-2314, or the Senate Information Office (651) 296-2343. Ask for the bill by Chapter number, or by the House or Senate file number.

Bills are also available on the Legislature's World Wide Web site (<http://www.leg.state.mn.us>).

Both the House and Senate public information offices have toll-free numbers for residents outside the metropolitan area. To reach the House, call 1-800-657-3550. To reach the Senate, call 1-888-234-1112.

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Highlights

Selected 1999 laws

Editor's note: *Highlights*, the first section in *New Laws 1999*, is written for those who want a general overview of major legislation that was approved during the 1999 session.

The new laws are categorized alphabetically under topics, such as *Agriculture, Banking, and Bonding*. Where bills fall under more than one topic, cross references are cited. Appropriations bills are discussed under the topics to which they apply.

For easy reference, House file (HF) numbers, Senate file (SF) numbers, and Chapter (CH) numbers appear at the end of each highlight. An asterisk after either the House file or the Senate file indicates the version of the bill sent to the governor. Stories on major bills include references to article and section numbers wherever possible. Effective dates are included in most of the stories.

The *Highlights Subject Index* beginning on page 145 also is useful for finding information on specific subjects.



As the economic downturn faced by Minnesota farmers reached what many called a crisis level, the Legislature put together a farm relief package that provides \$70 million in aid for the state's crop farmers and livestock producers.

mitment to market and innovative product development will do more than any cash relief."

The new law provides payments to farmers under one of two plans. Crop farmers are eligible to receive a payment equal to \$4 per acre with a cap of \$5,600 per farm or \$5,600 for individuals involved with more than one farm. Livestock producers on homestead operations less than 160 acres are eligible to receive a payment equal to the first half of their 1999 property taxes.

The law provides for payments to farmers who rent farmland, as well as owner-operators. Payments must be prorated among partners — according to the percentage of risk — when multiple parties are involved in the operation of the farm. The law is expected to provide most farmers between \$2,000 and \$3,000 in aid.

Rep. Ron Abrams (R-Minnetonka) and Sen. Douglas Johnson (DFL-Tower) sponsored the measure, which took effect April 22, 1999.

HF1*/SF106/CH112

Regaining their Balance

Minnesota's agricultural supply dealers are allowed to sell Balance — a new pesticide compound — to customers outside the state, under a new law.

State law prohibits use or distribution of restricted-use pesticides not registered with the state commissioner of agriculture. Balance has received "conditional use" registration by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, which makes it legal for use in many

neighboring states.

The compound isn't available for use in Minnesota; however, under the new law, dealers may sell it to farmers in other states where its use is legal.

The new law is effective retroactively to Jan. 1, 1999, to allow out-of-state customers who made a prepayment on their 1999 agricultural chemical needs to select Balance as their product of choice later in the spring.

The measure was sponsored by Rep. Elaine Harder (R-Jackson) and Sen. Jim Vickerman (DFL-Tracy).

HF370/SF424*/CH6

Crops as collateral

A new law changes the way the state regards security interests in agricultural crops.

Under prior law, when a crop was used as security for a loan, the legal description of the field where the crop was grown has to be included in the filing statement.

The new law, effective Aug. 1, 1999, removes that provision and makes other small changes in how crops used for security interest are handled.

Historically, the security derived from an agricultural crop was linked to the field so a creditor could determine the location of the crop in which the creditor had an interest. Critics of that practice argued that the crop must be in the bin before it can be sold and that the value of the crop is what matters, not the value of the parcel of land.

Rep. Carol Molnau (R-Chaska) and Sen. Jim Vickerman (DFL-Tracy) sponsored the measure.

HF1052/SF451*/CH105



AGRICULTURE

Funds to help farmers

A new law provides \$70 million to help Minnesota's farmers.

The measure became law without Gov. Jesse Ventura's signature. In a letter filed with the new law, Ventura acknowledged "there is hurt" among the state's farmers.

"However, I also know that there are many farms, especially large corporate farms, that are posting profits," Ventura wrote. "My objections to this farm relief package remain threefold: There is no means-testing to ensure that relief is targeted; the money is spent in one lump sum, leaving no funds for future problems; and the farm package was split away from the original (tax) rebate when it was entirely unnecessary to do so."

The governor also suggested that something ought to be done to address the conditions that created the farm crisis.

"The economics of the agricultural industry are such that no reasonable person believes that next year will be dramatically better," Ventura wrote. "A long-term com-

Vaccine for hog disease

More than \$1.25 million in state funding for pseudorabies vaccine went to swine producers in Minnesota whose herds are infected, under a new law effective April 13, 1999.

The vaccine was provided to quell an outbreak of the highly contagious disease, which is not harmful to humans but causes hogs to have respiratory and reproductive problems and to gain weight more slowly.

Gov. Jesse Ventura line-time vetoed \$245,000 from the measure that was intended to help farmers with financial management. The money was to go to the Center for Farm Financial Management at the University of Minnesota. (See related story, page 77.)

Supporters of the measure to provide the vaccine said farmers have done a good job over the years working to decrease the incidence of pseudorabies, but recently there has been a resurgence of infected herds.

Bill opponents claimed pseudorabies flared because farmers facing declining pork prices decided to gamble and not vaccinate.

Rep. Bob Gunther (R-Fairmont) and Sen. Paula Hanson (DFL-Ham Lake) sponsored the measure.

HF414*/SF428/CH45



In response to an outbreak of highly contagious pseudorabies that infected many Minnesota hogs, a new law provides \$1.25 million for vaccine to help swine producers combat the disease.



BANKING

Warrants for bank records

A new law, effective Aug. 1, 1999, allows judges to give extensions on search warrants when investigators are looking into financial records held by banks and other financial institutions.

Previous law gave investigators 10 days to conduct searches authorized by the warrant in all cases. After that time, investigators had to reapply for a new warrant.

The new measure provides an extension only in cases where investigators are seeking the information from financial institutions. The extended warrant must serve the same purpose as the original warrant and cannot exceed 30 days.

Rep. Mary Liz Holberg (R-Lakeville), the sponsor of the measure in the House, said the law is necessary because banks and other financial institutions sometimes have a difficult time producing the financial records within the 10-day limit.

She said that prior law forced investigators to seek a new warrant after the time limit passed, and the new law saves time and money for both financial institutions and the courts.

Sen. David Knutson (R-Burnsville) sponsored the new law in the Senate.

HF1169/SF496*/CH117

Banking in Outing

A new law allows a bank to open a branch office in the small community of Outing, located in southern Cass County.

The law provides an exception to existing state law that prohibits banks from operating in townships. The law is effective upon local approval.

Outing is an unincorporated community in Crooked Lake Township. Minnesota's "home office protection law" allows banks to establish branch offices in cities with a population less than 10,000 only with consent from all the banks that have their home office in that city. Banks are also prohibited from getting around that law by opening in townships just outside city limits.

Rep. Kris Hasskamp (DFL-Crosby), House sponsor of the new measure, said First National Bank of Crosby had planned to open an office in Outing, assuming it was an incorporated city. Because Outing has its own post office and zip code, many people don't realize that it has never been incorporated, she said.

Sen. David Ten Eyck (DFL-East Gull Lake) sponsored the proposal in the Senate.

HF248*/SF324/CH7

Crops as collateral

(See Agriculture, page 9)

Rubber check writers

(See Crime, page 20)

Suing over Y2K bug

(See Law, page 57)

Tax cuts and rebates:

Banks and taxes

(See Taxes, page 64)

Deadline for title release

(See Transportation, page 69)



BONDING

Millions for building projects

A \$100 million bonding measure includes funding for a light-rail line between downtown Minneapolis and the Mall of America, financing for several flood mitigation projects, and bond funds to replace a 1998 plan to pay cash for capital projects.

Effective May 26, 1999, the new law authorizes the state to borrow money to fund several building improvement projects considered to be high priority statewide.

Ag, environment funding:

Rural development

(See Environment, page 32)

Funds for state government:

Fields of hemp

(See Government, page 39)

Tax cuts and rebates:

Property tax relief

(See Taxes, page 63)

Tax cuts and rebates:

Bug farm gets break

(See Taxes, page 65)

Tax cuts and rebates:

Sprayer payers

(See Taxes, page 66)

Feedlot bill rejected

(See Vetoed Bills, page 75)

Farmer aid funds cut

(See Vetoed Bills, page 77)



A new law provides \$60 million to build a light-rail transit line along the Hiawatha Corridor, beginning in downtown Minneapolis and ending at the Mall of America in Bloomington.

The Legislature typically produces its main bonding legislation in the second year of the session, which is the even-numbered year. But smaller measures for emergency needs are usually passed in the first year.

Before signing the new law, Gov. Jesse Ventura used his veto pen to strike about \$50 million from the measure originally approved by the Legislature. Ventura said that those projects were not high priority and could wait until the main bonding year. (See related story, page 77.)

Rep. Jim Knoblach (R-St. Cloud) and Sen. Keith Langseth (DFL-Glyndon) sponsored the new law.

Below are some highlights of the measure.
HF2205*/SF1058/CH240

Light-rail transit

The bonding measure provides \$60 million to build a light-rail transit line along the Hiawatha Avenue corridor.

Beginning in downtown Minneapolis and ending at the Mall of America in Bloomington, the proposed 12.2-mile line would have up to 18 stops along its route, including ones at the Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport and the University of Minnesota.

In 1998, the Legislature appropriated \$40 million for the light-rail proposal. That same year, the U.S. Congress allotted \$120 million in federal funds for the project, which could be completed as early as 2003.

The new state funding is contingent on receipt of a federal grant, and the new law requires that the project receive an additional \$223 million in funding from the federal government.

The law requires that if the federal government doesn't approve the project by certain deadlines, the state funds must be returned, including any remaining funds from the 1998 appropriation.

The transportation commissioner and the chair of the Metropolitan Council must submit a report to the Legislature outlining a financial plan for ongoing operation of the transit line. (Art. 1, Sec. 9)

Cash to bonding

Another new provision revamps a section in a 1998 tax law requiring that \$400 million of any projected budget surplus in the last part of that biennium be used to pay for projects in the 1998 capital projects law.

That \$999 million capital projects law authorized the state to both issue bonds and pay cash for capital improvements statewide. Under the law, the state was to bond for approximately half of the projects and pay cash for the other half.

But a separate tax law provision directed the Department of Finance to replace \$400 million of the bonded sum with a \$400 million cash payment if a sufficient budget surplus was projected for the remainder of the 1998-99 biennium. That would have made the 1998 capital-improvements package 90 percent cash.

In November 1998, the Department of Finance announced a \$1.56 billion projected surplus. Of that amount, \$400 million was scheduled to pay for the 1998 capital projects, under the 1998 tax law.

But under the 1999 bonding measure, the \$400 million scheduled to pay for bonding projects goes back into the general fund.

Critics of the provision said that last year's decision to pay for the projects with cash was based on the fact that the state would save interest payments in the long run.

They also said that the move to change last year's law means that the state is, in effect, borrowing money to pay for this year's budget agreement, including the tax cuts and rebates approved in a 1999 tax law.

Proponents said that it makes more sense to bond for these projects and that using bonding funds over cash for long-term projects is an issue of fairness.

They argued that the bonding projects approved in 1998 will be used by future generations and that a cash payment would mean that this generation would be shouldering too much of the financial burden for the projects. (Art. 2, Secs. 1-19)

Flood prevention

Under the new law, \$19 million goes to the Department of Natural Resources to be used for flood mitigation projects statewide, including projects in Ada, Breckenridge, Crookston, East Grand Forks, Oakport, St. Paul, and Warren. (Art. 1, Sec. 4)

Brooklyn Park bridge

The new law provides a \$440,000 loan to the city of Brooklyn Park to help finance the building of a pedestrian bridge and related costs. That financing is contingent upon the receipt of additional funding from the federal government.

The pedestrian bridge project comes as a result of the tragic death of 11-year-old Kara Kavanagh. In March, Kavanagh was hit by a car while attempting to cross Minnesota Highway 252 in Brooklyn Park.

The proposed bridge would cross the highway a few blocks from where the accident took place. (Art. 1, Sec. 9)

Wastewater treatment

The bonding measure gives \$20 million to fund the state's wastewater infrastructure program. The existing program provides assistance to local governments for the construction of and improvements to wastewater treatment systems. (Art. 1, Sec. 6)

State government

The Department of Administration receives \$4 million, under the measure. Of that

amount, \$1 million goes for planning and design of infrastructure projects for a possible steel mill that may be constructed in Itasca County. A separate tax law (HF2420*/SF1276/CH243) also contains a \$20 million appropriation for this project.

Under the bonding law, the department's appropriation also includes \$190,000 for improvements at the state veterans' home in Hastings.

The new law also requests that the legislative auditor investigate a mold problem at the state veterans' home in Luverne. The Department of Administration is in the middle of a \$6 million project to remove the mold from the facility.

The Department of Corrections receives \$1.8 million for renovations to the sewer system at a correctional facility in Faribault.

And the education department receives \$5.3 million to provide two integrated education grants to the Southwest Metropolitan Integration and Interdistrict Arts and Science Middle School, two magnet schools located in the metropolitan area. (Art. 1, Secs. 3, 8, 10, 26)

Requesting local projects

Lawmakers will have better information about local bonding requests when putting together next year's bonding bill, under a new law.

The measure, effective Aug. 1, 1999, directs local governments to submit each request for state appropriations for capital projects to the Minnesota Department of Finance. The department will review the requests and submit its recommendations to the Legislature for consideration.

The new law outlines a set of eight criteria that the finance department is to use in evaluating each proposal.

Those include considering whether each project: has additional local, private, and user financing; helps fulfill a mission of regional or statewide importance; will not require additional state funding for operation; does not expand the state's role into a new policy area; does not create serious inequities among local jurisdictions; does not compete with other local facilities; and has resolutions of support from all governing bodies immediately affected by the project.

The measure also limits state funding to one-half of a project's total costs, unless the project comes as a result of a natural disaster, is proposed by a school district or school

organization, or is located in an economically depressed area.

While the law encourages local governments to submit their requests directly to the department, it also states that neither the Legislature nor the governor will be bound by the recommendations of the department. And legislators and the governor can introduce projects for consideration that have not been reviewed by the finance department.

The new law encourages local governments to submit their preliminary proposals to the finance department by June 15 the year before the bonding bill is put together. However, for the 2000 bonding bill, the deadline for preliminary requests is Sept. 15, 1999. Final requests will need to be in by Nov. 1 in the year before the legislative session begins.

Rep. Jim Knobloch (R-St. Cloud) and Sen. Richard Cohen (DFL-St. Paul) sponsored the measure.

HF726*/SF157/CH192

Many capital projects cut

(See Vetoed Bills, page 77)



BUSINESS

Phone company competition

A new law modifies state regulations of public pay telephones, and it authorizes the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) to issue penalties for providers of local telephone service that engage in anti-competitive practice.

Effective May 26, 1999, PUC approval is no longer required to operate a public pay telephone or to change pay telephone service.

However, public pay telephones are required to offer coin-free 911 access and to provide telecommunication relay services for people with hearing impairments. And pay telephones must list the name, address, and phone number of the owner of the telephone, toll-free numbers for local and long distance carriers, and toll-free numbers for the PUC so people can file complaints.

The new law does not affect the existing authority of local units of governments to regulate the location of public pay telephones.

Other provisions in the law relate to providers of local telephone service that engage in anti-competitive practices.

Under previous state law, the PUC had to

ask the attorney general to pursue action for violations of state telephone laws, and the maximum penalty for each violation was \$5,000 per day.

The new law authorizes the PUC to issue administrative penalties without going through the attorney general. And for violations of certain laws designed to promote competition, the PUC can impose a maximum penalty of \$10,000 per day for each intentional violation, under the new law.

In determining the amount of the penalty, the PUC must consider several factors, including the company's history of violations, the seriousness of the violation, the economic benefit gained by the violation, and the company's financial ability to pay.

If the PUC decides to pursue civil court action through the attorney general's office, the maximum penalty is \$55,000 per day, under the measure.

The measure was sponsored by Rep. Ken Wolf (R-Burnsville) and Sen. Steve Kelley (DFL-Hopkins).

HF358/SF685*/CH224

Preference on state bids

A new law modifies state policies that give preference to small businesses in economically disadvantaged areas on bids for state projects. The law is designed to promote growth in those areas.

Under the preference policy, the state will accept higher bids from certain businesses determined to be disadvantaged. The law, effective Aug. 1, 1999, increases the preference from 4 percent to 6 percent above the lowest bid for purchases of goods or services for the state. The law retains the current 4-percent bid preference to small businesses in state construction projects.

A business qualifies for those preferences if the owner lives in a county where the median income for married couples is less than 70 percent of the state median income for married couples, or if the business is located in one of those counties. Or, a business would qualify if the area where the owner lives or the business is located is considered a labor surplus area by the U.S. Department of Labor, or if the business is a rehabilitation facility or work activity program.

Rep. Jim Tunheim (DFL-Kennedy) and Sen. LeRoy Stumpf (DFL-Thief River Falls) sponsored the new measure.

HF937/SF709*/CH232

Stock sale requirements

A new law makes it easier for companies to issue and sell small stocks to investors.

The law, effective April 28, 1999, makes technical changes in state law regarding stock offerings of smaller companies. Under one of those changes, the minimum permitted value for such stocks is lowered from \$5 to \$1 per share.

Another change requires the commissioner of commerce to approve the sale of stock no more than 20 days after the securities registration form is filed. Under the old law, there was no such deadline.

Rep. Bill Haas (R-Champlin) and Sen. Don Betzold (DFL-Fridley) sponsored the legislation.

HF661/SF832*/CH103

New warehouse regulations

A new law updates Minnesota statutes dealing with warehouses, which were written originally in 1915.

Effective Aug. 1, 1999, warehouse operators are no longer required to provide paper receipts for items in storage. Many warehouses deal with multinational companies and conduct business electronically, making it impossible to fulfill the letter of the old law.

Under the new law, warehouse operators can choose which accounting practices they wish to use for running their business, rather than having them mandated by the state.

Also, the new law separates household goods warehouse operators, who usually deal with the public, from general operators, who usually deal only with companies and corporations. That provision changes bonding practice, making it less onerous for certain warehouse operators.

Rep. Dan Dorman (R-Albert Lea) and Sen. Paula Hanson (DFL-Ham Lake) sponsored the measure.

HF893/SF1041*/CH110

Food at the fair

A new law signed by the governor creates a new license category for wholesale food processors or manufacturers operating only at the Minnesota State Fair.

Effective April 16, 1999, food handlers are able to purchase a license from the agriculture department that applies directly to their situation. Prior to the new law, operators were required to have one of nine other

permits, none of which was specific to handlers operating only at the state fair.

The new category of license will cost \$125 per year.

Rep. Bruce Anderson (R-Buffalo Township) and Sen. Mark Ourada (R-Buffalo) sponsored the measure.

HF384/SF836*/CH59

Currency conversion

Now that conversion to the euro has begun overseas, lawmakers took caution this session to put references to the new European currency into law.

Effective April 13, 1999, a new law recognizes the change in currency as it relates to contracts or securities that involve payments.

In an effort to unify currency in Europe, the euro will replace the monetary units of 11 countries in the European Union, including France, Germany, and Italy.

The conversion effort started in 1999, with some bank and credit card accounts, but actual coin and paper currency won't circulate until January 2002. In June 2002, the national currencies of the participating countries will be phased out of circulation.

The new law defines the terms relating to the new currency and sets up guidelines for contracts or securities governed by state law. Essentially, the law provides continuity for contracts that require payments in any of the 11 currencies that will be discontinued by stating that the euro will replace those currencies as acceptable payment.

The law also states that the introduction of the new currency may not be used as an excuse for poor contract performance.

Rep. Jim Seifert (R-Woodbury) and Sen. Steve Kelley (DFL-Hopkins) sponsored the measure.

HF1336/SF727*/CH40

Auto rental charges

Auto repair businesses are accorded additional assurances that they will be paid for their services under a new law effective Aug. 1, 1999.

The new law provides that when a car is being repaired and the customer is provided with a rental vehicle for use during the repairs, the business doing the repairs may hold the car being repaired until the charges for the rental vehicle are paid. The law requires the rental charges to be reasonable.

This right to keep property to secure a

particular debt owed to the holder of property is called a lien and right of detainer.

State law provides similar options to other business operators, including warehouse operators and veterinarians.

Rep. Jim Seifert (R-Woodbury) and Sen. Dave Kleis (R-St. Cloud) sponsored the measure.

HF793*/SF1497/CH78

Countering counterfeiters

(See Crime, page 21)

Violating rental deals

(See Crime, page 21)

Green companies

(See Environment, page 33)

Stopping a scam

(See Housing, page 48)

Health coverage alternatives

(See Insurance, page 53)

Reporters under contract

(See Law, page 57)

Suing over Y2K bug

(See Law, page 57)

Amortization prohibition

(See Local Government, page 58)

Fees for pinball machines

(See Local Government, page 58)

More liquor licenses

(See Local Government, page 59)

Tax cuts and rebates:

Tiff over TIF

(See Taxes, page 65)

Tax cuts and rebates:

Business subsidies

(See Taxes, page 65)

Tax cuts and rebates:

Multi-state business

(See Taxes, page 64)

Trucking regulations ditched

(See Transportation, page 70)



CHILDREN

Juvenile law reorganization

A new law makes structural changes to state law dealing with juveniles.

Rep. Kevin Goodno (R-Moorhead), the measure's House sponsor, said the law separates the two very different issues of juvenile delinquency and child protection services.

"By separating them out, it will make the law more user-friendly," he said.

The measure rewrites the state's juvenile law — previously a mishmash of policy relating to children — without changing any of the substantive policy.

The new law, effective Aug. 1, 1999, divides it into four sections — general organization, truancy, delinquency, and children in need of protective services.

In 1997, lawmakers directed the Office of the Revisor of Statutes to review the state's juvenile law and offer a plan for its reorganization. The new law comes as a result of the office's work.

Sen. Jane Ranum (DFL-Mpls) sponsored the measure in the Senate.

HF1310/SF184*/CH139

Child porn online

(See Crime, page 20)

K-12 education finance:

All-day kindergarten

(See Education, page 26)

Court action on truancy

(See Education, page 28)

Funds for families, kids

(See Family, page 35)

Child support in court

(See Family, page 36)

Kids in treatment

(See Family, page 36)

Health, human services law

(See Human Services, page 50)

Education, family funds cut

(See Vetoed Bills, page 80)



CONSUMERS

Auto rental charges

(See Business, page 13)

Crimes by credit card

(See Crime, page 17)

Rental car insurance

(See Insurance, page 54)

Seat belt veto overridden

(See Law, page 55)

Suing over Y2K bug

(See Law, page 57)

Rent-to-own deals

(See Bills in Limbo, page 83)



CRIME

Judiciary spending law

A \$1.1 billion judiciary finance package seeks to reduce accidents that result from high-speed chases, build a database of DNA samples from dangerous criminals, and provide civil penalties for people who claim responsibility for releasing lab animals.

The new law also provides funding to the state court and correctional systems, law enforcement and public safety agencies, and other agencies, such as the human rights department and the crime victim services center.

And the measure contains several policy provisions that have an impact on the state's criminal justice budget.

Gov. Jesse Ventura used his line-item veto authority to cut a minor \$500,000 spending item from the legislation. (See related story, page 78.)

Rep. Sherry Broecker (R-White Bear Lake) and Sen. Randy Kelly (DFL-St. Paul) sponsored the omnibus judiciary finance measure.

Below are some highlights of the new law.
HF2404/SF2221*/CH216

Police pursuit

The new law addresses several issues involving police chases, including mandating additional training time for officers, creating a statewide pursuit policy, providing new technologies for training and pursuit, and strengthening laws against fleeing an officer. Most of the provisions are effective Aug. 1, 1999, but the funding is appropriated at the beginning of the fiscal year on July 1, 1999.

Under the law, the Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST) Board must establish a pursuit training course for police officer cadets. The law mandates that each cadet receive at least seven hours of training and that all current officers receive at least eight hours of training every three years. And the law provides \$600,000 in grants over the next two years to assist local law enforcement agencies with the new training requirements. (Art. 5, Sec. 7; Art. 1, Sec. 11)

The new law also requires the POST Board



Developing a statewide policy for police pursuits is one of the mandates in a judiciary finance package passed into law in 1999. The new law also requires additional pursuit training time for officers and strengthens laws against fleeing an officer.

to develop a statewide model pursuit policy. The policy will be used to develop guidelines for each local law enforcement agency. Under prior law, local agencies were given wide latitude to establish their own procedures for pursuit. (Art. 5, Sec. 7)

And the measure provides funding for technologies that will, supporters hope, end pursuits more quickly, including \$400,000 to pay for so-called “stop-stick” tire deflators to be distributed to local agencies. (Art. 1, Sec. 18)

The law also directs the commissioner of public safety to create a process for distributing these devices and a computer-controlled driving simulator to be used for training. (Art. 1, Sec. 7)

DNA database

The law includes provisions that will increase the state’s database of DNA samples.

Current law requires only sex offenders to submit DNA samples to a statewide database kept by the Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension.

The new law adds several crimes not considered sex offenses to the list of crimes for which offenders must submit samples. Those crimes include murder, assault, kidnapping, and burglary. (Art. 3, Secs. 7-9)

These provisions are effective July 1, 2000, and will apply to all offenders sentenced or released after that date.

The bureau gets \$125,000 to update its facilities to handle the new data, under the measure. (Art. 1, Sec. 7)

Protection for research labs

The measure expands possible civil penalties for releasing lawfully confined animals, such as animals in a research lab.

Effective May 26, 1999, the law states that people or organizations that claim responsibility for the act are presumed by the law to be legally liable for damages, even if they weren’t directly responsible for the action. It is the responsibility of the person or group to prove that they aren’t actually liable for damages.

The measure sets a minimum level of damages — \$5,000 or three times the actual damages, whichever is greater — that can be recovered by plaintiffs. (Art. 6, Sec. 14)

These provisions came as a response to a break-in at a University of Minnesota laboratory earlier this year during which numerous animals were released. The Animal Liberation Front, an animal rights group, took credit for the break-in, but authorities couldn’t take any legal actions against the group.

Sex offenders

Effective Aug. 1, 1999, the new law requires that agencies responsible for supervising level III sex offenders — those deemed most likely to re-offend — must consider concentrations of sex offenders in certain areas when working with these offenders. (Art. 6, Sec. 5)

An earlier plan would have prevented these offenders from living within 1,500 feet from another offender or within a block of schools, parks, or licensed day-care centers.

Proponents said that certain low-income areas are forced to house a disproportionate share of these offenders.

The law requires the agencies to work to prevent that to the “greatest extent feasible.”

Post-traumatic stress benefits

The new law requires local law enforcement agencies to provide benefits to any officer suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder if the officer legally took another life or caused great bodily harm.

The provision, effective May 26, 1999, requires that a licensed psychologist determine that the officer cannot perform official duties due to the incident.

The benefits can include payment of wages for up to one year if the officer can’t work due to the stress and payments for medical and psychological treatment. (Art. 5, Sec. 3)

In 1998, lawmakers appropriated about \$24,000 in the so-called “claims against the state” bill to a Benton County deputy.

In 1996, the deputy shot and killed a suspect in the murder of a St. Joseph police officer. The deputy later suffered from post-traumatic stress syndrome and was unable to work for eight months, but she was refused lost-wage payment by Benton County.

Public safety spending

The Department of Public Safety receives \$86.4 million for the two-year budget period beginning July 1, 1999, under the measure.

Of that amount, the Bureau of Criminal Apprehension gets \$50.8 million. And \$15,000 goes for an in-depth study of the Capitol complex’s security system, including an analysis of the strengths and weaknesses of current procedures.

Also in the department appropriation, the Division of Alcohol and Gambling Enforcement receives \$3.6 million, and the State Fire Marshal Division gets \$6.4 million. (Art. 1, Sec. 7)

Community crime fighting

The public safety department’s funding includes \$17.8 million for law enforcement grants to be awarded to individual communities.

Part of that sum is \$1.5 million to assist the courts in Minneapolis now dealing with the influx of cases as a result of that city’s CODEFOR police strategy.

CODEFOR, which stands for Computer Optimized Deployment-Focus on Results, uses computer analysis to deploy police



Police officers who suffer from post-traumatic stress disorder after legally harming or killing someone are guaranteed benefits from their law enforcement agencies, under an omnibus judiciary spending law.

resources based on daily reports of crime. The management plan also seeks to actively involve the community in policing, holds precincts and divisions accountable for results, and focuses on crime reduction as the overall police mission.

The measure provides \$1 million in grants to assist local agencies in the development of integrated criminal justice computer systems. And the new law expands the state criminal justice information policy group to include representatives from local government organizations and professionals from the business sector with expertise in integrated computer systems.

Also, \$500,000 is provided for grants under the community-oriented policing (COPS) program. Under the COPS program, local law enforcement agencies can apply for grants to pay for police officer overtime in high crime areas within their jurisdiction.

And \$1 million is provided for Asian-American juvenile crime intervention and prevention grants. This program is currently overseen by the Department of Human Services; the measure would move it to the public safety department as of July 1, 1999. (Art. 1, Sec. 7; Art. 2, Secs. 14-16)

Stopping criminal gangs

Another \$1.5 million in community grants goes to the state criminal gang oversight council and strike force over the next two years, and \$3.6 million goes to a grant program that assists local law enforcement agencies in developing strategies to deal with criminal gangs.

The new law states that the base budget of the public safety department is to be increased by \$1.6 million each year to maintain funding for the gang strike force grant program. And the law directs the oversight council to review its mission and report back to the Legislature. (Art. 1, Sec. 7)

Paying the bomb squad

The public safety department's appropriation also includes \$7.7 million for the Emergency Management Division.

Of that amount, \$120,000 goes to an existing program that allows police departments to seek reimbursements for costs incurred from using one of the state's few bomb disposal units.

Currently, local law enforcement agencies must call on one of four police departments in Minnesota that have bomb disposal units when dealing with bombs or other hazardous explosives. (Art. 1, Sec. 7)

Courts and public defense

The state court system receives \$222.6 million during the two-year budget period beginning July 1, 1999, under the new law.

Of that amount, the Minnesota Supreme Court receives \$51.8 million, the Court of Appeals gets \$13 million, and the trial courts receive \$156 million.

Included in the trial court appropriation is a measure providing 13 additional district court judges to be phased in over the next two years. The proposal will increase the number of judges in five of the state's 10 judicial districts, and it provides \$4.7 million for these new positions and related costs. (Art. 1, Secs. 2-4)

The original request called for 18 new judgeships in the state. Court officials told lawmakers that their original proposal would have provided a 6.5 percent increase in judgeships since the last time new judges were approved in 1995. Meanwhile, caseloads have increased by 10 percent over the same period.

The Board of Public Defense receives \$91.9 million during the two-year budget period. Of that amount, the state public defender gets \$6.5 million, and district public defenders receive \$83 million. (Art. 1, Sec. 12)

Funds for corrections

The new law provides \$669.7 million to the Department of Corrections for operation of the state's correctional system over the next two years. Minnesota's correctional system currently houses 5,500 inmates.

Included in that amount, the Community Service Division receives \$192.7 million. A total of \$6 million goes for probation caseload reductions and intensive supervisions programs. Currently, more than 115,000 offenders are in probation or community services programs across the state. (Art. 1, Sec. 13)

The law shuts down the Camp Ripley work program, providing a \$2.7 million savings. The work program was established by the Legislature in 1997 to provide a sentencing alternative for nonviolent offenders. The program was seen as a way to relieve pressure on county jails. (Art. 4, Sec. 11)

But the program hasn't been used by counties to its full potential, and lawmakers want to discontinue the program. The law requires the department to have all prisoners transferred back to county jails by June 30, 1999.

The new law also gives the corrections department the statutory authority to open the planned Rush City prison facility. The facility will open in January 2000 and will house over 950 inmates. (Art. 4, Sec. 8)

Crime victims

The measure provides \$793,000 to fund the state's Ombudsman for Crime Victims for the two-year budget period.

The ombudsman investigates complaints of unfair treatment of crime victims and witnesses by criminal justice agencies and reviews the state's victim assistance programs. (Art. 1, Sec. 9)

And the law appropriates \$45.2 million to the Minnesota Center for Crime Victims Services. The center administers the crime victim reparations program. Created in 1974, the program provides financial assistance to victims of crime. The program also receives funding from restitution paid by offenders and state and federal inmate wage deductions. (Art. 1, Sec. 8)

Included in the center's appropriation is \$100,000 for an existing emergency fund. This fund is available to crime victims with immediate needs. For example, victims who are forced to travel long distances to attend trials can seek reimbursements from this fund to help pay lodging and travel expenses.

Last word for prosecutors

Minnesota joins the other 49 states that give prosecutors the final word in criminal trials, under a new law.

Prior Minnesota law stated that the prosecutor went first in final arguments and was followed by the defense attorney. Judges could give the prosecutor a response to the defense's final arguments only to address misstatements of fact or law, or if the defense's argument was prejudicial or inflammatory.

The new law, effective Aug. 1, 1999, guarantees the prosecutors an absolute right to respond following the defense's final arguments. The response can address only issues brought up by the defense's argument.

House Majority Leader Tim Pawlenty (R-Eagan), the new law's sponsor in the House, said it is only fair that prosecutors — who have the heavy burden of proving the case — be allowed to go last. He pointed out that Minnesota was the only criminal system in the nation that allowed the defense to go last.

Pawlenty also said that crime victims and their families suffer under a system that gives defense attorneys the last word. He said sometimes the final remarks that victims' families hear in the courtroom are disparaging comments from the defense about the victim. And he said, under prior law, the prosecution wouldn't get a chance to challenge those claims.

Critics argued that the measure violates the separation of powers clause in the state constitution and that the Legislature shouldn't interfere in court procedures, an area that should be overseen by the courts themselves.

Sen. Randy Kelly (DFL-St. Paul) sponsored the measure in the Senate.
HF197/SF198*/CH72

Guns for sale

Local sheriffs and police chiefs can decide whether to sell confiscated firearms, under a new law.

Previous law required those agencies to destroy all forfeited weapons that they could not use, including firearms, ammunition, and firearm accessories.

The new measure, effective Aug. 1, 1999, gives agencies the authority to either destroy those weapons or to sell them to federally authorized dealers.

The new law also allows local agencies to sell to the public any antique guns they seize. But semi-automatic, military-style assault weapons will continue to be destroyed if the guns cannot be used by the agency, under the law.

In Hennepin and Ramsey counties, the county boards can vote to prohibit their respective sheriffs from selling confiscated firearms, under the measure.

Under existing law, local law enforcement agencies keep 70 percent of the proceeds from the sale of any forfeited property, county attorneys and other prosecutors get 20 percent of the proceeds, and the state receives the remaining 10 percent.

Critics of the plan say that the measure will just put guns back on the streets to be used illegally.

Rep. Roxann Daggett (R-Frazee) and Sen. Pat Pariseau (R-Farmington) sponsored the measure.

HF70*/SF197/CH148

Drug banned

Gamma hydroxybutyrate — a drug commonly known as GHB — is now a controlled substance in Minnesota.

GHB is a central nervous system depressant with effects similar to alcohol. Overdoses of GHB can lead to seizures, respiratory problems, or coma. It has also been reported that GHB is being used as a date-rape drug.

The drug can easily be manufactured from chemicals available from mail-order supply houses and recipes can be found on the Internet.

A new law effective Aug. 1, 1999, classifies GHB as a schedule III controlled substance. Doctors can prescribe GHB if the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approves the drug, under the measure.

Schedule III drugs are classified under the law as serious controlled substances, although not as serious as schedule I and II drugs — such as heroin, cocaine, and marijuana. To be classified as a schedule III drug, the substance must also have an accepted medical use.

In 1987, the FDA classified GHB as an orphan drug, meaning that it may provide treatment for people with rare diseases or disorders. The FDA approved GHB for investigational research, but has yet to approve the drug for medical use in the United States.

Minnetonka-based Orphan Medical — a company that specializes in orphan drugs — is researching a GHB-based drug for people who suffer from narcolepsy. The company hopes to eventually get FDA approval to market the drug nationwide. The new law allows the company to continue its research.

In January 1999, the FDA went after several companies making dietary supplements containing gamma butyrolactone (GBL). When taken orally, GBL is converted into GHB by the body.

Companies that manufactured the dietary supplements claimed that the products improved physical performance, restored hair, reduced stress, enhanced sex, increased life expectancy, and helped with sleeping problems.

Most companies ceased manufacturing the dietary supplements and recalled their products.

Rep. Wes Skoglund (DFL-Mpls) and Sen. Dave Johnson (DFL-Bloomington) sponsored the measure.

HF1255/SF2120*/CH163

Crimes by credit card

Victims of identity fraud say they often have a difficult time convincing people that they are truly victims of a crime.

And because merely possessing someone else's identification information — including credit card and bank account numbers — isn't a crime, law enforcement officials often found themselves unable to prosecute offenders.

But armed with that supposedly private information, criminals can run up credit cards and clear out entire bank accounts, often over the phone or Internet and often without the victim discovering the fraud for weeks or months.

Federal law limits a consumer's liability for credit or banking fraud to \$50, so the real victim under the law is the financial institution liable for the loss. Financial institutions often choose not to pursue these cases because their losses don't justify the potential cost of investigating the crimes.

However, people who are identity theft victims often experience problems later, when they apply for loans, credit cards, and jobs. They spend countless hours writing letters and making phone calls in efforts to restore their good credit. Some victims have even been arrested for crimes committed by someone who took their identity.

A new law seeks to give prosecutors and consumers additional tools to deal with such offenses.

The measure, effective Aug. 1, 1999, creates a new crime of identity theft and defines it as transferring, possessing, or using another person's identity with the intent to commit an unlawful act.

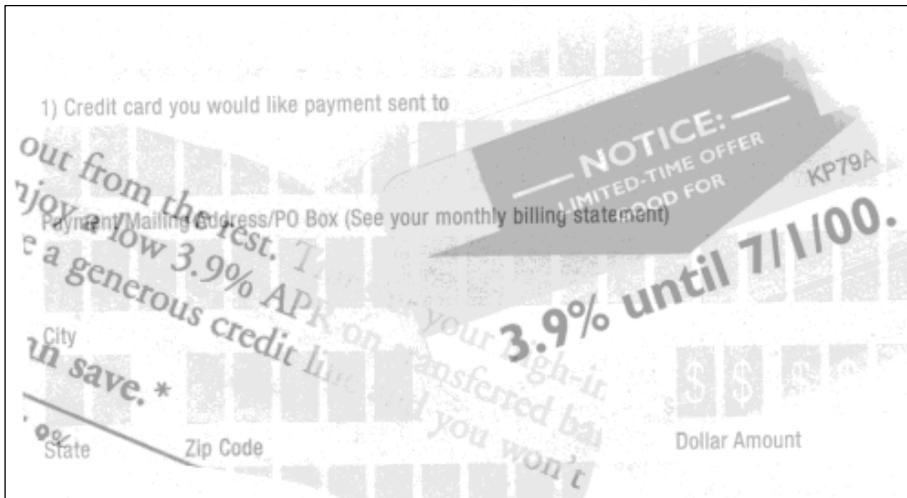
Under prior law, police could arrest people who attempted the illegal transactions, but the ringleaders often went free. The new law allows prosecutors to charge these individuals for simply possessing or passing along someone else's identification numbers, as long as they can prove the intent to commit an unlawful act.

Penalties for the crime vary depending on the amount of loss incurred and the number of victims involved. Increased penalties can be applied if it can be proved that the action is done in connection with racketeering or organized crime.

The new law also states that any direct or indirect victim of an identity crime is a victim for purposes of the law and has rights to any court-ordered restitution.

Typically, identity theft means using another person's personal information — name, address, social security number, mother's maiden name — to commit economic fraud. Identity fraud can range from the unauthorized use of a credit card to a complete theft of another person's identity.

Most people agree that identity fraud is on the rise, and many claim that one of the main reasons is the easy access to information via the Internet.



A new law creates the crime of identity theft to deal with the rising incidence of criminals using credit card and bank account information — often garnered via the Internet — to run up debts and clear out entire bank accounts.

According to a report released in May 1998 by the U.S. Government Accounting Office, officials at the Trans Union Corporation, one of the three main national credit bureaus, reported that fraud inquiries increased from 35,235 in 1992 to 522,922 in 1997.

Secret Service officials also reported an increase in cases investigated by that agency. The agency said actual losses to both consumers and financial institutions due to identity fraud increased from \$442 million in 1995 to \$745 million in 1997.

Visa and MasterCard place their losses due to fraud in the hundreds of millions of dollars annually. And the U.S. Public Interest Research Group estimates at least 40,000 instances of identity theft each year.

The new law clarifies that consumers can receive a free copy of their credit report if they suspect fraud. The federal Credit Reporting Act currently provides this right to consumers. The new state measure increases the fee that the credit reporting service can charge consumers for non-fraud related requests from \$2 to \$3.

Rep. Dave Bishop (R-Rochester) and Sen. Randy Kelly (DFL-St. Paul) sponsored the new law.

HF112/SF333*/CH244

Tracking sex offenders

A new law closes a loophole in the state's sex-offender registration law to make sure offenders like Roger Lloyd Zimmerman are registered.

In July 1996, Zimmerman broke into a

Wayzata home and raped a 13-year-old girl who was babysitting for her neighbor. In 1998, Zimmerman was found to have committed the crime but was found "not guilty by reason of mental illness." He is currently being held at the state hospital in St. Peter.

Under the prior law, Zimmerman wasn't required to register as a sex offender when released because he was found "not guilty" of first degree criminal sexual conduct and wasn't committed as a "sexually dangerous person."

Zimmerman was committed for being "mentally ill and dangerous to the public," which didn't fall under the notification law.

The new law, effective Aug. 1, 1999, changes the registration law to specifically state that offenders who are charged with crimes listed under the sex offender registration law but are found not guilty by reason of mental illness are to be registered.

The sex-offender registration law, passed in 1991, requires that offenders register their address with law enforcement officials for 10 years or more upon release from prison or commitment.

The new law also changes the registration law to require all offenders found guilty of kidnapping to register. Prior law only required registration for those found guilty of kidnapping a minor.

And the measure makes several changes to bring the state sex-offender notification law into compliance with the federal notification law. Minnesota lawmakers were required to make these changes or risk losing federal funding to the state.

These provisions mandate certain disclosures in level III cases — those offenders deemed most likely to re-offend — except when public safety would be compromised or a more limited disclosure would protect the victim. Prior Minnesota law had given the local law enforcement agency more discretion with the information than the federal law.

Rep. Dave Bishop (R-Rochester) and Sen. Jane Ranum (DFL-Mpls) sponsored the new measure.

HF228/SF174*/CH233

Supplying underage drinkers

A new law increases penalties for providing alcohol to people under the legal drinking age.

Under previous law, a person was guilty of a gross misdemeanor crime if he or she gave alcohol to someone under the age of 21 who then became intoxicated and caused death or great bodily harm. A person was guilty of a felony if he or she sold the alcohol to the underage person who then became drunk and caused death or great bodily harm.

The new law, effective Aug. 1, 1999, increases the crime of giving alcohol to someone underage from a gross misdemeanor to a felony. It still applies only in cases where the minor causes death or great bodily harm, but the new law does away with the distinction between selling and simply providing alcohol.

The measure came in response to the tragic deaths of teen-agers such as Janice Rabideaux of Cloquet and Kevin Brockway of St. Paul.

Rabideaux died from alcohol poisoning after a 1997 Halloween party where alcohol was provided by an adult. Kevin Brockway died in an alcohol-related car crash following a 1997 New Year's Eve party, where vodka had been provided by an adult. Both were 16 years old when they died.

Rep. Matt Entenza (DFL-St. Paul) and Sen. Ember Reichgott Junge (DFL-New Hope) sponsored the legislation.

HF1289*/SF1109/CH207

Protecting callers in crisis

A new measure clarifies an existing law frequently used to prosecute domestic assault offenders.

Under a 1997 law, prosecutors can charge a person who interferes with a phone call to a 911 dispatcher with a gross misdemeanor.

The law is often used against domestic assault offenders who try to prevent their victims from calling the police for help.

The new law, effective March 30, 1999, expands the previous law to include all emergency calls to police, ambulance services, or fire departments, not just calls placed through 911.

Rep. Michael Paymar (DFL-St. Paul) and Sen. Jane Ranum (DFL-Mpls) sponsored the measure.

HF193/SF255*/CH24

Strict line on poisoning

A new law aims to get tough on the crime of poisoning.

Specifically, the new measure expands the law against adulteration, which is the crime of intentionally adding a dangerous or poisonous substance to another person's food, drink, or medication.

Under previous law, the person committing the crime must have known that the dangerous substance would cause harm. The new law requires only a knowledge that the substance is capable of causing harm.

The measure, effective Aug. 1, 1999, also increases penalties for the crime of adulteration. And the measure creates a penalty for cases in which actual physical harm does not occur.

Rep. Mike Oskopp (R-Lake City) and Sen. David Knutson (R-Burnsville) sponsored the new measure.

HF735*/SF495/CH64

Limiting inmate lawsuits

A new law seeks to stop frivolous legal claims made by the state's prison inmates.

Under current law, inmates cannot bring lawsuits against the state challenging the amount of funding for rehabilitation programs in the state's correctional facilities.

The new measure, effective Aug. 1, 1999, also prohibits inmates from challenging rehabilitation employee assignments.

And while prior law provided disciplinary penalties for inmates who bring frivolous claims to court, the new law applies those same penalties to inmates who bring frivolous claims before licensing boards.

The measure directs judges and licensing boards to use a set of criteria already outlined in current law when deciding if a claim is frivolous.

Rep. Mark Olson (R-Big Lake), the new

law's sponsor, said it provides protections for employees of correctional facilities while allowing inmates to make reasonable claims.

Sen. Randy Kelly (DFL-St. Paul) sponsored the new legislation in the Senate.

HF1494*/SFnone/CH208

Sex offender plea agreements

A new law makes it clear that sex offender registration is mandatory for those found guilty of sex offenses and cannot be waived as part of a plea agreement.

In some cases, judges have lifted the registration requirement for offenders as a condition of a plea bargain. The offender would plead guilty to the crime and would be sentenced by the court. And, in exchange for the guilty plea, the court would excuse the offender from the registration requirement.

Effective Aug. 1, 1999, the new law explicitly states that registration cannot be waived as a condition of the offender's plea. And the measure requires that the court forward the signed registration form, the complaint, and the sentencing documents to the state Bureau of Criminal Apprehension. The new law applies to both juvenile and adult offenders.

Proponents of the measure said that sex offender registration is an administrative part of the corrections process following the sentencing and shouldn't be viewed as a sentence in and of itself. Therefore, the courts shouldn't be given the power to waive registration.

Rep. Barb Haake (R-Mounds View) and Sen. Warren Limmer (R-Maple Grove) sponsored the new law.

HF1707*/SF1602/CH127

Payback for crime victims

A new law makes several changes to the ways crime victims can seek financial relief.

The law, effective Aug. 1, 1999, allows courts to deposit unclaimed restitution payments collected from offenders into the state's reparations account for crime victims if the amount has been held by the court for more than three years. The court is required to forward the victim's name and last known address along with the amount being deposited to the Crime Victims Reparation Board.

The measure also expands the time limit to file a claim from the reparations account from two years to three years, and changes the requirements involving child abuse claims.

And the new law allows crime victims to make claims for moving expenses and other related costs due to the crime. It caps those payments at \$1,000.

The reparations account was established in 1974 to provide financial assistance to victims of crime. In addition to receiving funding from restitution paid by offenders, the program receives a state appropriation and funds from state and federal inmate wage deductions.

Rep. Tim Mahoney (DFL-St. Paul) and Sen. Richard Cohen (DFL-St. Paul) sponsored the measure.

HF1359*/SF1023/CH136

Protecting witness privacy

Prosecutors can withhold the birth dates of crime victims or witnesses from defendants in criminal cases, under a new law effective Aug. 1, 1999.

Previously existing law allows prosecutors to withhold telephone numbers and addresses of victims and witnesses as long as the defendant is actually charged with a crime, the victim or witness requests that the information be withheld for security concerns, and the information isn't relevant to the case.

If the court rules that the request is justified, the information can be provided to the defense attorney but not the defendant, or the prosecutor can arrange for the defense attorney to meet with the victim or witness at a neutral location.

The new measure simply adds the victim or witness's birth date to the existing list of personal information that can be withheld.

Rep. Mary Liz Holberg (R-Lakeville), the sponsor of the new law in the House, said that people can use the Internet or locator services to get personal information — including home and work addresses. She said that in some cases, all a criminal would need to have is the person's name and birth date.

"That birth date becomes a key to getting all kinds of information," she said.

The new law also affects the information victims and witnesses can be compelled to disclose in court testimony.

Previously existing law stipulates that people cannot be forced to give their home and work addresses when providing testimony in court proceedings, unless the information has relevance to the case. The new law adds birth dates and telephone numbers to the list of personal information that victims and witnesses don't have to provide when testifying in court.

Sen. David Knutson (R-Burnsville) sponsored the measure in the Senate.
HF1171/SF98*/CH79

Drug law loophole closed

A new law closes a loophole for people guilty of multiple drug crimes.

State law allows courts to defer judgment for certain first-time drug offenders as long as the offender agrees to participate in diversion programs.

But previously under that law, if the same person committed another drug crime, the stay of adjudication would not apply as a prior conviction for the purposes of enhanced penalties for repeat offenders. As a result, the offender would only be sentenced as if he or she had no prior convictions.

The new law, effective Aug. 1, 1999, makes such stays of adjudication the same as a prior drug conviction when courts consider if the enhanced penalty can apply.

House Majority Leader Tim Pawlenty (R-Eagan) and Sen. David Knutson (R-Burnsville) sponsored the measure.
HF142*/SF1634/CH98

Playing with fire

If you're a student, you may want to think twice before you flick your Bic.

Effective Aug. 1, 1999, a new law makes it a petty misdemeanor for a student to light a match or ignite a lighter inside a school in situations where there is an obvious risk of fire, unless the student uses the match or lighter in a manner authorized by the school.

Rep. Doug Fuller (R-Bemidji), the new law's House sponsor, said the measure seeks to address a dangerous stunt sometimes performed by students with butane lighters. He said the students cup their hands and trap gas from the lighter and then light the gas, creating a small fireball.

Fuller said that by classifying the act a petty misdemeanor, the measure places a penalty on this behavior, and in severe cases, the students might be placed in the juvenile justice system where prosecutors and judges could refer them to diversion programs taught by counselors and fire safety officials.

The measure also changes the legal definition of combustible materials as it relates to the crime of arson to more accurately reflect the substances that arsonists are using. And the law redefines fourth-degree arson to cover fires set in a multi-unit residential building

or public building not falling under the first-, second-, or third-degree arson categories.

Sen. Steve Novak (DFL-New Brighton) sponsored the measure in the Senate.
HF621*/SF584/CH176

Unconstitutional DWI law

A new law repeals the two-year enhanced gross misdemeanor penalty for repeat DWI offenders after the Minnesota Supreme Court declared the penalty unconstitutional.

The enhanced gross misdemeanor classification was imposed for repeat DWI offenders who violated the law three times in 10 years or for a second offense if it involved a blood-alcohol level of 0.2 percent or more. The penalty also was imposed for driving drunk with a child in the car or driving drunk and making an illegal railroad track crossing.

The enhanced gross misdemeanor penalty carried a maximum penalty of two years in jail and a \$3,000 fine.

By enacting the enhanced gross misdemeanor law in 1997, the Legislature created a new level of crime between gross misdemeanor crimes, which can receive a sentence of up to a year, and felony crimes, which can be punishable by more than a year in prison.

Under the constitution, a person accused of a felony level crime has the right to a 12-person jury trial. Non-felony level crimes can be decided by six-person juries.

In March 1999, the state Supreme Court ruled that the Legislature could not attach what in effect is a two-year, felony-level penalty to a misdemeanor-level crime. And the court stated the six-person jury trial that decides these cases violates the constitutionally guaranteed right to a 12-person jury trial in felony-level cases.

"Indeed, the Legislature is free to ascribe a two-year sentence to the criminal conduct at issue in this case, so long as the Legislature recognizes that in so doing it has created a felony," the court stated in its opinion.

"What the Legislature may not do is create a class of crimes whose severity mandates a sentence of greater than one year's incarceration and then call those crimes misdemeanors so as to deny defendants their constitutional right to a 12-person jury."

Effective May 25, 1999, the new law repeals all references to the enhanced gross misdemeanor in the statutes and removes the two-year penalty.

The law salvages some of the enhanced

penalties listed under the enhanced gross misdemeanor section — none of which require more than a year in jail — and places them under a gross misdemeanor listing, so that those enhanced mandatory penalties can still apply to repeat offenders.

Rep. Kevin Goodno (R-Moorhead) and Sen. Allan Spear (DFL-Mpls) sponsored the legislation.

HF1848/SF1382*/CH194

Rubber check writers

A new law allows prosecutors to establish a diversion program for bad check writers and to dismiss charges for offenders who complete the program.

Rep. Rich Stanek (R-Maple Grove), the new law's sponsor in the House, said the plan will separate people who intentionally write bad checks from those who just have money management problems. He said his measure will get the unintentional offender out of the criminal justice system and into programs that could provide help.

The new law, effective Aug. 1, 1999, provides a list of criteria that prosecutors must consider when accepting offenders into the program, including past dishonored check complaints, evidence of intent to defraud, and the victim's wishes.

Offenders in the program will be required to successfully complete a class on check writing and money management, pay restitution to the victim, and pay all service charges required.

The measure also creates a new five-year felony penalty for a dishonored check valued at more than \$500.

Sen. Allan Spear (DFL-Mpls) sponsored the legislation in the Senate.
HF624/SF441*/CH218

Child porn online

Investigators say they are seeing a proliferation of child pornography on the Internet, and a new law aims to provide tools to fight the trend.

The new law, effective Aug. 1, 1999, clarifies the definition of these crimes to make it easier to prosecute Internet offenders. The measure also increases the penalty for possessing and distributing child pornography.

Rep. Wes Skoglund (DFL-Mpls) and Sen. Dave Johnson (DFL-Bloomington) sponsored the new law.

HF1081/SF1404*/CH217

Making no-shows pay

Prosecutors can recoup costs from defendants when they don't show up for court appearances, under a new law.

Under previous law, criminal defendants who skip a court appearance can be charged with the additional crime of failure to appear in court. Judges can order jail time and fines for defendants found guilty of failing to appear.

The new law, effective Aug. 1, 1999, gives judges the additional option of ordering those defendants to pay any costs incurred by the county or city attorney due to the defendant's failure to appear.

Rep. Mike Osskopp (R-Lake City) and Sen. David Knutson (R-Burnsville) sponsored the measure.

HF732/SF99*/CH28

Countering counterfeiters

There will be new criminal penalties for people who trade in counterfeit products.

A new law effective Aug. 1, 1999, creates a crime of counterfeiting intellectual property. The law prohibits the manufacture, possession with intent to sell, or sale of counterfeited property.

Prior Minnesota law had no criminal penalty for counterfeiting property. Counterfeit claims had to be brought forward by the person or company owning the rights to the property, and had to go through the civil court process.

Rep. Chris Gerlach (R-Apple Valley), the measure's House sponsor, said that the practice of attaching registered trademarks or trade names to unauthorized products is growing. He said counterfeiters can see big profits from the sale of the fake goods and face no risk of prosecution.

Gerlach said tougher penalties are needed because counterfeiters take business away from legitimate companies, and defective and inferior goods produced and distributed by counterfeiters can pose a danger to consumers.

The new law also outlines penalties for the counterfeiting crime based on number and value of the items counterfeited. The maximum is a five-year prison sentence and a \$100,000 fine.

And the law includes the new crime under a list of crimes that can apply to racketeering charges. Increased penalties can be applied if the counterfeiting crime is proven to show a pattern of organized crime.

Sen. Dave Johnson (DFL-Bloomington) sponsored the measure in the Senate.

HF263/SF411*/CH142

Protection for rescue dogs

A new law makes killing or harming search and rescue dogs a criminal violation.

Under current law, harming or killing a police dog is a crime that can be punished by up to two years imprisonment. The new measure, effective Aug. 1, 1999, adds search and rescue dogs to that law.

Search and rescue dogs often belong to private associations that offer volunteer services to police and fire departments. Those private associations sought the change in state law.

Rep. Darlene Luther (DFL-Brooklyn Park) and Sen. Dave Johnson (DFL-Bloomington) sponsored the new law.

HF67*/SF32/CH77



Search and rescue dogs such as Peshtigo, a German shepherd, are afforded new protection under a law that makes killing or harming the animals a crime punishable by up to two years in prison. Peshtigo is pictured with his owner, Mark Haskins of the Northstar Search and Rescue Dog Association.

Paying for DWI enforcement

A new law seeks to help county sheriffs pay for DWI investigations.

Under existing law, sheriffs maintain a fund made up of fines collected for violations of controlled substance and liquor control laws. Sheriffs can use the money to finance investigations into violations of those laws.

The new law, effective Aug. 1, 1999, expands the list of crimes that money can be used to investigate to include DWI investigations.

Rep. Steve Smith (R-Mound) and Sen. Dave Johnson (DFL-Bloomington) sponsored the measure.

HF240*/SF236/CH49

Violating rental deals

A new law targets people who rent items and then fail to return them on time.

The measure, effective Aug. 1, 1999, changes the criminal theft law to apply to rental situations where the value of the property is \$100 or more.

Rep. Tom Hackbarth (R-Cedar), House sponsor of the new measure, said that people sometimes keep expensive rental property past when it is due and the business owners have little recourse.

He said that these people are denying the owners potential income from other rentals, and that should constitute theft, regardless of whether or not the property is eventually returned.

The new law outlines conduct in rental agreements that will qualify as a violation of law, including failure to return the property and failure to pay the agreed-upon rental charges.

The measure also changes the definition of value in existing law to include damages to the rental property and the potential rental value that the owner could have received had the property been in his or her possession.

Sen. Paula Hanson (DFL-Ham Lake) sponsored the measure in the Senate.

HF868*/SF866/CH76

Challenging court orders

Criminal defendants have a time limit on when they can challenge court-ordered restitution, under a new law effective Aug. 1, 1999.

Courts can order that a person convicted of a crime pay the victim expenses resulting

from the crime. Restitution can include medical bills, therapy costs, or the replacement of lost wages.

Existing state law also outlines a process whereby defendants can challenge the amount claimed by the victim.

The new law gives the defendant 30 days to challenge the amount of the restitution. The clock starts ticking when the defendant is informed of the amount requested or is sentenced to pay, whichever is later.

Rep. Mike Osskopp (R-Lake City) and Sen. David Knutson (R-Burnsville) sponsored the measure.

HF733/SF117*/CH38

No criminals as cabbies

A new law allows cities and other political subdivisions to refuse taxicab licenses to applicants with certain criminal histories.

An existing law prohibits licensing boards from denying licenses based on prior conviction of crimes, unless the crime relates directly to the occupational license that the applicant is seeking. The law seeks to give rehabilitated offenders a chance to find employment following completion of their sentences. That law exempts several occupations — such as police officers, firefighters, and school bus drivers — from that protection.

The new measure adds taxicab licenses to the list of occupational licenses exempt from that law if the applicant has been convicted of certain crimes, including murder, criminal sexual conduct, or DWI.

The measure was requested by the St. Paul City Attorney's Office. City officials said they had come across cases where the applicants had criminal histories such as drug convictions and indecent conduct, and they want to ensure the safety of taxicab customers within their city.

The new law is effective May 22, 1999, and applies to all applications pending before the licensing board.

Rep. Tim Mahoney (DFL-St. Paul) and Sen. Randy Kelly (DFL-St. Paul) sponsored the measure.

HF1890/SF1639*/CH191

Tribal police forces

Tribal law enforcement agencies may now share authority over tribal land with local sheriffs, under a new law effective May 19, 1999.

The law outlines the conditions under which a tribal law enforcement agency can

exercise concurrent jurisdictional authority over criminal violations with the local sheriff.

The measure also allows tribal police officers to become certified by the state's officer licensing board.

Supporters of the law say the plan will help ensure public safety on reservations and that the certification provisions will help the tribal governments recruit and retain qualified police officers.

Some tribes have recently established police agencies or beefed up existing police forces in response both to an increase in crime and a 1997 Minnesota Supreme Court decision.

In that decision, the court ruled that non-tribal state and local law enforcement agencies don't have jurisdiction over civil and regulatory violations — such as traffic violations — on tribal lands.

Prior law authorized the Mille Lacs Band, the Lower Sioux Indian Community, and the Fond du Lac Band to exercise concurrent jurisdictional authority. The new measure expands the law to include the other eight tribes in Minnesota.

Rep. Steve Smith (R-Mound) and Senate Majority Leader Roger Moe (DFL-Erskine) sponsored the legislation.

HF1607*/SF1674/CH175

Waiting in the workhouse

A new law authorizes county sheriffs to transfer prisoners waiting for trial from the county jail to the county workhouse.

Previous law allowed sheriffs to transfer only prisoners who had been sentenced. The new measure, effective Aug. 1, 1999, allows sheriffs to do the same with prisoners awaiting trial.

Under the new law, sheriffs and workhouse administrators are required to have an agreement in place on the conditions of the transfer, including how costs will be handled.

Rep. Rich Stanek (R-Maple Grove) and Sen. Dave Johnson (DFL-Bloomington) sponsored the measure.

HF216*/SF237/CH50

Juvenile law reorganization

(See Children, page 14)

Keeping classrooms safe

(See Education, page 27)

Offenders barred from boards

(See Education, page 28)

Court action on truancy

(See Education, page 28)

Election law changes

(See Elections, page 28)

Dice for drinks

(See Gambling, page 37)

Art in prisons

(See Government, page 40)

Stopping a scam

(See Housing, page 48)

Jury pay examined

(See Law, page 56)

Penalties for truck violations

(See Transportation, page 70)

Funds to prosecute abusers

(See Vetoed Bills, page 78)

DWI bill stalls

(See Bills in Limbo, page 83)

Defending your castle

(See Bills in Limbo, page 83)

Assault by laser

(See Bills in Limbo, page 84)

Prison privatization

(See Bills in Limbo, page 84)

Three-strikes bill is out

(See Bills in Limbo, page 85)



DEVELOPMENT

Funds for jobs, housing

A new \$498 million jobs and economic development law includes a heavy emphasis on affordable-housing initiatives and a boost to the state tourism department.

The spending measure provides funding for two dozen state agencies over the two-year budget period beginning July 1, 1999, including the departments of commerce, economic security, housing, labor, and trade and economic development.

The law also includes several one-time funding initiatives designed to address short-term employment and development issues.

Gov. Jesse Ventura left his mark on the new law by striking over \$1 million in funding with his veto pen. (See related story, page 78.)

Rep. Dan McElroy (R-Burnsville) and Sen. Jerry Janezich (DFL-Chisholm) sponsored the omnibus legislation.

Below are some highlights of the measure.
HF2390*/SF2227/CH223

Housing initiatives

The Minnesota Housing Finance Agency receives \$120.5 million over the next two years — \$45 million more than was provided in the previous biennium — to address a shortage of affordable housing.

Included in that amount, \$30 million goes toward preserving federally subsidized rental housing. Many owners of federally subsidized properties have been opting out of the federal program and charging market-rate rents. The state funds will provide incentives for property owners to remain in the program.

The law also directs the department to establish a “challenge grant” program. The grants and loans can be made available to developers, nonprofits, and cities for housing development specifically targeted for job creation and economic development. Under the measure, a one-time appropriation of \$20 million goes for the challenge grants and loans.

The law establishes an “innovative and inclusionary housing” program. The program will finance housing developments that use innovative building techniques and are located in communities willing to waive development regulations that increase the costs of developing new housing.

The developments can be owner-occupied or rental units, and they must serve families with a broad range of incomes. The program receives a one-time appropriation of \$8 million, under the new law.

The law also includes a housing proposal that seeks to provide stable housing for families with school-aged children who are at risk of becoming homeless.

Specifically, the measure adds a new project within the Family Homeless Prevention and Assistance Program, which was established by the Legislature in 1993. That program provides grants to counties and nonprofit organizations for efforts to prevent homelessness.

The program will combine the housing services with job training, social services, and efforts by the school systems. The measure provides \$1 million for the project.

The new law provides \$1.8 million for the home ownership assistance program and \$8.6 million for housing rehabilitation programs. And it gives \$1.2 million for a mortgage foreclosure prevention program and \$6.5 million for homelessness-prevention programs. (Art. 1, Sec. 5; Art. 2, Secs. 51, 54, 56)

Tourism in Minnesota

The Minnesota Office of Tourism receives \$21.7 million — an increase of almost \$5 million over the last two-year budget period.

The new funding, recommended by the governor, is to be used toward advertising and marketing efforts. The measure directs the agency to use the funding to leverage private sector tourism marketing. And the new law seeks to promote efforts aimed at year-round tourism and those aimed at non-resident travelers.

The tourism office gets an additional \$750,000 in one-time funding to enhance its Journey travel destination system (<http://exploreminnesota.com>). That money is to be matched with private dollars.

The tourism office will also provide \$1.6 million to the Minnesota Film Board. Of this total, \$658,000 is for the board’s operation and the remaining \$1 million will be used to partially reimburse film producers for wages paid to Minnesota film crews. Those reimbursements must be matched with non-state resources. (Art. 1, Sec. 2)

Change on Iron Range

An earlier version of the legislation included a plan to replace lawmakers who serve on the Iron Range Resources and Rehabilitation Board (IRRRB) with appointed citizens. The new law changes the makeup of the board, but it does not yank legislators entirely.

The IRRRB oversees six different accounts that appropriate money for environmental or economic development projects in northeastern Minnesota. The board administers funds received through a specific tax paid by mining companies in the area.

Under prior law, the House speaker appointed five state representatives to serve on the board, and the Senate Subcommittee on Committees appointed five state senators. The 11th member was the commissioner of natural resources.

House Speaker Steve Sviggum (R-Kenyon) argued that the IRRRB’s makeup caused constitutional problems, because legislators are prohibited from holding other public offices.

Sviggum’s original proposal would have required the governor to appoint 10 board members who were not legislators.

But the new law includes a compromise of the Sviggum plan. Effective Aug. 1, 1999, the board is increased from 11 members to 13 members. Ten of the members remain lawmakers, five from the House and five from the Senate.

The other three are non-legislators who live in the Iron Range tax-relief area — one appointed by the speaker, one by the majority leader of the Senate, and one by the governor. The commissioner of natural resources is dropped from the board. (Art. 2, Secs. 42-45)



Owners of federally subsidized rental properties such as the Hopkins Village Apartments are given incentives to stay in the federal housing program, under a provision in the 1999 omnibus jobs and economic development law. About \$30 million is earmarked for the purpose of reversing the current trend of owners dropping out of the federal program and charging market-rate rents.

Funding economic development

The Department of Trade and Economic Development receives \$102.6 million to promote development over the next two years, under the new law. That amount includes the

appropriation to the tourism office, which is a division of the department.

Specific projects include a \$450,000 grant to Duluth Technology Village, a \$75,000 grant to the city of Lake Benton for building costs associated with a new visitor center and railway depot, and a \$530,000 grant to the Women Venture program for nontraditional career development for women and girls.

The law also requires the economic development department to come up with a comprehensive marketing plan to attract trade, tourism, and economic development to Minnesota.

And the department is required to review business regulations in both law and rule, and report on the effects of those rules on Minnesota's business climate. Both reports will be submitted to the Legislature next year.

Also, the department is directed to establish a "Minnesota minerals 21st century" account for financing mineral processing facilities. Any financing in the Iron Range tax-relief area would have to be matched with IRRRB funds. (Art. 1, Sec. 2; Art. 2, Secs. 23, 76, 77)

Job training

The Department of Economic Security receives \$84.2 million over the next two years for job training and employment services.

Included in this appropriation, State Services for the Blind receives \$10.9 million. The department is required under the new law to audit State Services for the Blind to find the cause for a deficit that occurred in the agency's fiscal year 1999 budget.

The new law also directs the economic security department, economic development department, Minnesota State Colleges and Universities, and the Office of Strategic and Long-Range Planning to conduct a comprehensive study of workforce training in the state.

Among other things, the agencies are to address what types of training lead to high-skill and high-wage jobs, how to encourage workers not currently in the workforce to enter or re-enter the labor market, and how to promote productivity enhancements in both the public and private sectors. The report is due to the governor and the Legislature in January 2000. (Art. 1, Sec. 4; Art. 3, Sec. 4)

Commerce department

The measure provides \$36.4 million to the Department of Commerce over the next two years. Of that amount, \$1.4 million funds an

upgrade of the database systems used by the department and \$90,000 goes toward the development of an online licensing Web site.

The measure directs the departments of commerce and health to study more efficient ways to regulate health maintenance organizations (HMOs) and other risk-bearing health organizations, such as community integrated service networks (CISNs), health care cooperatives, and community purchasing arrangements.

Under current law, the Department of Health is the agency responsible for regulating those organizations.

Earlier versions of the legislation would have split the regulation between these departments. Under the plan, the Department of Commerce would have been responsible for the financial regulation of these entities, and the Department of Health would have regulated quality of care issues.

Instead, the law requires that these departments study how HMOs can be better regulated in the state and provide a report to the 2000 Legislature. (Art. 1, Sec. 6; Art. 2, Sec. 70)

Other agencies and boards

The new law also provides \$1.1 million to the Minnesota Indian Affairs Council, \$638,000 to the Chicano Latino Affairs Council, \$563,000 to the Council on Asian-Pacific Minnesotans, and \$649,000 to the Council on Black Minnesotans. Of the appropriation to the Council on Black Minnesotans, \$25,000 goes to the annual planning of the Martin Luther King Jr. holiday.

Under the law, the Department of Labor and Industry is appropriated \$49.6 million, and the Department of Public Service receives \$19.4 million.

The Minnesota Historical Society gets \$52.7 million, including \$50,000 to be given to the city of Little Falls for the establishment of a fishing museum and environmental education center.

Several boards also receive funding under the law. The Board of Accountancy receives \$1.2 million, the architecture board gets \$1.6 million, and the Board of Barber Examiners receives \$293,000. (Art. 1, Secs. 7-9, 11, 16, 17, 19-22)

The state Board of Boxing will be eliminated next year, under the measure. This provision came as a result of recommendations made by the legislative auditor in a report on occupational regulation. The auditor suggested that the functions of the board could best be handled by a private organization.

The boxing board does receive \$84,000 for one year but won't be funded for the second part of the biennium. And effective July 1, 2000, the statutes authorizing the board will be repealed. (Art. 1, Sec 10; Art. 2, Sec. 80)

Profits for port authorities

A new law allows port authorities to keep excess money earned on lease or management contracts paid for with state bonding funds.

Under prior law, extra money that was earned from a bond sale financed by the state had to be paid to the state, if the money was not needed for operating costs or debt service payments.

Effective Aug. 1, 1999, the new law allows Minnesota's five port authorities to use those profits to reinvest in improvements to their facilities. Proponents of the measure say it lets the port authorities better manage the money earned by their projects.

Rep. Jerry Dempsey (R-Hastings) and Sen. Steve Murphy (DFL-Red Wing) sponsored the measure.

HF1161/SF480*/CH114

Duluth port authority

A new law allows a name change for a Duluth port authority.

The Seaway Port Authority of Duluth can now be called the Duluth Seaway Port Authority.

The name change, effective Aug. 1, 1999, was requested to make it easier for people to find the organization in directories. Because most port authorities contain the location in the first part of their names, many people were looking up the "Duluth Port Authority" and did not find a listing.

Rep. Mike Jaros (DFL-Duluth) and Sen. Sam Solon (DFL-Duluth) sponsored the measure.

HF1809/SF1554*/CH68

Warrants for bank records

(See Banking, page 10)

Cleaning up fuel leaks

(See Environment, page 34)

Fire code enforcement

(See Government, page 42)

Tax cuts and rebates: Economic development

(See Taxes, page 64)

**Tax cuts and rebates:
Steel plant boost**
(See Taxes, page 64)

Cuts in development funding
(See Vetoed Bills, page 78)



EDUCATION

K-12 education finance

A record \$7.9 billion K-12 spending package will provide Minnesota schools with their largest per-pupil funding boost in a decade.

The new law also earmarks about \$86 million over two years for class-size reduction initiatives and directs money to help diminish funding disparities between districts. Special education, charter schools, breakfast, and all-day kindergarten programs are also supported under the new law.

Here are some highlights of the legislation, which was sponsored by Rep. Alice Seagren (R-Bloomington) and Sen. Lawrence Pogemiller (DFL-Mpls). All provisions are effective July 1, 1999, unless otherwise noted.

HF2333*/SF2242/CH241

Formula boost

School districts will get an extra \$285 per pupil unit over the next two years, under the new law. That represents a 4.7-percent increase to the general formula for the 1999-2000 school year, followed by a 3.2-percent increase the following year, bringing the annual per-pupil funding from \$3,530 this year to \$3,925 in 2001. (That increase also includes a shift of \$43 per pupil that used to be in a separate component called graduation standards funding, and in the 2000-01 school year, an extra \$67 per pupil that is currently given to districts under a cooperation revenue category.)

Of the second-year spending hike, \$50 per pupil unit is contingent upon a rosy November 1999 budget forecast.

The general formula funding — through which districts receive the bulk of their state revenue — is figured on weighted per-pupil units, with secondary students receiving more revenue than elementary students.

The proposed hike will cost the state more than \$400 million, which will be part of the \$6.1 billion sent to districts in general formula funding during the biennium. (Art. 1, Secs. 14, 64)



Keeping class sizes small is a major goal of the 1999 omnibus K-12 education funding law, which provides nearly \$100 million for efforts to cap kindergarten through third-grade classrooms at 17 students per teacher.

Class-size reduction

The measure does not fund class-size reduction initiatives at the level originally proposed by Gov. Jesse Ventura, but it does set aside up to almost \$100 million for that purpose. Ventura, who advocated reducing all kindergarten through third-grade classes to 17 children per teacher, called for \$150 million in two-year funding for the initiative.

The new law directs \$86 million over two years to efforts to reduce class sizes, and it requires districts to reserve \$3 per pupil unit in 2000 and \$11 per pupil unit in 2001 of their general formula funding for class-size reduction, all-day kindergarten, or certain special education initiatives. School boards are required to pass a resolution stating which program they plan to fund. (Art. 1, Sec. 67)

If all districts chose to use that \$3 and \$11 per pupil unit for class-size reduction, that would bring total spending on those initiatives up to \$100 million over the two years. In a message filed with the signed law, Ventura urged districts to also dedicate the \$50 million contingent appropriation to class size reduction.

“Smaller classes get results, and if the funds are available in the November forecast, they should be used to reduce class sizes by funding licensed classroom teachers,” he wrote.

School breakfasts

The new law establishes a statewide grant program aimed at ensuring that all children eat breakfast each school day. Almost \$6 million over two years goes to districts that have high percentages of students receiving free or reduced-price lunches.

The Fast Break to Learning grants expand the existing school breakfast pilot program, which provides money for in-school breakfast in 41 districts. Under the new law, grants will be continued to those 41 districts and other districts will have the opportunity to apply for the additional money, which will be awarded based upon percentages of students receiving free or reduced price lunches.

Districts must match every \$3 of state money with \$1 of local funding, and the program is set to end in 2001. (Art. 7, Sec. 1)

The programs in the pilot schools have been shown to increase test scores and reduce discipline problems.

Charter schools

Fledgling charter schools will see more state money under the measure. Funding for building lease costs jumps to \$1,500 per pupil from the previous level of about \$465 per student. And \$3.7 million is targeted to help with charter school start-up costs over the biennium. (Art. 5, Sec. 18)

Other provisions are aimed at making it easier to create new charter schools. Cities, towns, and educational cooperative boards are included in the list of entities that can sponsor charter schools, and districts are required to convert existing schools to charter schools if 60 percent of full-time teachers at a school petition for the change. Under prior law, 90 percent of those teachers needed to petition to mandate a conversion. (Art. 5, Secs. 7, 9)

The new law also requires school boards that are considering sponsoring a charter

school to make the decision in 90 days or less. And if the board rejects the proposal, that decision may be appealed to the State Board of Education, without proving, as required under prior law, that at least two board members support the idea. (Art. 5, Sec. 8)

Also, effective for the 1999-2000 school year and later, charter school teachers may perform administrative duties even if they do not have an administrator's license. That provision comes in response to complaints that it is too difficult and costly for many small charter schools to employ administrators. (Art. 5, Sec. 11)

Funding disparities

The measure also addresses statewide funding disparities between districts. Currently, about 32 percent of school districts' budgets come from local levies, and districts that, for whatever reason, have trouble getting voter approval for levy hikes face recurring funding crunches.

The new law directs almost \$42 million over the next biennium to a new funding component called equity revenue. Equity revenue will provide additional money, on a sliding scale, to districts that have less than the state's average per-pupil funding based on combined state and local revenue. (Art. 1, Sec. 30)

And the law increases the level at which the state "equalizes" local referendum funding. Under previous law, state aid is provided for districts' first \$350 in per-pupil funding from local levies, based on the districts' property-tax base. The law raises that level to \$415 for fiscal year 2001. (Art. 1, Sec. 43)

"We wanted to attempt to close the gap between the high-spending and low-spending districts and we think this is fair," Seagren said. She said districts including Big Lake, Renville, Montevideo, and Pine City would benefit from the measure.

A new method of formula calculation will also help schools with declining enrollment — a common problem in rural schools especially, where smaller classes mean less state money coming in while many fixed costs remain in place.

Under the new law, funding is based 90 percent on districts' current year enrollment and 10 percent on the previous year's enrollment. (Art. 1, Sec. 10)

Special education

Special education programs see a funding increase of almost \$100 million over the two years. Seagren said that money will help alleviate much of the burden faced by districts that have been forced to spend general formula revenue on special education costs. Ventura advocated for the new spending in that area. (Art. 2)

All-day kindergarten

The measure provides \$14 million over two years to fund all-day kindergarten pilot programs around the state. The first-grade preparedness program was initiated in 1996, with \$5 million in spending, and it was given a \$1.5 million funding boost in the 1998 omnibus education law. Proponents of the program say that attending all-day kindergarten dramatically increases children's academic and social skills. (Art. 2, Sec. 60)

Substitute teacher licenses

College students training for careers in education are eligible to become substitute teachers, under a provision contained in the new law.

Students are able to finish up their degrees while gaining more classroom experience under the plan, which is an effort to combat a current and projected substitute teacher shortage in the state. To obtain a substitute teacher's license, students must successfully

complete their student-teaching requirement.

The measure came from a separate proposal backed by Rep. Mark Buesgens (R-Jordan), who is a school administrator. Buesgens said recent graduates often use substitute teaching as a way to enter a school district in which they would like to teach permanently. (Art. 5, Sec. 2)

Teacher training

Although Gov. Jesse Ventura used a line-item veto to eliminate funding for the program, a new teacher training pilot program is included in the new law.

Under the proposed program, students work alongside professional teachers in K-12 classrooms while gaining college credits. The Department of Children, Families and Learning must approve the programs, and districts have to coordinate with post-secondary institutions to meet students' training needs. (Art. 9, Sec. 47)

The new law authorizes implementing the programs, but the governor's veto eliminated \$100,000 that would have gone to help districts set up the pilot programs. (*See related story, page 79.*)

A related provision allows districts to grant credit for prior experience and training when setting teacher salary levels. Effective for the 1999-2000 school year, teachers are eligible to receive credit for participating in the Collaborative Urban Educator, the Southeast



Several provisions in the 1999 omnibus education law are aimed at assuring that school districts throughout the state are funded more evenly. One such provision, called equity revenue, directs extra money to school districts that have historically had low amounts of local funding.

Asian Teacher Licensure, or the Circles of Support in Educational Leadership programs, as well as for previous training and experience. (Art. 5, Sec. 17)

In another part of the law, effective May 26, 1999, the state Board of Teaching is authorized to hold hearings to resolve disputes involving teacher preparation programs. The law requires the board to assist in resolving a dispute between a graduate or a student preparing for a teacher's license and the post-secondary institution. (Art. 9, Sec. 7)

Deaf education teachers

Some teachers of deaf and hard-of-hearing students are exempt from proficiency requirements in American Sign Language (ASL) when they apply for their teaching licenses.

The new law allows teachers of the aural/oral deaf education method, which does not use ASL, to be licensed after demonstrating only a minimum level of competency in the language.

Under previous state law, all teachers of deaf and hard-of-hearing students had to fulfill the same ASL licensure requirements. However, the oral/aural method teaches students to speak with the use of cochlear, or inner ear, implants and emphasizes lip-reading skills.

Rep. Mindy Greiling (DFL-Roseville), a sponsor of the measure, said the old requirements kept people from entering the oral/aural deaf education field in Minnesota. As a result, she said many parents were sending their children out of state to go to school.

The new law sets up a separate licensing process for teachers of the oral/aural method, which includes continuing education requirements for the educators. (Art. 2, Secs. 3, 55)

Home school students

Home school students are now eligible to fully participate in the extracurricular activities offered by their resident school districts.

Under Minnesota High School League rules, home school students who wanted to participate in extracurricular activities were required to seek a cooperative sponsorship from the school board. But the school board could still refuse to allow a home school student to play on a team or be cast in a play based on the board's financial or other constraints.

The new law, effective for the 1999-2000 school year, treats home school students the same as public school students for the purposes of extracurricular activities, and it

requires local school boards to allow home school students to join those activities. (Art. 5, Sec. 6)

Truancy prevention

A new policy aims to hold certain habitually truant students accountable for their school attendance.

The measure authorizes school districts to expel open enrollment students at the end of the school year who are habitual truants. A habitual truant is defined in state law as a child under 16 years of age who has missed seven school days without a lawful excuse.

Similarly, 16- and 17-year-old students are considered habitual truants if they miss one or more class periods for seven days without an excuse and have not withdrawn from school.

Minnesota's open enrollment law allows students to attend schools located outside of the district in which they live. But schools can accept a limited number of students under open enrollment because of capacity limits. Proponents of the measure said it will force open enrollment students to take responsibility for their school choice and give them an incentive to have good attendance.

Under the new law, the students may only be expelled after they have received truancy intervention services and their cases have been referred to juvenile court. For students over the age of 16, school districts may terminate enrollment if they miss one or more periods for 15 school days without a lawful excuse. (Art. 9, Sec. 25)

School buses

Various laws governing school buses are changed under the omnibus measure. School bus safety training programs, including the state's model, must contain information on seat belt use. And districts are required to provide parents information on the district's seat belt policy, if one exists.

Rep. Mark Olson (R-Big Lake) backed a plan that would provide aid to school districts that choose to install seat belts in school buses. Lawmakers opted not to include the aid provisions in the law, but instead provided the safety training requirements.

The use of seat belts in school buses has been an issue of contention because separate studies have shown conflicting results on their safety value.

Another provision extends the maximum length of a school bus to 45 feet from 40 feet. In addition, road work vehicles such as snowplows are required to stop for school buses;

previously they were exempt from stopping when a school bus extended its stop arm and had its lights flashing.

Finally, the commissioner of public safety's licensing authority is extended to allow the commissioner to waive licensing restrictions in some cases. (Art. 9, Secs. 22-24, 40-43)

Teaching abstinence

The law requires the Department of Children, Families and Learning to help school districts develop programs to inform students about sexually transmitted infections and diseases. And prevention and risk-reduction programs in schools must include information on abstaining from sexual activity until marriage. (Art. 2, Sec. 1)

Keeping classrooms safe

A new restriction on teaching licenses aims to keep convicted sex offenders out of Minnesota classrooms.

Under a new law effective May 25, 1999, anyone convicted of criminal sexual conduct is ineligible to hold a state teaching license.

The law requires the state Board of Teaching to revoke or refuse a teaching license to any person convicted of criminal sexual conduct in the first to fifth degrees.

Criminal sexual conduct can range from rape (first degree) to exposing genitals in the presence of a minor (fifth degree), as defined by state law. In addition to such offenses, those convicted of child abuse are also ineligible for teaching licenses, under the new law.

The measure exempts individuals with non-felony convictions for fifth-degree offenses.

Under the law, the courts must notify the Board of Teaching once they discover a convicted sex offender is a licensed teacher. The board will then revoke the teacher's license and notify the school board that employs the teacher.

The state board also will refuse to issue or renew licenses to applicants convicted of criminal sexual conduct.

A similar law exists for school bus drivers. Rep. Doug Fuller (R-Bemidji) said he sponsored the legislation because of well-publicized incidents involving teachers who were found to have sexually abused their students or other children.

Sen. Thomas Neuville (R-Northfield) sponsored the measure in the Senate.

HF14*/SF574/CH201

Offenders barred from boards

Registered sex offenders are prohibited from becoming school board members, under a new law effective Aug. 1, 1999.

Any person who has been convicted of a sexual offense and is a registered predatory offender is ineligible to run for election to a local school board, according to the measure.

The law follows a New Ulm school board election that included a candidate who had served 41 months in prison for sexual abuse. The man's history was revealed shortly before the election, and he was not elected.

Sen. Dennis Frederickson (R-New Ulm), who sponsored the legislation in the Senate, said that incident prompted him to introduce the measure this year.

He said sex offenders should not have access to positions of authority over children, especially those that would allow them entrance to school facilities.

Rep. Marty Seifert (R-Marshall) sponsored the bill in the House.

HF1845/SF1527*/CH101

Special education age limit

Special education students in Minnesota will receive one less year of state-sponsored instruction, under a new law that will lower the age until which schools are required to provide special education instruction.

In 1998, lawmakers approved a new set of laws concerning special education policies to make them consistent with federal law.

The new law finishes that process by tying up some loose ends of certain state laws that exceed federal requirements. The 1998 law left those provisions to be examined by lawmakers and special education officials to determine which ones should still exceed federal law.

Under current law, Minnesota requires special education services to be provided until a student is 22 years old or graduates from high school, whichever comes first. Under federal law, the age limit is 21 years old.

Effective July 1, 2002, the state law will change to age 21 and school districts will be required to provide instruction only until July 1 after the student turns 21.

Other changes included in the measure establish discipline procedures for special education students and repeal state reimbursement for litigation costs incurred by school districts.

Most of the bill's provisions, except the age change, are effective July 1, 1999.

Rep. John Tuma (R-Northfield) and Sen. Martha Robertson (R-Minnetonka) sponsored the legislation.

HF483/SF296*/CH123

Court action on truancy

A new law expands juvenile court jurisdiction over truant children up to the child's 18th birthday.

Under state law, children classified as habitual truants can be brought into the child protection system. Habitual truants are defined by law as students who miss seven or more days of school in a row without a lawful excuse and who haven't gone through the legal process to withdraw from school.

In 1998, lawmakers extended the legal definition of habitual truants to include students up to the age of 18. Prior law applied only to children age 16 and younger.

The new law, effective May 14, 1999, makes changes to the law stating exactly when courts cease having power to place these children into the protection system, making it consistent with the 1998 law. The new law states that the court's jurisdiction ends on the child's 18th birthday.

Rep. Len Biernat (DFL-Mpls) and Sen. Sandy Pappas (DFL-St. Paul) sponsored the measure.

HF1112/SF1180*/CH164

Construction grant reduced

A 1998 grant to the Isle School District that was used for construction is reduced, under a new law effective May 5, 1999.

The grant, originally in the amount of \$1 million, was given to the school district to convert a school building into a community center.

The new law decreases the grant to \$700,000 and eliminates school district kitchen facilities from the community center's description. Lower than expected bids and the change in kitchen plans brought the cost of the project down.

In addition, the law requires that the grant money is only available as matching funds are committed on a dollar-for-dollar basis.

Rep. Sondra Erickson (R-Princeton) and Sen. Dan Stevens (R-Mora) sponsored the measure.

HF585*/SF595/CH119

Playing with fire

(See Crime, page 20)

Funds for families, kids

(See Family, page 35)

Cash for strapped agencies

(See Government, page 40)

Funding Minnesota colleges

(See Higher Education, page 47)

Health, human services law:

Encouraging abstinence

(See Human Services, page 51)

Changes in pension law

(See Retirement, page 62)

Costs of getting online

(See Technology, page 67)

K-12 spending items cut

(See Vetoed Bills, page 79)

Keeping tabs on teachers

(See Bills in Limbo, page 85)

Profile left intact

(See Bills in Limbo, page 86)

Blocking online porn

(See Bills in Limbo, page 86)

Dealing with unruly students

(See Bills in Limbo, page 86)



ELECTIONS

Election law changes

A person who votes in the wrong precinct no longer faces the possibility of a felony charge on the first offense, under a new measure that also updates other provisions of election law.

Under the new law, the Office of the Secretary of State will send letters to those voting in the wrong precinct, citing the mistake and informing the person of the correct polling place.

The person will then have to provide proof of residency before voting in the next election. If the same person votes in the wrong precinct a second time, it will be considered a misdemeanor, and a third instance will be considered a felony.

The new law, effective Aug. 1, 1999, repeals a previous law that made all instances of voting in the wrong place a felony. Many instances of voting in the wrong place were reported, but county attorneys rarely

prosecuted them as felony offenses. Proponents of the new law say it will be easier to identify and prosecute instances of repeated violations.

Also, the law allows townships to designate the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November as the date of their elections. Previous law had required townships to hold their local elections in March, but it allowed exceptions for some townships near the Twin Cities.

The new law allows all townships to schedule November elections. The measure is designed to reduce election costs and continue a move toward a uniform statewide election day. All Minnesota cities have November election dates.

Another provision in the law drops the requirement that a person can only be a witness to vouch for another person to register to vote if both people live in the same county. The new law allows any registered voter in Minnesota to vouch for another person to allow them to vote.

Rep. Chris Gerlach (R-Apple Valley) and Sen. Linda Scheid (DFL-Brooklyn Park) sponsored the measure.

HF1168/SF1144*/CH132

Ready for redistricting

With election redistricting right around the corner, a new law streamlines procedures relating to local election district boundaries.

Every 10 years federal, state, and local governments must go through the process of rearranging election districts to account for population changes.

Local governments will begin the process after the state Legislature's redistricting plan is approved, which is likely to occur by 2002.

Effective Aug. 1, 1999, the secretary of state's rulemaking authority is expanded so that officials may make minor boundary changes.

The law allows the secretary of state to coordinate with local governments in an effort to make county, city, and school district boundaries more closely aligned. This results in a fewer number of precincts and ballot types to produce for elections.

In addition, the secretary of state now has the authority to make minor corrections to municipal election district boundaries to keep them more similar to congressional, legislative, or county districts. However, the corrections can be ordered only when they would affect 50 or fewer registered voters.

The law also allows a local levy of not more than \$1 per capita to pay for redistricting costs.

Rep. Ron Abrams (R-Minnetonka) and Sen. Lawrence Pogemiller (DFL-Mpls) sponsored the measure.

HF1015*/SF1064/CH237

Voting rights returned

A law effective April 17, 1999, repeals an election measure passed in 1998 that some say could have placed the entire civil commitment process for sex offenders in legal jeopardy.

The 1998 law took away the voting rights of any person who is civilly committed because of conduct that caused the person to be convicted of a crime. For the most part, the law applied to people committed as "sexually dangerous persons" or "persons with a sexual psychopathic personality."

The new law simply repeals those 1998 voting provisions, returning the election law to its pre-1998 status.

Under that law, offenders who have completed their sentence but are civilly committed are given the right to vote, unless they have been found incompetent to vote by a judge.

Proponents of the repeal argued that the 1998 law could have been legally troublesome to the state law allowing for civil commitment. They said it would have applied a different standard for sex offenders who are committed. And they suggested that courts might have ruled the 1998 law a denial of equal protection under the law for those offenders.

The civil commitment procedure for sex offenders has often been the source of legal controversy. The courts have, in some cases, ruled that the process is unconstitutional and is used to punish — not to treat — the offenders.

In 1996, the Minnesota Supreme Court upheld the current Sexually Dangerous Persons Act, stating that the law allowing for commitment of sexually dangerous individuals does not violate the offenders' constitutional rights.

Rep. Dave Bishop (R-Rochester) and Sen. Don Betzold (DFL-Fridley) sponsored the 1999 measure.

HF643*/SF676/CH61

Filling vacant city posts

In most of Minnesota's 853 cities, vacancies in elected offices are filled immediately, with the mayor or city council appointing a new official.

But a new law effective Aug. 1, 1999, gives statutory cities the choice between using that appointment process or holding special elections to fill vacancies for elected posts.

Previously, most elections for vacant offices in such cities could only be held during a regularly scheduled municipal election. The only exceptions were if the vacancy occurred after the first day to file affidavits of candidacy for the next regular city election or if more than two years remained in the term.

Statutory cities are those which do not have charters and follow the state's statutory city code. There are 745 statutory cities in the state and 108 charter cities, which operate under charter rules and other individual laws. The charter cities, such as Minneapolis or St. Paul, have already been allowed to hold special elections for city offices that are vacated between regular elections.

Rep. Mark Buesgens (R-Jordan) and Sen. Claire Robling (R-Prior Lake) sponsored the measure.

HF182/SF257*/CH75

Funds for state government:

Scrapping the primary

(See Government, page 38)

Local hiring & elections

(See Local Government, page 60)

Initiative and referendum plan

(See Bills in Limbo, page 87)

Allowing 18-year-olds to run

(See Bills in Limbo, page 87)

Changes for primary elections

(See Bills in Limbo, page 87)



EMPLOYMENT

License fees increased

Certain licensed professionals — including architects, engineers, interior designers, and land surveyors — must pay higher license renewal fees, under a new law effective Aug. 1, 1999.

The measure, sponsored in the House by Rep. Jim Seifert (R-Woodbury), incorporates the fee schedule into state law, when

previously the fees were set under administrative rules.

The new law calls for license fees to be increased from \$70 to \$120 for architects, professional engineers, land surveyors, landscape architects, geoscience professionals, and certified interior designers.

But a separate law (HF2390*/SF2227/CH223) limits the fees to \$104, which was the level Gov. Jesse Ventura called for in his budget recommendations.

Seifert's measure also sets up continuing education requirements for the licensed professionals. Every two years they must apply for license renewals from the Board of Architecture, Engineering, Land Surveying, Landscape Architecture, Geoscience and Interior Design. The renewal process now includes certain continuing education components.

And the law increases the fine from \$2,000 to \$10,000 for practicing without a license or misrepresenting oneself as a licensed professional.

Sen. Linda Scheid (DFL-Brooklyn Park) sponsored the legislation in the Senate.

HF1728/SF1485*/CH213

Tracking job training efforts

A new law aims to give lawmakers a better picture of the state's job training services.

The law requires the Department of Economic Security and the Governor's Workforce Development Council to prepare a report evaluating all job training programs in Minnesota that receive state or federal funding.

Rep. Bob Gunther (R-Fairmont), the measure's House sponsor, said there are 62 job training programs in the state and they are administered by 12 different agencies. He said policy-makers need better information to make funding decisions.

"We don't know if they're doing a good job or bad job or what," he said.

Effective Aug. 1, 1999, the new law directs the department to provide a brief summary of each program, a statement describing its need, the number of participants, and the costs and funding sources of the program. The report also will detail the results, including job placement rates and wages of participants following completion of the program.

The report is due to the Legislature by Jan. 31, 2000.

Sen. Randy Kelly (DFL-St. Paul) sponsored the measure in the Senate.

HF1051*/SF971/CH138

Contracts with firefighters

A new law provides a different last-ditch option for labor negotiations between firefighters and their employers.

The law amends the Public Employment Labor Relations Act, dealing with situations where an impasse occurs during collective bargaining negotiations. It states that an arbitrator must select the final offer of one party, unless the parties agree to conventional arbitration in writing.

Conventional arbitration, a more common method, allows an arbitrator to use alternate positions from either side on separate items in dispute to come up with a final agreement.

However, under the new law parties who do not agree to that process of negotiation must resolve to accept a last-best-offer, or total package offer from one side or the other. This method can result in more bargaining between parties — avoiding an impasse — or final offers from both sides that are not highly polarized.

The law is effective Aug. 1, 1999, and affects only firefighters who belong to a union. However, the law expires on June 30, 2002, when the Legislature will be able to evaluate how well it has served contract negotiations.

Rep. Gene Pelowski (DFL-Winona) and Sen. Steve Kelley (DFL-Hopkins) sponsored the measure.

HF1173/SF1605*/CH166

References for firefighters

A new law aims to provide fire chiefs with better information on prospective hires and, at the same time, to give former and current employers legal protections when they provide that information.

Effective Aug. 1, 1999, fire chiefs are authorized by law to request employment information on prospective employees from the applicant's former or current fire department.

The measure requires former or current employers to disclose the information as long

as the prospective employer and the prospective employee authorize the request in writing. It also provides a process by which the prospective employer can request that a court force the former or current employer to provide the information.

Information that can be disclosed includes the candidate's initial job application, performance reviews, attendance records, and disciplinary actions.

And, aside from cases of fraud or malice, the former or current employer is immune from civil liability.

Proponents want to ensure that fire departments are getting the best information about candidates before an agency actually does the hiring.

A similar law exists for law enforcement agencies; however, in those instances, the agency is required, not just authorized, to conduct a previous employment check.

Rep. Jim Knoblach



A new law seeks to ensure that as much information as possible is available to fire chiefs regarding the employment history of potential hires. Under the law, former or current employers are required to release information as long as both the prospective employee and employer request it in writing.

(R-St. Cloud) and Sen. Ember Reichgott Junge (DFL-New Hope) sponsored the new law.
HF963/SF486*/CH197

**Judiciary spending law:
Post-traumatic stress benefits**
(See Crime, page 15)

Funds for jobs, housing
(See Development, page 22)

**K-12 education finance:
Substitute teacher licenses**
(See Education, page 26)

Labor deals approved
(See Government, page 41)

Regulatory proposals
(See Government, page 42)

Residency rules repealed
(See Local Government, page 59)

Employees' legal fees
(See Local Government, page 59)

County hiring practices
(See Local Government, page 60)

Police hiring procedures
(See Local Government, page 60)

Changes in pension law
(See Retirement, page 62)

Liability for job references
(See Bills in Limbo, page 88)

 **ENERGY**

Renewable energy account

A new law makes changes to the state's renewable energy account, which was established as part of legislation regulating Northern States Power and its ability to store radioactive waste in casks at its Prairie Island power plant near Red Wing.

Under a 1994 law, NSP was required to pay \$500,000 each year for each cask containing nuclear waste beginning in 1999. The money goes to a fund for the development of renewable energy.

The new law, effective May 25, 1999, requires that any expenditures from the account must be approved by the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) and that the commission will give preferences to projects within the state. It also allows NSP to recover the costs of funding the account through its rate structure.

The new law also amends the law requiring NSP to generate a certain amount of wind energy. The new law gives preference to wind energy projects in the state if the PUC determines that building such projects is consistent with providing just and reasonable rates for NSP customers.

Rep. Loren Jennings (DFL-Harris) and Sen. Steve Novak (DFL-New Brighton), both of whom sponsored the original legislation creating the account in 1994, also sponsored the new law implementing the changes.

The waste storage issue came before the Legislature in 1994 after a Minnesota Court of Appeals ruled that the utility's request for dry cask storage required legislative approval. NSP had been given permission to proceed by the PUC in 1992, but that decision was appealed.

HF1940*/SF1792/CH200

Mississippi power plant

A new law helps pave the way for a new hydroelectric power plant on the Mississippi River.

The law authorizes the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board to sell and distribute electricity for a proposed hydroelectric power plant at St. Anthony Falls.

Crown Hydro Company has plans to generate electricity from a 50-foot drop of St. Anthony Falls. In March, the company was granted license approval from the federal government. The cost of the project is estimated at \$5 million, and the park board could be an investor in the plant.

But in order for the board to sell power, it needs to fit the definition of a governmental agency that could do so.

The new law makes the park board an eligible municipal power agency, effective May 25, 1999. And it gives it the authority to sell electricity, effective when the board files its approval with the secretary of state's office.

Part of the mission of the power plant development is to preserve the industrial heritage of the area, also known as Mills Ruins Park, which was once home to the world's largest milling district.

Rep. Phyllis Kahn (DFL-Mpls) and Sen. Linda Higgins (DFL-Mpls) sponsored the measure.

HF1286/SF1976*/CH198

Efficient heating systems

A new law will allow more contractors to excavate, install, repair, and seal vertical heat exchangers.

Under current law, only licensed well contractors can drill or excavate wells to install vertical heat exchangers, which are energy efficient heating systems that draw heat from the ground. The demand for those systems is growing because they reduce heating and cooling costs.

The new law, effective Aug. 1, 2000, will allow some of the installation work to be done by licensed limited well/boring contractors or limited well sealing contractors. Proponents of the measure say allowing the other contractors to do the work will reduce the up-front costs of those systems. Northern Municipal Power Agency was among the groups that supported the measure.

Rep. Dave Bishop (R-Rochester) and Sen. LeRoy Stumpf (DFL-Thief River Falls) sponsored the measure.

HF2021/SF1539*/CH153

 **ENVIRONMENT**

Ag, environment funding

A new spending law for agriculture, environment, and natural resources projects provides \$1.1 billion for the 2000-01 biennium.

The money comes from several sources, including revenue from fees for licenses or permits, federal grant money, and appropriations from the state's general fund. Spending from the state's general fund for the projects totals about \$521 million for the biennium.

The general fund spending on environmental projects represents an increase of 5.3 percent over the previous biennium. And spending from the general fund on agriculture programs is 15.5 percent higher than the 1998-99 levels.

Biennial budgets for the Department of Natural Resources (DNR), the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA), the Office of Environmental Assistance (OEA), the Department of Agriculture, and other organizations are provided by the law.

Rep. Mark Holsten (R-Stillwater) and Sen. Jane Krentz (DFL-May Township) sponsored the measure.

Here are some highlights of the new measure.

HF2388/SF2226*/CH231

Watercraft fees altered

License fees for boats will be increased, and a new license classification will be created for personal watercraft.

Under previous law, personal watercraft owners had to pay a \$50 surcharge, plus a \$12 license fee that applied to any boat less than 19 feet. The new law repeals the \$50 surcharge on personal watercraft, effective May 26, 1999, and sets the price of the new personal watercraft license at \$25.

The law also requires the DNR to automatically send refunds to the people who paid the \$50 surcharge.

Other fees for boat licenses that will be effective Jan. 1, 2000, are: \$12 for boats less than 17 feet, \$18 for boats from 17 to 19 feet, \$30 for boats from 19 to 26 feet, \$45 for boats from 26 to 40 feet, and \$60 for boats longer than 40 feet. Those licenses currently cost \$12, \$12, \$20, \$30, and \$40 respectively.

Money from the licenses goes into the water recreation account, which pays for enforcing boating laws, maintaining public boat landings, and other projects that enhance boating in the state. (Sec. 112)

Ski pass costs rise

The law increases fees for cross-country ski passes and clarifies where those passes are required.

Effective July 1, 1999, passes are required to ski in state parks, state forest lands, trails within the cross-country ski grant-in-aid program, and other regional recreation areas.

The law requires passes in those areas for all skiers age 16 and older, including senior citizens. Previous law had required passes only for people ages 16 to 64.

The new fees are \$9 for an annual pass, and \$24 for a three-year pass. Under previous law, those fees were \$5 and \$14. The new law also eliminates reduced fees for married couples.

The fees will pay for state grants to local units of government for grooming ski trails and acquiring easements for new ski trails. (Secs. 105-111)

Snowmobile stud use

Snowmobilers who want to use metal traction devices known as studs on unpaved Minnesota trails must purchase an annual \$12 sticker, under a provision of the omnibus law effective July 1, 1999.

A separate law (HF6*/SF40/CH4) repealed a scheduled statewide ban on stud use as well as a requirement that stud users purchase a \$50 sticker to use the devices before the ban was scheduled to take place, July 1, 1999. (See related story, page 61.)

Stud use remains illegal on paved trails throughout Minnesota. Damage to those trails prompted the 1998 law scheduling the 1999 ban.

The omnibus law requires only Minnesota residents to buy the \$12 stickers and the provision is set to be repealed July 1, 2004. Proceeds from the stickers are earmarked for paved public trail repair. (Sec. 94)

Rural development

The \$168 million two-year budget for the Department of Agriculture includes more money for marketing initiatives to promote, develop, expand, and enhance the marketing of agricultural products from Minnesota producers and processors. (Sec. 11)

Ethanol processing plants will receive \$68.4 million. Also, the law provides a \$500,000 loan to develop an ethanol plant in Little Falls.

Grant money is available in the law through the agriculture department to reimburse farmers for losses of crops or livestock to wild animals, including \$160,000 to reimburse farmers for livestock killed by wolves.

And the law allocates \$750,000 to continue research on feedlot technology, including tests of chemicals that are designed to reduce the odor from manure pits.

The measure spends another \$900,000 for the biennium to pay for collaborative efforts between the commissioner of agriculture and organizations with marketing expertise, including the Department of Trade and Economic Development and the World Trade Center Corporation.

Starting Oct. 15, 1999, the agriculture commissioner will have to submit a report after each calendar quarter to the agriculture committees in the Legislature on what the efforts have accomplished.

Also, the department's budget includes \$1.6 million for computer equipment for office and field staff.

Funds for DNR

The \$514.8 million DNR budget includes \$3 million in grants for watershed districts near the Red River to prevent flooding problems, \$2 million for proposed recreational trails throughout the state, \$1.7 million for state park operations, and \$1.2 million to improve computer systems in the department. The DNR spending provisions in the law are effective July 1, 1999. (Sec. 5)

Some hunting and fishing advocates had supported fee increases for licenses, but the law keeps license fees at the existing levels. Revenue from license fees is spent on enforcement of game and fish laws and on projects to enhance habitat areas for game and non-game wildlife.

The new law also allocates \$2 million from the state's general fund for those types of projects. Proponents of the general fund appropriation said hunting and fishing license fees should not be the only funding source for those projects because they provide general environmental benefits.

The Legislature had proposed spending \$4.1 million from the general fund in those areas, including \$1 million for walleye stocking, but Gov. Jesse Ventura used a line-item veto to eliminate the second year of that appropriation. In a letter filed with the



A new law repeals a \$50 surcharge on personal watercraft and sets the price of the new personal watercraft license at \$25.

measure, Ventura urged lawmakers to increase license fees in the 2000 session instead. (See related story, page 79.)

Electronic licensing

The law includes money appropriated from the game and fish fund to develop technology to offer hunting and fishing licenses electronically.

The DNR will receive \$800,000 in the year 2000 and \$1.9 million in 2001 to pay the costs of developing the new licensing system, some of which is projected to be offset by money that is saved from the costs of issuing paper licenses and stamps. (Sec. 5)

Pollution prevention

Effective July 1, 1999, the two-year budget for the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) is \$250.9 million. The agency's budget is divided into water, air, and land divisions. (Sec. 2)

The MPCA budget includes \$600,000 to continue research on deformed frogs found in Minnesota.

Pollution cleanup provisions include \$2.75 million in grants to supplement the Clean Water Partnership Grant Program, \$323,000 to implement programs for reducing pollution from mercury, and \$965,000 from the solid waste fund to allow additional solid waste disposal facilities to be included in the state's landfill cleanup program.

The law also provides a \$901,000 increase in the MPCA budget to pay for enforcing feedlot regulations. Proponents of that funding said it will help counties prevent pollution by ensuring newly constructed feedlots comply with codes.

Also, the law creates a landfill trust fund in the MPCA budget. The law moves \$10.2 million from the solid waste fund into the landfill trust fund for the biennium. The landfill trust fund will be managed by the State Board of Investment, and future revenue from the fund will be spent on maintaining landfills.

Environmental assistance

Other programs for solid waste management and recycling are funded through the Office of Environmental Assistance budget. The biennial OEA budget is \$46.8 million, effective July 1, 1999. (Sec. 3)

The OEA budget includes \$14 million in grants for counties. Those grants, known as SCORE grants, began in 1989 with the governor's Select Committee on Recycling

and Environment. The grants are given annually to counties based on population.

The OEA receives a \$350,000 budget increase for its environmental education programs. One of those programs aims to educate the public on disposal of used motor oil, oil filters, and other hazardous waste from automobiles. That program receives \$65,000 under the law.

Lottery money

The law also appropriates \$40.5 million from the lottery-financed Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund to the Legislative Commission on Minnesota Resources (LCMR), effective July 1, 1999.

That money will pay for 112 projects throughout the state, which are designed to provide environmental or recreational benefits in addition to programs that are administered through the state agencies. Many of the LCMR projects are funded through grants that require matching funds from local communities. (Sec. 16)

Minnesota Zoo

The Minnesota Zoo's budget is \$34.3 million for the biennium, \$14.4 million of which is from the state's general fund.

Funding for the fiscal year 2001 is contingent upon the zoo's governing board developing an alternative plan to its current structure as a state agency. Alternatives could include converting the zoo to a private, non-profit entity.

The zoo's biennial budget is a \$3.4 million increase over the budget for the 1998-99 biennium. Spending provisions are effective July 1, 1999. (Sec. 4)

Cleaning up spills

A \$250,000 appropriation to the MPCA will pay for efforts to clean up petroleum spills along the Mississippi River from northern Hennepin County to the river's headwaters.

The money will come from the petroleum tank cleanup fund, effective July 1, 1999. It will be used to purchase equipment for removing petroleum from the water and shoreline, and for training local fire and rescue departments to use the equipment so they can respond to a spill.

The petroleum tank cleanup fund contains fees from companies that have underground fuel tanks, and the money is used for pollution cleanup projects.

Proponents of the measure said cleaning

up spills in those situations requires an immediate response, so the petroleum can be cleaned up before it is absorbed in the ground and water. (Sec. 2)

Other agencies

Other biennial appropriations for organizations under the law include \$38.4 million to the Board of Water and Soil Resources (Sec. 6), \$8.2 million to the Agriculture Utilization Research Institute (Sec. 14), \$6.3 million to the Animal Health Board (Sec. 12), \$2.3 million to the Science Museum of Minnesota (Sec. 9), and \$371,000 to the Minnesota-Wisconsin Boundary Commission (Sec. 7).

Those budgets are effective July 1, 1999.

Paul Bunyan State Trail

A new law alters the route of the not-yet-finished Paul Bunyan State Trail.

Originally set to start in the city of Baxter — near Paul Bunyan Land amusement park — the trail runs along an abandoned stretch of railroad right-of-way land and is used by walkers, bikers, and snowmobilers in Minnesota's popular resort areas. The trail is nearly one-half completed and, when finished, it will stretch 100 miles north to Bemidji.

Effective Aug. 1, 1999, the law changes the starting and ending points of the trail to state parks instead of cities. The Baxter starting point is moved to Crow Wing State Park, and the Bemidji ending point is changed to Lake Bemidji State Park.

The measure also permits the use of motorized wheelchairs or carts used by those with physical disabilities on trails that otherwise restrict the use of motorized vehicles.

Rep. Steve Wenzel (DFL-Little Falls) and Sen. Don Samuelson (DFL-Brainerd) sponsored the legislation.

HF1944/SF1470*/CH95

Green companies

A program designed to help companies cut down on pollution is kept in place under a new law effective May 14, 1999.

The Environmental Audit Program began in August 1995 and was set to be repealed in 1999. The new law makes the program permanent.

The goal of the program is to help companies voluntarily comply with environmental regulations enforced by the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency.

The program encourages businesses and governments to conduct environmental audits of their facilities and correct any problems that they may discover. Companies that report and correct problems in accordance with the law receive some enforcement protection.

The measure was sponsored by Rep. Jim Rostberg (R-Isanti) and Sen. Leonard Price (DFL-Woodbury).

HF1477/SF1541*/CH158

Honoring DNR leader

A new law requires the visitor center at Gooseberry Falls State Park to be renamed in honor of a former Department of Natural Resources (DNR) commissioner, effective Aug. 1, 1999.

In addition to honoring Joseph N. Alexander, the new law permits additions to several state parks and allows land within another to be sold.

Alexander was the state's longest-serving commissioner. He began his 33-year DNR career as a game warden in 1957 and was promoted to regional enforcement supervisor in 1966. In 1971, he became assistant commissioner for administration. He was serving as special assistant to the commissioner in July 1978 when Gov. Rudy Perpich appointed him commissioner, a position he held until January 1991. Alexander died Oct. 22, 1998.

The new law also authorizes additions to Banning, Camden, Charles A. Lindbergh, Forestville/Mystery Cave, Judge C.R. Magney, St. Croix Wild River, Scenic, Temperance River, Whitewater, and William O'Brien state parks.

It approves a land exchange at Lake Bronson State Park and stipulates that Cross River State Wayside becomes part of Temperance River State Park. Another provision deletes a four-acre parcel from Blue Mounds State Park and allows it to be sold.

Rep. Ray Vandevor (R-Forest Lake) and Sen. Leonard Price (DFL-Woodbury) sponsored the measure

HF1301/SF1449*/CH157

Cleaning up fuel leaks

Uses for the state's petroleum tank cleanup fund are expanded under a new law designed to help improve polluted lands.

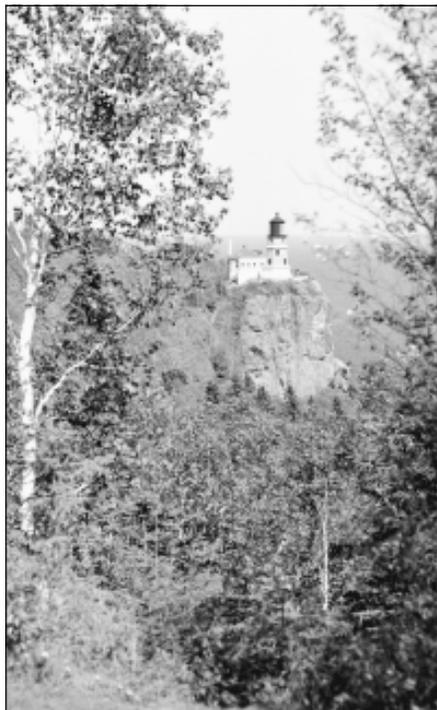
The cleanup fund is administered by the Department of Trade and Economic Development to help clean up pollution from fuel storage tanks. Previous law restricted the use of that fund to areas where petroleum is the only pollutant. So in areas where petroleum is one of several pollutants, the money could pay for cleaning up petroleum but no other pollutants at the site.

The new law, effective Aug. 1, 1999, allows the fund to be used to clean up all pollutants in such a situation. The law also allows the fund to be used to upgrade above-ground fuel tanks to comply with state rules.

Proponents of the new law said it will help the state be more effective in cleaning up "brownfields," which are abandoned commercial or industrial properties. Those sites often remain vacant or under-used because redevelopment would involve legal liability for cleaning up the pollution, such as petroleum that leaked from fuel tanks.

Rep. Mark Holsten (R-Stillwater) and Sen. Steve Novak (DFL-New Brighton) sponsored the new law.

HF595*/SF365/CH203



Money to build a hiking and biking trail connecting communities, state parks, and other points of interest along Lake Superior's North Shore is included in a 1999 omnibus agriculture, environment, and natural resources finance law.

State recycling initiative

Responsibility for part of the state's Waste Management Act is transferred from the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency to the Office of Environmental Assistance, under a new law effective Aug. 1, 1999.

Under previous law, the Waste Management Act called for the Pollution Control Agency and the commissioner of public service to recommend policy changes to help the state reduce the amount of waste that is sent to landfills. Goals of the initiative include purchasing products that contain recycled material, conducting tests on agencies' experiences using those products, and keeping other data related to recycling.

The new law transfers the Pollution Control Agency's responsibility in the Waste Management Act to the Office of Environmental Assistance. That office, along with the commissioner of public service, will recommend waste management policy changes to the governor and the environment committees in the House and Senate.

The Office of Environmental Assistance also administers other programs that are designed to reduce waste generated in the state.

Sen. Janet B. Johnson (DFL-North Branch) and Rep. Larry Howes (R-Hackensack) sponsored the legislation.

HF1151/SF1176*/CH73

International fishing fight

A resolution urging the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative to resolve alleged violations of international law by the province of Ontario was passed by the Legislature and signed by Gov. Jesse Ventura.

The resolution states that the provincial government of Ontario imposed restrictions on U.S. residents taking fish from Canadian waters of Rainy Lake in 1994. It also states that the province extended the restrictions to Rainy River and Lake of the Woods in 1998 and has "threatened to extend" them to the entire Minnesota-Ontario border.

Minnesota resorts have suffered due to the restrictions because Canadian residents are allowed to fish in those areas. The resolution states the restrictions are a violation of the North American Free Trade Agreement and the General Agreement on Trade in Services under the World Trade Organization.

Rep. Irv Anderson (DFL-Int'l Falls) and

Sen. LeRoy Stumpf (DFL-Thief River Falls) sponsored the resolution.
HF544*/SF638/Res. 1

Northern land swap sought

In an attempt to improve wilderness area management in northern Minnesota, lawmakers passed a resolution that urges the president and Congress to enact federal laws to exchange some federal land for state land.

The state owns about 100,000 acres of land and about 172,000 acres of waters in the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness. Most of that land, known as school trust land, was acquired through federal land grants when Minnesota became a state. The land (through leases and sale of logging rights) provides revenue for the state's permanent school fund.

The resolution describes the state-owned land as being in a checkerboard pattern, which limits the federal government's ability to efficiently manage the wilderness area and the state's ability to manage its school trust lands.

The resolution proposes to exchange those 272,000 acres of state holdings for federally owned land that is within the Superior National Forest but outside the Boundary Waters. Such a transaction would require a new federal law.

Rep. Tom Rukavina (DFL-Virginia) and Sen. Douglas Johnson (DFL-Tower) sponsored the resolution.

Copies of the resolution were sent to each of Minnesota's congressmen, and the resolution was introduced into the Congressional Record.

No federal legislation had been introduced on the proposal as of June 1999.

HF426*/SF534/Res. 3

Millions for building projects:

Flood prevention

(See Bonding, page 11)

Millions for building projects:

Wastewater treatment

(See Bonding, page 11)

Renewable energy account

(See Energy, page 31)

Licensed fishing guides

(See Game & Fish, page 38)

Funds for state government:

Saving water

(See Government, page 39)

Cash for strapped agencies

(See Government, page 40)

Reprieve for stud users

(See Recreation, page 61)

Antique boats on parade

(See Recreation, page 62)

Emissions testing to end

(See Transportation, page 68)

Steel storage tanks

(See Transportation, page 70)

When it rains, it sprinkles

(See Vetoed Bills, page 76)

Many capital projects cut

(See Vetoed Bills, page 77)

Environment projects slashed

(See Vetoed Bills, page 79)

Managing wolf population

(See Bills in Limbo, page 88)

\$335,000 from the measure. (See related story, page 80.)

Here's a look at some of the key portions of the new law. Unless otherwise noted, all the provisions detailed here are effective July 1, 1999.

Rep. Barb Sykora (R-Excelsior) and Sen. Pat Piper (DFL-Austin) sponsored the legislation.

HF1467*/SF2222/CH205

Children and families

Programs that provide care and development for children and families receive \$406.9 million in state and federal funds over the next two years.

That money, which accounts for the bulk of the law's spending, is divided among welfare child-care programs, the Basic Sliding Fee program, Early Childhood Family Education, and the federal Head Start program.

The boost in funding shortens county waiting lists for the Basic Sliding Fee program, a state initiative to help low- and moderate-income working families pay for child care using an income-based, sliding-fee scale. The increase removes about 3,000 of the 7,000 parents on the current lists. However, the law raises family co-payment fees to help pay for the increased aid. (Art. 1, Sec. 63)

The state's at-home infant care program, which pays subsidies to working parents who want to stay home to care for their children, is expanded under the new law. In the past, parents who applied for the program were placed on the same waiting list as applicants for

FAMILY

Funds for families, kids

Paring the state's long waiting lists for child-care subsidies is a major aim of a new law that authorizes \$462 million in state funding for child care, temporary housing, and family education programs.

In addition to state funding, the measure transfers \$80.4 million in federal funds from the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) block grant to the state and \$85.2 million from local levies.

Gov. Jesse Ventura line-item vetoed



Programs including Early Childhood Family Education and Head Start will see increased funding under an omnibus family and early childhood finance law passed by the 1999 Legislature.

the Basic Sliding Fee program. Because of long waiting lists, parents often found that their children had outgrown the need for the infant program when their name finally came up.

The law separates the programs on the waiting list, allowing parents to opt for the at-home program right away. (Art. 1, Sec. 24)

Another provision aimed at shortening waiting lists requires counties to pre-determine a family's eligibility for child-care assistance before putting them on a waiting list. Counties are now required to update their waiting lists at least every six months to keep them current. (Art. 1, Sec. 16)

The measure also includes a policy for investigating child-care assistance fraud. As part of that plan, a new universal application form will be created and used by county and state officials to help keep track of families receiving child-care assistance. (Art. 1, Secs. 13, 14)

The fraud prevention initiative includes penalties for families who wrongfully obtain child-care assistance. Those penalties include temporary and permanent disqualification from state-subsidized child-care programs. (Art. 1, Secs. 54, 56)

Starting in fiscal year 2002, school districts will see a per-pupil funding boost in Early Childhood Family Education aid from \$113.50 per child to \$120 per child. In fiscal year 2000, those programs will receive additional aid of \$2.46 per child. The law also requires districts to set up reasonable sliding-fee scales for those programs. (Art. 1, Secs. 41, 42, 65)

Self-sufficiency programs

The law allots \$42.6 million for adult basic education, and nearly \$2 million in additional money goes to support those programs in rural Minnesota. (Art. 4, Secs. 5, 6)

And teachers of English as a second language in adult basic education programs are no longer required to earn a teacher's license. Instead, they must have a four-year degree in English or another approved subject area. (Art. 4, Sec. 2)

The law grants transitional housing programs nearly \$4 million, and emergency shelters receive \$700,000. A portion of the transitional housing funding goes toward programs to help homeless veterans. (Art. 4, Sec. 12)

A lead-abatement program that was not included in Ventura's budget recommendations is funded at \$500,000. And \$500,000 goes to Family Assets for Independence, a program aimed at getting low-income families to save money. (Art. 4, Secs. 8-10, 12)

Prevention and intervention

Many smaller programs that focus on preventing chemical abuse, violence, and juvenile delinquency are also funded in the new law.

Adolescent parenting grants total \$1 million, and \$300,000 is earmarked for Native American youth programs. Another \$500,000 is targeted for organizations that educate young fathers about parenting. (Art. 3, Secs. 2, 5)

After-school enrichment grant programs receive \$10.5 million, of which \$400,000 supports youth activities hosted by state armories. And \$50,000 goes to support First Call Minnesota, a statewide information and referral system for families who need to locate organizations that provide social services. (Art. 3, Sec. 1; Art. 2, Sec. 4)

Child support in court

A new law creates a new process for child support hearings to replace an administrative law process struck down by the Minnesota Supreme Court.

Under the previous system, child support cases involving public authorities were heard through an administrative law process. Because counties often enforce child support payments, such cases accounted for most child support cases.

The Legislature had moved the cases from the state district courts in an effort to provide a more expedient process and a more informal setting in which to decide child support issues.

But in a ruling released Jan. 28, 1999, the Supreme Court found that the administrative hearing process for child support cases is unconstitutional. The Supreme Court stated that the process violates the separation of powers outlined in the Minnesota Constitution. And the court concluded that such decisions belong in the judicial branch and not in the executive branch. The court stayed the effect of the ruling to give the Legislature time to modify the system.

The new law, effective July 1, 1999, repeals the unconstitutional administrative process and creates a new expedited process in the judicial branch. The measure establishes child support magistrates to oversee the hearings and charges state courts with outlining rules for the process.

The Office of Administrative Hearings heard about 12,000 child support cases in 1998. Officials say that 93 percent of all child support orders were issued within 30 days of the hearing.

Rep. Len Biernat (DFL-Mpls) and Sen. Leo Foley (DFL-Coon Rapids) sponsored the new law.

HF510/SF23*/CH196

Kids in treatment

Parents of teen-agers with chemical dependency problems often find their hands are tied when dealing with their children. A new law aims to give them aid.

Under prior law, children under the age of 16 could be admitted by their parents to a chemical dependency treatment program, provided that an independent evaluator confirmed the need for treatment. But for minors ages 16 and 17 the treatment had to be voluntary.

The new law, effective Aug. 1, 1999, makes 16- and 17-year-olds subject to the same requirements as children under the age of 16.

"It is highly questionable that a 16- or 17-year-old who is chemically dependent can make this choice by themselves," said Rep. Mark Buesgens (R-Jordan), who sponsored the measure in the House.

Sen. Claire Robling (R-Prior Lake) was the Senate sponsor.

HF183*/SF144/CH32

Child care terms

A new state law effective April 13, 1999, makes permanent the legal definitions of day care terms including newborn, infant, toddler, preschooler, and school age.

The definitions were adopted on a temporary basis in 1997 because of concerns regarding adequate day care options in light of welfare reform. They were part of new guidelines aimed at allowing day care operations to take a greater mix of children than was allowable under the prior definitions.

State law dictates how many children in a certain age group — newborns, for example — can be under the care of one day care provider at one time. The 1997 changes were designed to give greater flexibility and to make available more child care options.

Rep. Jim Abeler (R-Anoka) and Sen. Claire Robling (R-Prior Lake) sponsored the bill.

HF1126*/SF862/CH36

K-12 education finance:

Home school students

(See Education, page 27)

Paying spouses for care

(See Health, page 44)

Health, human services law
(See Human Services, page 50)

Divorce law correction
(See Law, page 56)

Education, family funds cut
(See Vetoed Bills, page 80)

Making marriage stick
(See Bills in Limbo, page 89)

Get counseling, save cash
(See Bills in Limbo, page 89)



GAMBLING

Canterbury card club

A new law allows Canterbury Park in Shakopee to operate a card club for poker players. The law, effective May 25, is designed to boost the horse racing industry in the state by allowing Canterbury Park to offer higher purses for races.

The measure allows Canterbury Park to put in up to 50 tables, where participants can play cards against each other and make wagers on each hand. The opening wager on each hand cannot be more than \$15, and each additional wager cannot exceed \$30.

A percentage of the money wagered will be collected by Canterbury Park to increase the purses for horse races and to pay for operating expenses associated with the card club.

Proponents of the measure say the horse racing industry in the state provides jobs, and it generates demand for hay and oats, which helps Minnesota farmers.

But those benefits in Minnesota are diminishing due to competition from the closest horse racing track, Prairie Meadows in Des Moines, Iowa. Annual purses for races are about \$15 million at Prairie Meadows, compared to Canterbury Park's \$4 million. The higher purses have attracted more horses for races at the Des Moines track, and some horse farms have moved from Minnesota to Iowa.

The new law requires 10 percent of the proceeds from the card club to go toward increasing the purses for races at Canterbury Park. If the revenue from the card club exceeds \$6 million, 14 percent of the proceeds above \$6 million would go to the purses.

The new law also makes several minor changes in state gambling laws. It allows off-sale liquor stores that sell pull-tabs to use



The Canterbury Park racetrack in Shakopee is allowed to operate an on-site poker club, under a new law that also requires 10 percent of the proceeds from the card club to go to increasing the purses for horse races at the facility.

vending machines instead of having a staff person sell them over the counter.

Also, the law increases the maximum consolation prize for bingo games that allow carryover prizes, and it sets a maximum prize for tipboard games. Tipboard games are those that sell tickets for numbers on a board, and when all the numbers have been purchased, the winning numbers are revealed.

And when an organization conducts a raffle, a list of prizes and other information must be printed on the ticket. However, low-prize and infrequent raffles that are generally exempt from state regulation may use tickets that have only numbers and no other information, as long as the sponsoring organization makes a list of prizes available on request and both the ticket sale and the drawing are held on the same day.

Rep. Mike Osskopp (R-Lake City) and Sen. Jim Vickerman (DFL-Tracy) sponsored the measure.

HF1825*/SF1619/CH206

Dice for drinks

A new law makes it legal to play dice games in Minnesota bars.

That means bar patrons can play games such as "liar's poker," "500 rummy," or "6-5-4," to see who buys drinks or food.

Those types of games for small stakes are considered "private, social bets" and are legal under gambling laws. But previous liquor laws did not allow dice in bars.

The new law, effective May 22, 1999, allows people to play dice games in bars, but

the stakes are limited to food or beverages. It is still illegal to play with money at stake, and the business cannot organize or participate in the games.

Rep. Steve Dehler (R-St. Joseph) and Sen. Jim Vickerman (DFL-Tracy) sponsored the measure.

HF686/SF2044*/CH187

Bingo for seniors

Minnesota's nursing homes and senior citizen organizations are now able to conduct bingo for the pure enjoyment of those participating, with a minimum of regulatory intrusion by the state.

A new law effective Aug. 1, 1999, assures that. The law strikes a provision from statute that required the bingo manager to be registered with the state, and it eliminates state-mandated record keeping.

To qualify for the exemption, the bingo operation must not be high-dollar, cannot be offered more than twice a week, and the manager and others who operate the games cannot be paid.

Rep. Bob Ness (R-Dassel) and Sen. Steve Dille (R-Dassel) sponsored the measure.

HF132*/SF1138/CH128

**Tax cuts and rebates:
Lawful gambling tax relief**

(See Taxes, page 66)

Casino at Canterbury

(See Bills in Limbo, page 89)

**GAME & FISH****Licensed fishing guides**

Anyone planning to work as a fishing guide on the St. Louis River estuary now needs to get a license.

A new law effective Aug. 1, 1999, expands the licensing requirement for Lake Superior guides to include the estuary.

The new law was requested by the Lake Superior Charter Captains Association and the Western Lake Superior Trolling Association, groups that represent licensed fishing guides. Those organizations expressed concerns that rogue guides weren't following approved safety, training, and insurance practices and that their operations could eventually have an economic impact on the licensed guides.

Boats used by the guides must be approved by the U.S. Coast Guard. A license to operate is issued by the Department of Natural Resources.

Rep. Willard Munger (DFL-Duluth) and Sen. Sam Solon (DFL-Duluth) sponsored the measure.

HF1109/SF803*/CH57

**Ag, environment funding:
Electronic licensing**

(See Environment, page 33)

Hunting preserves shelved

(See Bills in Limbo, page 90)

**GOVERNMENT****Funds for state government**

The omnibus state government finance law spends \$721.4 million from the general fund for the two-year operating budgets of Minnesota's constitutional offices, the Legislature, and executive branch agencies.

The law is one of two versions of the bill passed by the Legislature. Gov. Jesse Ventura vetoed the first version (HF2386/SF2223*/CH242) and signed into law the second one. (See related story, page 76.) The second measure includes an addition of \$31.7 million for electronic government service initiatives designed to make government more efficient.

Those initiatives include establishing an electronic directory for government services available online, providing business licenses over the Internet, and restoring \$2 million that would have been cut from the Office of

Technology, which coordinates information technology projects throughout state government. Also, the law establishes a separate budget book for new technology initiatives in state government. Those provisions are all effective July 1, 1999. (Art. 1, Secs. 12, 15, 16, 70)

The measure was sponsored by Rep. Dave Bishop (R-Rochester) and Sen. Leonard Price (DFL-Woodbury).

Following are highlights of the law. All provisions are effective July 1, 1999, unless otherwise noted.

HF878*/SF1464/CH250

Historical correction

The Capitol Area Architecture and Planning Board receives \$10,000 to work with the Minnesota Historical Society on a plaque to correct inaccurate information on a current Spanish-American War commemorative plaque.

The plaque hangs on a wall in the Capitol rotunda, and the \$10,000 will pay for a second plaque that will clarify the information and be placed by the existing piece.

The existing plaque honors the 13th Minnesota Volunteer regiment, sent in 1898 to fight the Spanish in the Philippines. However, Americans actually ended up fighting the Filipinos, who had been seeking independence from Spanish rule. The Spaniards had relented by the time the Minnesota regiment arrived, and they granted control of the Philippines to the United States.

One account estimates that 220,000 Filipinos and 4,000 Americans died in the war, which lasted from 1898 to 1901.

Critics of the 51-year-old plaque include Filipino-American organizations that charge that it is racially offensive and historically inaccurate.

Along with the Minnesota Historical Society, the Capitol Area Architecture and Planning Board is charged with preserving the Capitol's design. It oversees major renovations and has the final word on monuments, works of art, and other additions to buildings on the Capitol complex.

The board's budget also includes a \$326,000 donation to a federal World War II veterans' memorial and a \$250,000 appropriation for a Hubert H. Humphrey memorial on the Capitol grounds. (Art. 1, Sec. 13)

Veterans' benefits extended

The deadline for Persian Gulf War veterans to apply for bonuses is extended from

June 30, 1999, to June 30, 2001, under the new law.

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

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

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

Only about one half of the \$17 million has been claimed by Gulf War veterans. The law extends the deadline to apply for a bonus in hopes of allowing more veterans to claim the money. The department's budget also includes some money for publishing notices to inform veterans that the bonus is available. (Art. 1, Sec. 83)

Limiting fee increases

Effective July 1, 2001, state agencies will no longer be able to increase a fee or impose a new fee without legislative approval. Budget proposals for each state agency will have to list proposed fee changes or new fees, including admission fees to state facilities and fees for regulations or licensure. (Art. 1, Sec. 49)

Scrapping the primary

About \$3.5 million is expected to be saved by replacing a planned presidential primary election with an informal ballot to be distributed at the precinct caucuses, which are held the first Tuesday in March. On that ballot, participants will indicate their preference for presidential or gubernatorial candidates, and the results will be reported to the Office of the Secretary of State. (Art. 1, Sec. 84)

The new law repeals a law that scheduled a presidential primary for the first Tuesday in April 2000. Costs of paying election judges, printing the ballots, and other expenses had been estimated at about \$3.5 million. (Art. 1, Sec. 115)

Secretary of State Mary Kiffmeyer had advocated the informal process because she said it would accomplish the same goal as the presidential primary. She estimated the costs

of reporting the results of the informal preference ballots will be about \$8,000, compared to the \$3.5 million that would have been paid by local units of government to conduct a formal primary.

Y2K preparation

In anticipation of some computer systems failing to make the transition from the year 1999 to 2000, the law appropriates \$20 million from the general fund to allow school districts and other local units of government to apply for emergency grants.

The grants will be administered as loans and are to be used to correct problems that are likely to affect public health and safety or cause “catastrophic loss to property or the environment.” The loans will have to be paid back by the end of the fiscal year 2001. (Art. 2, Sec. 12)

Public broadcasting

Public broadcasting, which includes public radio and television services, receives \$6.7 million, which is included in the Department of Administration budget. (Art. 1, Sec. 12)

Ventura used a line-item veto to cut a portion of the funding for public broadcasting that would have paid for developing digital television. That was one of five provisions in the bill that were line-item vetoed. (See related story, page 81.)

Fields of hemp

The governor is authorized to prepare and submit an application for federal permits to allow farmers to grow industrial hemp in experimental and demonstration plots. The governor will consult with commissioners of agriculture, trade and economic development, public safety, and other appropriate commissioners to establish standards and forms for people who want to register for those experimental plots. (Art. 1, Sec. 3)

Honoring Stassen

The new Capitol complex building occupied by the Department of Revenue is now named after former Gov. Harold E. Stassen. The building opened in the fall of 1998, and members of the House State Government Finance Committee proposed naming it after Stassen during a committee meeting on Stassen’s birthday, April 13. (Art. 1, Sec. 16)

Clarify legal costs

The attorney general’s office is required to submit reports to the Legislature on some of

its billing policies. The office will work with the commissioner of finance to ensure that money for legal services is spent as it is intended by the Legislature and to clarify other policies regarding billing for legal services. (Art. 1, Secs. 38-40)

No repayment of local loan

State funds will not be used to repay a loan from the Minneapolis Community Development Agency to the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board in 1986. The loan was made to acquire property for the Central Riverfront Regional Park. (Art. 1, Sec. 111)

Telecommunication oversight

The omnibus law modifies the administration commissioner’s oversight of ongoing operation of information technology. The commissioner is responsible for administering the state information infrastructure, which includes high-speed cables that provide telephone services, Internet access, and other information services.

The law, effective May 26, 1999, removes the commissioner’s responsibility for “operation of” the information infrastructure under previous law. That provision is designed to help rural telephone cooperatives compete with the state in providing those services. (Art. 1, Sec. 61)

Analyzing major purchases

Proposals to purchase goods or services costing more than \$5 million are subject to a cost-benefit analysis by the Department of Administration. If the analysis demonstrates that a proposal is not the most effective way to provide a public benefit, the governor can approve an alternative proposal. (Art. 1, Sec. 65)

Saving water

A water-saving device known as a rain check will be installed on the Capitol’s lawn irrigation system, under a provision of the omnibus law. A rain check is equipped with a sensor that shuts the system off if the soil has adequate moisture, so that the system does not continue to water the grass while it is raining. (Art. 1, Sec. 12)

The governor vetoed a bill that would have required all new sprinkler systems to be equipped with the devices, which cost about \$35. (See related story, page 76.)

Cost of government

Two-year general fund spending for the constitutional offices comes to \$8.2 million

for the governor and lieutenant governor, \$51.4 million for the attorney general, \$18.3 million for the state auditor, \$18 million for the secretary of state, and \$4.8 million for the state treasurer. The appropriation for the treasurer’s office includes \$278,000 to pay for costs associated with issuing tax rebates. (Art. 1, Secs. 3-7)

The budget for the secretary of state includes \$5.8 million for upgrading its computer system. The 12-year-old system has seven major databases that correspond to the office’s main functions, including voter registration, election reporting, and business services such as the Uniform Commercial Code and records of tax liens. (Art. 1, Sec. 3)

Funding for the Legislature for the 2000-01 biennium will be \$53 million for the House, \$39.7 million for the Senate, and \$28.4 million for the Legislative Coordinating Commission, which includes the Revisor of Statutes, the Legislative Reference Library, the Office of the Legislative Auditor, and other joint House and Senate commissions. (Art. 1, Sec. 2)

Cash for tobacco jurors

Three jurors from the 1998 tobacco trial received payments totaling \$30,000 for financial losses incurred during the four-and-one-half month trial, under a new law effective May 18, 1999.

The law is the work of the Joint House-Senate Subcommittee on Claims, which annually hears private restitution claims that have been refused by the courts or state government departments.

This year’s claims bill authorizes payment of some of those claims against the state, as recommended by the subcommittee.

The payment to the jurors came as a request of the chief judge in Ramsey County who testified before the subcommittee. When the jurors were selected, they were told they could submit a letter to the trial judge outlining any financial hardships caused by the trial and that the judge would relieve them of jury duty.

But when the jurors sent the letters, the trial judge ignored their request and wouldn’t release them from jury duty. The trial eventually ended in a settlement between tobacco companies and the state of Minnesota.

A separate new law (HF1153/SF973*/CH71) requests that the Minnesota Supreme Court study several issues involving juror compensation, including a study of daily pay

rates, reimbursements for child care and travel, and special considerations for longer civil trials. (See *related story*, page 56.)

Also in the claims law, \$10,000 goes to a couple in LeRoy for costs related to the construction of a new well unnecessarily directed by the health department. And \$5,000 goes to a man who suffered lost wages due to erroneous criminal background information about him supplied by the Bureau of Criminal Apprehension.

The measure also provides several payments to inmates or former inmates who suffered injuries while incarcerated and to persons injured while performing court-ordered community service work.

Rep. Dennis Ozment (R-Rosemount) and Sen. Randy Kelly (DFL-St. Paul) sponsored the claims law.

HF2221/SF2052*/CH169

Ventura forces change

The first measure signed into law by Gov. Jesse Ventura addresses a procedural wrinkle caused by the fact that he is a third-party head of state.

The new law changes the process under which members are appointed to the Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board. State law outlines the makeup of the board to avoid having too many members from the same political party. The board responds to questions about campaign finance and economic interest disclosure of candidates for state offices.

Under the previous law, two board members had to be former legislators — one from the same political party as the governor and one from a different political party than the governor — and no more than three board members could support the same political party.

But the law had no provisions for how to proceed with appointments when there are no former legislators from the governor's political party, as is the case with Ventura's Reform Party.

The new law, effective Feb. 18, 1999, avoids the reference to the governor's political party, requiring instead that the board include two former legislators who belong to different parties.

Rep. Jim Rhodes (R-St. Louis Park) and Sen. John Marty (DFL-Roseville) sponsored the measure.

HF139*/SF88/CH1

Cash for strapped agencies

One-time budget boosts totaling \$17 million went to seven state agencies and departments with budget shortfalls in the 1999 fiscal year, under a law effective May 12, 1999.

The Minnesota Zoo received \$800,000 to make up for lower than anticipated revenue over the year. The zoo had originally requested \$1 million, but a House-approved measure proposed funding only \$600,000 of that request. The \$800,000, which will come from the state's general fund, represents a compromise reached in a House-Senate conference committee.

The new law also requires the zoological board to submit a report to the governor and Legislature on possible alternatives to the zoo's current status as a state agency, including converting the zoo to a private, nonprofit agency.

The bulk of the deficiency money — about \$11.7 million — went to the Department of Human Services to make up for a budget shortfall due to a delay in federal reimbursements for MinnesotaCare.

Although the state and federal government reached an agreement concerning the delayed funds and reimbursements began March 1, 1999, the state funding was still needed to cover costs the department had to cover due to the delay. The money came from the state's Health Care Access Fund.

Among the other payments in the law were \$3.5 million to the Department of Children, Families and Learning to pay legal costs of two ongoing, major lawsuits — one in Minneapolis and one in St. Paul. Both involve claims that school districts are providing constitutionally inadequate education.

And the Department of Public Safety received \$629,000 to pay for license plates for new automobiles, due to higher than expected automobile sales and other factors. That money came from the state's Highway Users Tax Distribution Fund and must be paid back as the license plates are sold. The department also received \$200,000 from the general fund to pay for additional security for Gov. Jesse Ventura.

The Department of Economic Security got \$370,000 from the state's general fund for State Services for the Blind. The department is also required to review the program's operation to determine why the funding shortfall came about.

The Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board received \$15,000, also from

the general fund, to pay court-ordered payments.

Also under the new law, the Office of the Secretary of State gained access to \$975,000 for a year 2000 compliance program, but that amount is not included in the \$17 million total appropriation because it is to be transferred from unused portions of funds previously directed to the Department of Administration for a technology management program.

Rep. Dave Bishop (R-Rochester) and Sen. Richard Cohen (DFL-St. Paul) sponsored the measure.

HFnone/SF2234*/CH141

New veto authority

Rules adopted by state agencies can be vetoed by the governor, under a new law effective July 1, 1999.

Copies of all new rules suggested by state agencies must now be sent to the governor. The governor can then veto the rule, or part of a rule, under the new law.

If the governor chooses to veto a rule, he or she must then notify the chairs of the relevant committees in the Legislature. The new law expires June 30, 2001.

Rep. Marty Seifert (R-Marshall), who sponsored the measure in the House, said the state could have benefited from this measure regarding two recent controversial rules — the so-called diversity rule and the Profile of Learning — that were considered or created by the State Board of Education.

In those examples, the governor could have vetoed the entire rules or only certain parts, such as the much-criticized paperwork requirements that accompanied the Profile of Learning initiative.

Seifert described the measure as a "modest proposal to give the governor and the Legislature some oversight in the rulemaking process."

Sen. John Hottinger (DFL-Mankato) sponsored the measure in the Senate.

HF1905*/SF1993/CH129

Art in prisons

State officials cannot use any part of the state's funding for new prison construction to supply art for those facilities, under a new law.

The prohibition on prison art funding is included in a larger measure that makes several changes to corrections policy outlined in state law.

Existing state law authorizes the state to spend up to 1 percent of any state building's construction budget to buy art for the facility. The appropriation, which is controlled by the Minnesota Department of Administration, is based on the costs of a new building or alteration project that costs more than \$500,000.

Effective Aug. 1, 1999, the new measure simply prohibits the state officials from using those funds for art in or around the state's prison facilities.

"I believe we as legislators are here to set priorities," said Rep. Marty Seifert (R-Marshall), who backed the plan. "As much as art adds to the ambiance of a prison, I feel this is not a wise way to use state resources."

Seifert said the 1984 law would have allowed up to \$890,000 to be spent on art for the state correctional facility being built in Rush City. But, he said, officials for that project had already decided not to spend that much money for art.

However, Seifert said, other correctional facilities have used the 1-percent appropriation for art projects. The correctional facility in Faribault has used the money for three different art projects: \$40,000 for five benches sculpted from granite, \$44,000 for a mural and trellis at the entrance of a building for visitors, and \$15,000 for several murals with messages that are designed to encourage inmates to stay out of prison after they are released.

The separate omnibus judiciary finance and crime prevention measure (HF2404/SF2221*/CH216) clarifies that this prohibition doesn't apply to art produced through programming at the correctional facility.

Also included in the corrections measure, officials are given the authority to discipline inmates who refuse to participate in rehabilitation programs and can deduct money from an inmate's earnings if that inmate is ordered to pay restitution to prison employees or other inmates.

The new law also allows prisoners to make claims against the state for events that occur while performing both uncompensated and compensated work. Previous law allowed inmates to make claims only for injuries that occurred while doing uncompensated labor while on conditional release programs.

Rep. Mary Jo McGuire (DFL-Falcon Heights) and Sen. David Kleis (R-St. Cloud) sponsored the measure.

HF1553*/SF2078/CH126

Legislative panel trimmed

The size of the Legislative Audit Commission will be cut and some of its duties are changed, under a new law.

As of Jan. 1, 2001, the commission will consist of 16 members. Twenty legislators now serve on the commission, which works with the legislative auditor to choose which organizations and programs will be subject to financial evaluations.

The commission's membership was increased to 20 members in a 1997 effort to increase bipartisanship, but Rep. Dan McElroy (R-Burnsville) said the increase in membership is no longer necessary.

McElroy is the current chair of the Legislative Audit Commission and was House sponsor of the legislation to reduce the size of the commission.

Under the new law, four members from each of the House and Senate caucuses will serve on the commission. The law also strikes a requirement that the chairs of the House and Senate tax committees must be commission members.

In an effort to reduce paperwork, the new law eliminates some reports previously required of the auditor or various state agencies. The measure also requires the deputy legislative auditor to hold an active certified public accountant's license and clarifies data privacy guidelines for audit data.

Except for the membership provisions, the law is effective April 27, 1999.

Sen. Deanna Wiener (DFL-Eagan), the commission's vice chair, sponsored the legislation in the Senate.

HF1003*/SF840/CH99

Dealing with data

State government policies for dealing with requests for information and other data practices are modified by a new law effective May 26, 1999.

The law clarifies some situations in which public data can be considered private, and it makes other minor data practices changes.

Information about building code violations is public, except for the names of people who submitted complaints about possible violations and any data on civil or criminal investigations.

Also, data that identifies locations where studies of deformed frogs are being done by the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency is nonpublic until the agency completes its

investigation or determines it will not investigate a particular site.

The state's "whistle blower law" was amended to consider a person's identity as private data if he or she reports a suspected violation of a law or a situation where the quality of health care violates a law or an ethical standard. When a person is cooperating in an investigation, the data is considered private only if the person gave the information under the condition that his or her name would be kept confidential.

Information on the behavior of a student can be released to the juvenile justice system if it is "reasonably needed" to protect the student or others.

Previous law requiring state and local governments to keep hard copies of official documents was repealed. The new law allows those documents to be stored on computer.

The law also allows the commissioner of revenue to give the Department of Human Services information on claimed tax credits. That information would help track the success of the Minnesota Family Investment Program (MFIP), a welfare reform program that helps people with lower incomes develop job skills and work their way out of poverty. Part of the program is educating people about the availability of the tax credits to help them improve their financial situations. The law allows the human services department to determine if MFIP clients have claimed the tax credits that they are eligible to receive.

Rep. Phil Carruthers (DFL-Brooklyn Center) and Sen. Don Betzold (DFL-Fridley) sponsored the measure.

HF2058/SF653*/CH227

Labor deals approved

A new law ratifies labor agreements concerning state employees made between legislative sessions.

While the agreements had already been approved by the joint Employee Relations Subcommittee, they required ratification by the Legislature.

The measure approves a raise for the chancellor of the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities (MnSCU) system.

MnSCU officials chose to raise the salary of Chancellor Morrie Anderson by 8.8 percent effective July 1, 1998. The pay raise also included a retroactive salary increase of 32 percent beginning July 1, 1997. From 1995

to 1998, Anderson's salary grew from \$108,780 per year to \$185,000 per year.

Other labor agreements approved under the law include those between the state and the Minnesota Nurses Association, the Interfaculty Organization, the United Technical College Educators, and some employees of the Higher Education Services Office.

The law also makes technical changes in the law governing public employees. One of those changes, effective Aug. 1, 1999, extends to unclassified executive and legislative employees the ability to transfer vacation and sick leave hours when they move between positions in the two branches.

Subcommittee Chair Rep. Carol Molnau (R-Chaska) and Sen. Carol Flynn (DFL-Mpls) sponsored the measure.

HF1877/SF1721*/CH221

Taking the lead for PUC

A new law effective May 7, 1999, changes the way the state's Public Utilities Commission (PUC) conducts its work. The measure became law without the signature of Gov. Jesse Ventura.

The Public Utilities Commission regulates the gas, electric, and phone service companies in the state. The law contains three changes designed to make the commission more efficient and responsive to the industries it serves.

The first provision allows noncontroversial cases to be approved if the commission has not acted on them in 60 days.

The second change lets the commission delegate some responsibilities to subcommittees.

Finally, the law authorizes the commission to designate lead commissioners to handle certain cases or subject areas. That commissioner can preside over hearings and make non-binding recommendations on issues before the full commission. However, the lead commissioner will not have full authority over a case.

In a letter explaining why he chose not to sign the bill, Ventura stated that designating lead commissioners to handle cases could lead to commissioner specialization which might decrease checks and balances on the commission.

"The PUC commissioners must be sensitive to the power granted to them under this law," he wrote. "They must not engage in the practice of commissioner specialization."

The governor said if the new law does not

prove successful, he would examine it before it is up for renewal in 2002.

Rep. Ken Wolf (R-Burnsville) and Sen. Steve Novak (DFL-New Brighton) sponsored the measure.

HF359*/SF684/CH125

State building code

Authority to approve the energy-related portions of the state building code is transferred from the Department of Public Service to the Department of Administration, under a new law.

The Department of Public Service will still be in charge of developing the energy portion of the building code.

Under existing law, the administration department already has oversight of many provisions of the state building code. But the law calls for other departments — including health, public safety, or public service — to develop and enforce other parts of the code. Several state agencies and boards also have input in inspecting and reviewing building plans for public buildings.

The new law, effective July 1, 1999, is a step toward consolidating that authority.

Disagreements and poor coordination between the various state agencies and departments have caused unnecessary delays in construction, according to a January 1999 report by the Office of the Legislative Auditor.

The measure was sponsored by Rep. Lynda Boudreau (R-Faribault), and Sen. Deanna Wiener (DFL-Eagan).

HF1568*/SF1209/CH135

Fire code enforcement

A new law clarifies who has authority over the fire provisions in the state building code. The measure is effective May 22, 1999.

Under prior law, the state fire marshal was responsible for enforcing the fire provisions under the direction and supervision of the commissioner of administration. The new law specifies that they are to be enforced by the state fire marshal under the direction of the commissioner of public safety.

The law also clarifies provisions related to stairway chair lifts that are designed to help people who have difficulty getting up and down stairs. Those chair lifts can be installed in a private residence as long as they are plugged into an electrical outlet and do not have to be hard-wired to the home's electrical system.

A provision that would have required all newly constructed state buildings larger than 2,500 square feet to be equipped with sprinkler systems for fire protection was removed from the measure during the committee process.

The measure was sponsored by Rep. Jim Rostberg (R-Isanti) and Sen. Dave Johnson (DFL-Bloomington).

HF853/SF1204*/CH185

Regulatory proposals

Proposals to regulate an occupation or trade will have to be brought before the chairs of the related legislative committees, under a new law effective Aug. 1, 1999.

The law requires such proposals to include answers to several questions, including why the regulation is necessary, who is advocating the regulation, and how the proposal would affect the practitioners of that occupation and the students who are preparing to enter that field.

That information will have to be submitted to the appropriate committees at least 15 days before a bill on the subject is introduced.

The measure is introduced in response to a February 1999 report from the Office of the Legislative Auditor. The number of occupations that are regulated in Minnesota has increased dramatically in recent decades.

Regulating occupations has been criticized, according to the report, because it can limit people from pursuing an occupation or it can "fence out" competitors. Minnesota's criteria for regulating an occupation is that unregulated practice could cause "significant threat to public health, safety, or well-being." However, the report found that lawmakers have not applied that criteria consistently.

Rep. Phil Krinkie (R-Shoreview) and Sen. Deanna Wiener (DFL-Eagan) sponsored the new measure.

HF2023/SF1746*/CH144

Millions for building projects:

State government

(See Bonding, page 11)

Phone company competition

(See Business, page 12)

Preference on state bids

(See Business, page 12)

New warehouse regulations

(See Business, page 13)

Judiciary spending law
(See Crime, page 14)

Funds for jobs, housing
(See Development, page 22)

Ready for redistricting
(See Elections, page 29)

Tracking job training efforts
(See Employment, page 30)

Funds for families, kids
(See Family, page 35)

Hands off tobacco bucks
(See Health, page 44)

Health, human services law
(See Human Services, page 50)

Challenging state rules
(See Local Government, page 58)

Changes in pension law
(See Retirement, page 62)

Costs of getting online
(See Technology, page 67)

Funds for transportation
(See Transportation, page 67)

Bleacher funds among cuts
(See Vetoes, page 81)

From lawmaker to lobbyist
(See Bills in Limbo, page 89)

Gift ban remains intact
(See Bills in Limbo, page 88)

Concern about the use of bed rails arose because of injuries and even deaths caused when patients became entangled in the rails. The federal regulations prohibit the use of restraints unless the devices are needed to treat a patient's medical condition.

The idea was to craft a bill at the state level that would spell out patient rights under federal guidelines but wouldn't jeopardize the state's Medicare and Medicaid reimbursements.

If the law is eventually found objectionable in the eyes of the federal government, it may have to be revisited next session, said Rep. Fran Bradley (R-Rochester), who sponsored the measure in the House.

The new law is effective April 23, 1999. Sen. Don Samuelson (DFL-Brainerd) sponsored the measure in the Senate.
HF40*/SF25/CH83

Regulations for midwives

A measure affirming the status of traditional midwives through a system of licensing became law without the governor's signature.

Effective July 1, 1999, the new law contains provisions for a voluntary licensing procedure for those who provide assessment and care outside of a hospital setting for women and newborns during pregnancy, labor, birth, and the postpartum period. The licenses will be issued by the state Board of Medical Practice.

Under prior law, established more than six decades ago, it was difficult to regulate midwives practicing in the 1990s, so the Board of Medical Practice had ended the practice of issuing licenses.

But the development of a national standardized test for midwives several years ago provided a basis for establishing credentials. The new law combines a list of educational and training requirements for licensure.

Midwives must prepare a written plan for each client to ensure continuity of care, including what would happen should something go wrong and a physician is required.

Before the law was passed, the practice of traditional midwifery had been driven underground because of fears of being prosecuted for unlicensed practice of medicine.

Consequently, if a woman being treated by a traditional midwife was transferred to a medical facility due to complications during labor, the emergency room physician often had to assess her condition and determine treatment without the benefit of the midwife's input.

Under other provisions of the new law, the midwife must keep extensive records on clients. It also establishes a five-member midwifery advisory council to review applications for licensure and advise the board on complaints.

Rep. Jim Abeler (R-Anoka) and Sen. Sandy Pappas (DFL-St. Paul) sponsored the measure.

HF949/SF383*/CH162



HEALTH

Bed rails by prescription

A new law clarifies the conditions under which it is all right to use bed rails in Minnesota nursing homes.

Under provisions of the measure, nursing home residents' right to bed rails and other restraints are affirmed. Fear of falling is included as a legitimate medical reason for prescribing bed rails.

The measure was proposed after a number of nursing homes were fined by the Minnesota Department of Health in 1998 for improperly using bed rails according to the department's interpretation of federal regulations. Many nursing homes subsequently removed bed rails entirely, hoping to avoid fines but leaving some residents and their families upset.



A new law paves the way for the Board of Medical Practice to issue licenses for midwives. The law provides a list of educational and training requirements for the profession and allows midwives to voluntarily apply for the licenses.

Paying spouses for care

A new law allows qualified people to be paid — under very specific circumstances — to provide private duty nursing for their own spouses.

Effective Aug. 1, 1999, the measure permits someone who is a licensed nurse employed by a Medicare-certified home health agency to be paid when he or she cares for a spouse.

Under previous law, payment wasn't possible in certain instances, which caused hardships for some Minnesota families.

Rep. Bill Haas (R-Champlin), the House sponsor of the measure, told the story of a family in his district — a husband, wife, and three children.

Haas said the woman worked outside the home as a nurse and her husband stayed at home. One day, the husband suffered an accident and became paralyzed, requiring nearly around-the-clock care from a registered nurse.

Because of a shortage of nurses, the firm that coordinates his care often called his wife at the last minute and advised her that nobody was available for the upcoming shift. The woman was then forced to call in to her work at the last minute and then find drop-in day care service for the children, all under the age of four.

Because the woman could not be paid by the home care provider under state law, she lost a day of pay and incurred additional child care costs.

Haas said that something needed to be done to make the situation more equitable.

Sen. Don Betzold (DFL-Fridley) sponsored the measure in the Senate.

HF60*/SF591/CH156

Planning organ donation

Tissue and eyes have been added to the list of organs available for donation on the state's suggested health care directive form, under a new law effective Aug. 1, 1999.

The new law is designed to help draw attention to the need for donated tissue and eyes — a need said to be critical by regional organ donation program officials.

Under the state's 1998 health care directive law, people can use a directive to address all aspects of advanced planning for health care by either appointing an agent to make their health care decisions or by making statements concerning how they want their health care to be handled.

Proponents of the measure said that while many people are aware of the possibility of donating organs, they do not know that tissue and eyes are organs that can be donated.

Rep. Darlene Luther (DFL-Brooklyn Park) and Sen. Becky Lourey (DFL-Kerrick) sponsored the legislation.

HF74/SF301*/CH14

Hands off tobacco bucks

Gov. Jesse Ventura and lawmakers wanted to be certain that the federal government didn't try to stake a claim on Minnesota's windfall from the state's 1998 settlement with tobacco companies.

So they sent a resolution on March 29, 1999, to members of Congress and President Clinton to remind the federal government that it wasn't part of the lawsuit against the tobacco companies.

The resolution noted that Minnesota's lawsuit was based on business issues, not health issues, and it called on Minnesota's U.S. congressmen to support legislation that would prohibit federal recovery of any state tobacco settlement payments.

Clinton had supported directing a portion of state settlements to the federal government to fund national anti-tobacco education efforts.

But in May, the president signed into law the legislation advocated in the Minnesota resolution. The measure bars the federal government from claiming any of the \$246 billion in tobacco settlement money due to various states.

Rep. Jim Seifert (R-Woodbury) and Sen. Ember Reichgott Junge (DFL-New Hope) sponsored the resolution.

HF719/SF757*/Res. 2

Guaranteed coverage

A new law effective April 24, 1999, makes Minnesota law conform with federal law regarding Medicare supplement insurance.

Federal law enacted in 1997 requires state laws to mandate guaranteed issue, with no pre-existing condition limitations, for Medicare supplement insurance in certain situations. (Guaranteed issue means an application for coverage cannot be turned down.)

Minnesota's previous law did not require guaranteed issue in all situations required by the new federal law.

The new law took effect in time to meet the deadline imposed by the federal government for enacting the changes.

Rep. Greg Davids (R-Preston) and Sen. Edward Oliver (R-Deephaven) sponsored the measure.

HF1968*/SF1827/CH90

Protected peer review

Ambulance services and first responders can use peer review with new legal protections, under a new law.

The law allows ambulance services to consider controversial incidents without being subject to discovery should a lawsuit arise.

Peer review is used extensively in a number of medical professions to find solutions and to prevent further problems. In many cases, information exchanged in peer reviews is protected from legal discovery. The idea is that the protection will allow a free discourse so medical professionals can learn from each other's experiences and improve service.

The law, effective Aug. 1, 1999, extends that peer review protection to ambulance services and their employees.

Rep. Greg Davids (R-Preston) and Sen. Becky Lourey (DFL-Kerrick) sponsored the measure.

HF463*/SF578/CH84

New purchasing plans

Ambulance services are allowed to participate in shared service purchasing arrangements for supplies, materials, and equipment, under a new state law effective Aug. 1, 1999.

Supporters of the legislation said ambulance services need more flexibility in approaching purchases, particularly of expensive items such as vehicles. They also expressed concerns that pending changes in the way federal programs reimburse ambulance services may have a negative financial impact.

Prior state law required government-owned ambulance services to let bids on equipment costing over \$25,000. The new law allows co-ops to purchase ambulances, the most costly expenditure an ambulance provider faces.

Rep. Greg Davids (R-Preston) and Sen. Jim Vickerman (DFL-Tracy) sponsored the legislation.

HF302*/SF579/CH13

Ambulance volunteers

Volunteer ambulance attendants in Minnesota now have a precise definition in state law, under a new law effective March 16, 1999.

The law defines volunteer ambulance attendants as people who provide emergency medical services without the expectation of pay, but who may receive a stipend at a fee of under \$3,000 a year. As volunteers, they are not entitled to minimum wage and other workers' protections even if they receive some financial compensation for their services. The need for a definition grew out of a legal debate over wage and hour laws.

Rep. Kevin Goodno (R-Moorhead) and Sen. Dallas Sams (DFL-Staples) sponsored the measure.

HF214*/SF241/CH8

Health-related regulations

A new law changes state licensing for physicians, acupuncture practitioners, and athletic trainers.

Effective Aug. 1, 1999, medical students enrolled in dual-degree programs have additional time to pass portions of the state licensing exam. The increasing number of double-majors studying at the Mayo Clinic and other facilities made the previous time restrictions unrealistic.

The new law also allows a person studying acupuncture to practice without a license if supervised by a visiting acupuncturist. And

the new law modifies registration fees and authorizes a temporary permit for athletic trainers, similar to what is currently in law for other regulated health occupations.

The Board of Medical Practice requested the changes.

Rep. Richard Mulder (R-Ivanhoe) and Sen. John Hottinger (DFL-Mankato) sponsored the measure.

HF413*/SF418/CH33

Health care solvency

The state's three community integrated health care service networks are allowed to maintain a net worth reserve of up to three times their minimum net worth requirement, under a new law.

The networks, often called CISNs, are managed health care networks similar to health maintenance organizations (HMOs), but the networks have smaller enrollments and operate mostly outside urban areas.

The net worth holdings are required to assure financial solvency.

The new law, effective Aug. 1, 1999, is designed to treat CISNs in a way similar to the way the state treats HMOs, which were allowed to up their net worth holdings under a bill passed in 1998.

The new law also accords peer review protection to the CISNs, which serves to shield deliberations among medical professionals from the legal process should a lawsuit arise.

Rep. Greg Davids (R-Preston) and Sen.

Douglas Johnson (DFL-Tower) sponsored the measure.

HF614*/SF913/CH51

Chiropractic care contracts

A new law clarifies the way managed care networks deal with chiropractors in the state.

Effective Aug. 1, 1999, networks are prohibited from requiring chiropractors to provide care under categories of coverage other than those specified in their contract, unless the chiropractor consents.

Chiropractors have complained that health maintenance organizations and preferred provider organizations may have used their general health contracts as "bait" to later dump the chiropractors into a network of providers of noncertified workers' compensation or auto personal injury lines of coverage without prior notification.

If chiropractors didn't agree to the other lines of coverage, they could have lost their contracts entirely.

The new law prevents the health insurers from terminating a contract for this reason, provides time for chiropractors to review their options, and adds a mechanism under which chiropractors can recover damages if a health insurer violates the law.

Rep. Doug Reuter (I-Owatonna) and Sen. Edward Oliver (R-Deephaven) sponsored the measure. (Reuter changed his party affiliation from Republican to Independent shortly after the conclusion of the 1999 session.)

HF566/SF673*/CH94

Importing nursing assistants

A new law makes it easier for nursing homes to employ nursing assistants trained in other states and countries.

Effective Aug. 1, 1999, the commissioner of health is allowed to establish categories of nursing assistants who are exempt from the state-mandated 75-hour nursing assistant educational requirements.

In response to a labor shortage, nursing homes have begun to consider bringing in workers, many of whom have already undergone extensive training programs, from other countries such as the Philippines and Canada.

Under the new law, such workers are simply required to take and pass a competency test in lieu of the prior educational requirements.

Rep. Mike Osskopp (R-Lake City) and Sen. Sheila Kiscaden (R-Rochester) sponsored the measure.

HF1119/SF1099*/CH210



A new law changes state licensing requirements for certain medical professionals, including physicians and athletic trainers. Under the law, medical students enrolled in dual-degree programs have additional time to pass portions of the state licensing exam.

Testing chiropractors

A new law effective Aug. 1, 1999, changes state licensing requirements for chiropractors.

Under the law, chiropractors from other states seeking licensure by reciprocity in Minnesota no longer will have to pass the Minnesota licensure practical exam, as long as they have passed a practical exam that is approved by the Board of Chiropractic Examiners.

The intent of the law is to follow a nationwide effort to standardize licensure requirements in the chiropractic field and to make it easier for chiropractors from other states to obtain licenses by reciprocity.

Rep. Jim Abeler (R-Anoka) and Sen. Pat Piper (DFL-Austin) sponsored the measure.
HF1216*/SF1391/CH55

Training demands altered

A new state law removes the requirement that the state's boards of dentistry, medical practice, nursing, chiropractic examiners, and podiatric medicine have rules requiring continuing education on infection control, including blood-borne diseases.

Effective March 9, 1999, the individual boards have the option of requiring continuing education that is best suited to the needs of those it licenses, rather than a blanket program prescribed by law.

Proponents of the measure argued that the scope of infection-control procedures is changing continually and the various medical boards need the latitude to make changes quickly.

Supporters also argued that the law was flawed because it required even psychiatrists, who generally aren't exposed to blood-borne diseases, to complete infection-control instruction.

Rep. Richard Mulder (R-Ivanhoe) and Sen. David Ten Eyck (DFL-East Gull Lake) sponsored the measure.

HF171/SF121*/CH5

Growing role for nurses

The state's advanced practice nurses are accorded separate legal status and their role in the health care world is defined, under a new law effective July 1, 1999.

The measure defines education requirements and the scope of practice for registered nurses engaged in clinical specialties, anesthesia-care, nurse-midwife practice, or nurse

practitioner roles. Under previous law, advanced-practice nurses were required to practice under a licensed physician.

The law also modified existing authority for advanced practice nurses to prescribe and dispense drugs and therapeutic devices.

The measure was supported by the Minnesota Nurses Association and Minnesota Board of Nursing.

Rep. Dennis Ozment (R-Rosemount) and Senate Majority Leader Roger Moe (DFL-Erskine) sponsored the measure.

HF718*/SF225/CH172

Too young to serve

Nursing home administrators must be at least 21 years of age, under the terms of a new law effective April 27, 1999.

The new law also enacts other housekeeping changes requested by the Board of Examiners for Nursing Home Administrators.

The minimum age for nursing home administrators was lowered to 18 during the Vietnam War era, when the prevailing feeling was that anyone old enough for military service was old enough to serve in most public positions.

Over the years, board rules and state law on the age issue had come into conflict. The new law brings them into uniformity and sets the minimum age at 21.

The law also allows a permit process for acting administrators who in the past had to obtain a full-fledged license to serve as administrator on a temporary basis.

The law further makes board members (and others investigating violations of laws and rules administered by the board) immune from civil liability and criminal prosecution when performing their duties, as long as they act in good faith.

Rep. Fran Bradley (R-Rochester) and Sen. Dallas Sams (DFL-Staples) sponsored the measure.

HF1309/SF1273*/CH102

Help behind the counter

A new law allows the state's Board of Pharmacy to authorize pharmacists to supervise more than two pharmacy technicians, effective Aug. 1, 1999.

Until 1997, the board retained the power to change the ratio of pharmacists to technicians on a case-by-case basis. However, after a 2-1 ratio was incorporated into statute that year, the board believed it no longer had that authority.

To be granted the waiver, a pharmacy has to prove the consumer's health and safety is not jeopardized. Pharmacies that request the waiver often are automated, which means the work of the technicians is less intensive and requires less supervision.

Rep. Kevin Goodno (R-Moorhead) and Sen. David Ten Eyck (DFL-East Gull Lake) sponsored the measure.

HF1714*/SF1693/CH63

Duties for pharmacists

Effective Aug. 1, 1999, a new law makes changes to the Minnesota Pharmacy Practice Act.

The measure allows pharmacists to engage in monitoring of drug therapy, selection of therapeutic devices, drug research, and drug administration for first dosage and emergencies.

It also allows pharmacists to manage and modify drug therapy on a case-by-case basis according to a written agreement between the pharmacist and a health-care practitioner with prescribing authority.

Rep. Kevin Goodno (R-Moorhead) and Sen. John Hottinger (DFL-Mankato) sponsored the measure.

HF408*/SF170/CH62

Podiatrists in residency

The state's Board of Podiatric Medicine can extend the temporary permits of podiatrists participating in clinical residencies, under a new law effective April 21, 1999.

The new law was necessary to clarify a discrepancy between state law and state rules. Previous law mandated the permit to run 12 months; the rule allows the board to extend the permit for additional years under certain conditions.

With the new law, the applicant for a permit extension must have had his training interrupted by circumstances beyond his or her control or must be enrolled in a residency that lasts longer than one year.

Rep. Tim Wilkin (R-Eagan) and Sen. Roy Terwilliger (R-Edina) sponsored the measure.

HF1421*/SF1239/CH67

Regulations on psychologists

A new law clarifies fee-splitting practices for psychologists and stiffens penalties for violating the Psychology Practice Act.

Effective Aug. 1, 1999, the new law makes

it explicit that law prohibits “kickbacks,” but not legitimate divisions of revenue made in proportion to the psychological services provided.

In addition, violating the Psychology Practice Act is now a gross misdemeanor instead of a misdemeanor, making it the same penalty prescribed for violating practice acts for many other health professions, including medicine, nursing, and dentistry.

Rep. Richard Mulder (R-Ivanhoe) and Sen. Steve Kelley (DFL-Hopkins) sponsored the measure.

HF984/SF983*/CH109

Research opportunities

A new law exempts some health researchers from medical licensing requirements.

The law, effective Aug. 1, 1999, applies to those performing medical research for a tax-exempt, nonprofit organization operated primarily to conduct scientific research on causes and cures of human disease.

To qualify, researchers must perform duties that are related to research, public health, or education. And if studying humans, researchers must be supervised by one or more licensed physicians.

The law enables organizations to benefit from the expertise of researchers from other countries who are not licensed to practice medicine in the United States.

Rep. Fran Bradley (R-Rochester) and Sen. John Hottinger (DFL-Mankato) sponsored the measure.

HF1660*/SF1650/CH54

K-12 education finance:

Teaching abstinence

(See Education, page 27)

Guaranteed coverage

(See Health, page 44)

Funding Minnesota colleges:

Mayo Medical School

(See Higher Education, page 48)

Health, human services law

(See Human Services, page 50)

Health coverage alternatives

(See Insurance, page 53)

AIDS study volunteers

(See Insurance, page 53)

Cap on benefits increased

(See Insurance, page 54)

Malpractice limit extended

(See Law, page 56)

Tax cuts and rebates:

Sick tax doctored

(See Taxes, page 63)

Abortion bills stall

(See Bills in Limbo, page 90)

Encouraging organ donation

(See Bills in Limbo, page 90)



HIGHER EDUCATION

Funding Minnesota colleges

An omnibus higher education finance law directs \$2.6 billion to fund the state’s higher education institutions for the next two years.

The law provides funds to expand financial aid programs for students, provide salary increases for faculty at Minnesota colleges, and authorize the creation of a University of Minnesota campus in Rochester.

Gov. Jesse Ventura line-item vetoed two spending provisions from the legislation. (See related story, page 82)

Rep. Peggy Leppik (R-Golden Valley) and Sen. LeRoy Stumpf (DFL-Thief River Falls) sponsored the measure.

Here’s a look at key provisions of the legislation. Except where noted, all provisions are effective July 1, 1999.

HF2380*/SF2235/CH214

MnSCU spending

The law provides \$1.1 billion to the 53-campus Minnesota State Colleges and Universities (MnSCU) system over the next two years.

About \$55.6 million goes toward salary increases for MnSCU faculty, and \$16 million helps fund maintenance for campus buildings. A total of \$10 million also is appropriated for under-funded campuses in the system.

For various technology projects, the law includes a \$9.2 million increase in funding over two years. And \$11.1 million aims to support job training and similar projects.

Those projects include a rural research center at Southwest State University in Marshall and tuition subsidies for farm business management programs at MnSCU institutions. MnSCU also receives \$2.5 million for curricula development. (Art. 1, Sec. 3)

University of Minnesota

The University of Minnesota receives nearly \$1.2 billion over the biennium in the new law.

Those funds include \$15 million for undergraduate education initiatives. The law authorizes the university to use a portion of that money for a new, non-residential campus in Rochester. The new campus will focus on graduate and professional programs.

In other areas, the bill targets \$69.4 million to boost salaries of faculty and staff members. Another \$9.1 million goes toward facilities upkeep, and the university’s extension service receives a \$600,000 funding increase.

About \$10.5 million in increases is divided among technology projects, regional partnerships, an animal health and food safety program, and other programs.

The budget for the university’s Academic Health Center, which houses the medical school, was not increased as requested by U of M officials because an endowment fund created out of the state’s tobacco settlement money is aimed at funding education and research efforts at the center.

Those endowment-related provisions are included in a separate omnibus health and human services finance law (HF2412/SF2225*/CH245).

However, the higher education measure appropriates money for primary care initiatives that would come from the state’s health care access fund. (Art. 1, Sec. 4; Art. 2, Sec. 16)

Financial aid funding

The Higher Education Services Office, which serves as Minnesota’s financial aid bureau, receives \$310.5 million to fund the state grant program, operate library systems, and provide informational services to current and prospective post-secondary students.

Through several different programs, the new law provides a \$28 million increase in aid to Minnesota’s higher education students.

First, the minimum state grant is reduced from \$300 to \$100. That means some students who did not previously qualify for grants might be eligible for the aid. Also, the assigned student responsibility — the amount the state expects students receiving state grants to contribute to their education — will be lowered from 47 to 46 percent of the total cost, effective July 1, 2000. Another \$13.2 million offsets cost-of-living expenses for students.

And the public tuition allowance and private tuition maximum are increased to account for inflation. Grants for students attend-



The University of Minnesota is authorized to spend part of its 1999 appropriation to upgrade the University Center Rochester to a full U of M campus, under a provision in the higher education finance law. The University Center, pictured here, is currently a joint program between the U of M and the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities that offers certain credit courses.

ing public institutions are based on actual tuition and fees paid. For those attending private institutions, the state sets a maximum tuition level that is used to calculate aid.

Part of the financial aid package is funded with an increase in the federal Pell Grant maximum per student, which results in about \$10 million in savings from the state grant program.

In Minnesota, the state grant is decreased when the federal grant goes up, so students receive the same amount of money. For the 1999-2000 school year, the Pell Grant will increase to \$3,125 from \$3,000.

The law eliminates two programs that provide grants for nursing students, but it appropriates \$3 million to add more students into work-study programs. (Art. 1, Sec. 2; Art. 2, Secs. 5, 24)

Mayo Medical School

The Mayo Foundation receives \$3.2 million for the biennium, under the new law. That amount funds an increase in the base budgets for the Mayo Medical School, a family medicine residency program, and a residency program at St. Cloud Hospital.

The increases make more grant dollars available to students attending the medical school and make up for student costs incurred by recent and potential tuition increases.

In addition, the new law increases the state's share of some residency program participants' stipends and maintains the same level of funding for other participants. The programs are designed to encourage students to practice medicine in Minnesota, particularly

in rural or under-served geographical areas. (Art. 1, Sec. 5)

Other changes

Other provisions in the law include an updated policy on private career school regulation and changes in how information on hazing rules is distributed to students. (Art. 3, Secs. 1-36; Art. 2, Sec. 3)

Also approved is a plan for general education requirements for technical college students. Under the new law, general education courses such as math or English are considered part of a degree program. Those courses may not be required in certificate or diploma programs, except when necessary for occupational requirements or transfer to a four-year degree program. (Art. 2, Secs. 14, 15)

Building is Taylor made

A law effective April 13, 1999, approves construction of the Taylor Center, a privately funded building at Minnesota State University, Mankato.

The Legislature was required to approve construction because the building will be on a campus of the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities system, which is a state entity.

Formerly known as Mankato State University, the school raised \$16.5 million in private donations to pay for the center. It is named in honor of alumnus Glen Taylor, chief executive officer and chair of the Taylor Corporation and owner of the Minnesota Timberwolves professional basketball team.

Taylor donated \$9.2 million toward the

project, which consists of a 5,000-seat arena, athletic programs and facilities, and a student welcome center. Construction began in May 1999.

Rep. John Dorn (DFL-Mankato) and Sen. John Hottinger (DFL-Mankato) sponsored the measure.

HF492*/SF518/CH34

**Judiciary spending law:
Protection for research labs**
(See Crime, page 15)

**K-12 education finance:
Substitute teacher licenses**
(See Education, page 26)

**K-12 education finance:
Teacher training**
(See Education, page 26)

Labor deals approved
(See Government, page 41)

Many capitol projects cut
(See Vetoed Bills, page 77)

Funds for programs dashed
(See Vetoed Bills, page 82)

Regent selection plan
(See Bills in Limbo, page 90)



HOUSING

Stopping a scam

A new law seeks to address the real estate scam known as mortgage flipping.

Mortgage flipping is a scheme to defraud home buyers and lending institutions based on a fraudulent appraisal of a house's value.

In one scheme, a buyer purchases a house at market value and has an appraiser file a fraudulent appraisal that sets the value of the house higher than the market value.

The owner then resells the house at the inflated price, making a huge profit, and the appraiser gets a kickback.

The victim is then stuck with house payments much higher than the actual value. And if the victim defaults on the mortgage, the bank cannot fully recoup the inflated mortgage loan by reselling the house.

The measure, effective May 25, 1999, addresses the problem by going after the appraiser. It makes the intentional violation of certain laws governing appraisers a gross misdemeanor. Violators can be sentenced to up to one year in jail and up to \$3,000 in fines.

Under previous law, real estate brokers

and agents could be charged with a crime for intentionally violating the terms of their licenses. But appraisers were only subject to license revocation, not criminal prosecution.

The measure also sets aside \$100,000 for an education program aimed at stopping the fraudulent practice.

Under the new law, the Department of Commerce will administer the program and will seek additional funding from private organizations also affected by flipping, such as banks, mortgage companies, and economic development groups.

Rep. Gregory Gray (DFL-Mpls) and Sen. Linda Higgins (DFL-Mpls) sponsored the measure.

HF743/SF171*/CH209

Fees for nothing

A new law targets landlords who are not up front with prospective tenants about application fees.

The law, effective Aug. 1, 1999, prohibits landlords from taking a screening fee when the landlord knows or should know that there are no units available.

Many landlords require that prospective tenants pay a screening fee to be used for background checks when the tenant applies for an apartment.

Rep. Julie Storm (R-St. Peter), sponsor of the measure in the House, said that while most landlords treat prospective tenants fairly, some are taking advantage of the state's housing shortage and charging prospective tenants when they know that they don't have any properties available. Those landlords then pocket the money.

Storm said that the new law "sends a message to unscrupulous landlords."

"It protects prospective tenants," she said. "It also gives a message to landlords that they cannot do this anymore."

The measure also requires that landlords return any screening fees collected if they don't actually do the background check, and provides methods for returning the payment. And it requires landlords to tell prospective tenants which screening service will be used.

The new law provides penalties for violators, including a \$100 civil penalty to be paid along with any court costs and the return of the original screening fee to the would-be tenant.

Sen. Steve Murphy (DFL-Red Wing) sponsored the measure in the Senate.

HF1613/SF1471*/CH150

New regulations for deposits

A new law specifies how pre-lease deposit agreements can be made between landlords and tenants.

A pre-lease deposit is money put down on an apartment by a prospective tenant to help secure the apartment. The pre-lease deposit doesn't include money provided to the landlord for credit or criminal background checks.

The new measure, effective Aug. 1, 1999, stipulates that tenants and landlords must have the terms of the pre-lease deposit in writing, including how the deposit will be returned if the tenant isn't accepted by the landlord. The law also requires the deposit to be returned within seven days as specified in the agreement.

If a landlord accepts the tenant, the law requires the pre-lease deposit to go toward either the damage deposit or the rent. And the new law provides legal remedies if the terms for pre-lease deposits are violated.

Proponents of the measure argued that it is necessary to regulate such deposits because there is a shortage of affordable housing and the practice of requiring pre-lease deposits has become more common. They said the new law will provide protection for both landlords and tenants who make such agreements.

Rep. Dan McElroy (R-Burnsville) and Sen. Steve Novak (DFL-New Brighton) sponsored the measure.

HF1178*/SF1253/CH97

Records on renters

A new law provides that landlords in Hennepin and Ramsey counties will have more information on prospective tenants, while also giving tenants additional protections.

Prior law prohibited tenant-screening services in these two counties from including information on eviction actions taken against prospective tenants in reports provided to landlords, unless the reports included the outcome of the cases.

The new measure, effective May 26, 1999, repeals that requirement and allows the services to include eviction actions that have not yet been resolved.

Bill sponsor Rep. Henry Todd Van Dellen (R-Plymouth) said cities and neighborhood groups are holding landlords more accountable for the actions of their tenants and it is important that landlords get the best information on prospective tenants as soon as possible.

The new law also allows courts to expunge — or remove any evidence from the public record — any files of the eviction proceedings if the landlord's case has no basis in fact or law or if the judge feels that sealing the case is in the best interest of justice.

And the measure requires that tenant-screening services delete all information related to those cases once they find out that a case has been expunged.

Rep. Andy Dawkins (DFL-St. Paul), who backed these provisions, said the new law



The 1999 Legislature passed several new laws aimed at protecting both tenants and landlords. Measures include a law prohibiting landlords from collecting a screening fee from prospective tenants when no units are available, a law specifying how pre-lease deposits can be legally handled, and a law detailing how tenant screening services can handle information pertaining to past eviction proceedings.

allows tenants to remove unjustified blemishes from their rental records.

Sen. Randy Kelly (DFL-St. Paul) sponsored the legislation in the Senate.

HF1195*/SF2029/CH229

Funds for jobs, housing

(See Development, page 22)

**Tax cuts and rebates:
Property tax relief**

(See Taxes, page 65)

 **HUMAN SERVICES**

Health, human services law

An omnibus health and human services funding package spends \$5.4 billion over the next biennium on initiatives designed to improve life for many, including the state's children, poor, and seniors.

The measure calls for creating endowments with tobacco settlement money, increasing spending for nursing home and personal-care workers, and significantly boosting funding for programs for the developmentally disabled.

In signing the new law, Gov. Jesse Ventura used his line-item veto authority to strike two provisions. The first called for \$200,000 to be spent for a DWI offender program based in Brainerd, and the second was a \$65,000 appropriation for a Ramsey County intermediate care facility for people with mental retardation. (See related story, page 82.)

Rep. Kevin Goodno (R-Moorhead) and Sen. Don Samuelson (DFL-Brainerd) sponsored the legislation.

Unless otherwise noted, all of the provisions described below are effective July 1, 1999. Here are some highlights of the new law.

HF2412/SF2225*/CH245

Tobacco-funded endowments

The law creates three endowments with the \$968 million in one-time money coming to the state as a result of the 1998 court battle against tobacco companies.

The largest sets aside \$397 million for a tobacco use prevention endowment, to be administered by the Department of Health. That money is expected to earn \$19 million a year in interest, which will go into advertising and other anti-tobacco efforts.

A separate provision creates a \$377 million medical education endowment, aimed at

helping fill the gap as federal money for training doctors becomes scarcer. The nearly \$19 million earned per year from that fund will be divided among 16 clinical training sites around the state, including the Mayo Clinic and the University of Minnesota.

The remaining \$194 million is earmarked for a public health endowment. One-half of the proceeds, expected to be about \$10 million, will be dedicated to community-based anti-smoking efforts and the remainder to fight health risks experienced by the state's young people.

The endowments are established effective May 25, 1999. (Art. 11)

MFIP eligibility

The new law adjusts the point at which a family that is earning income loses eligibility for assistance under the Minnesota Family Investment Plan (MFIP), the state's welfare program for families.

When MFIP was enacted in 1997, a family of three was eligible for assistance until their income reached 120 percent of the federal poverty guidelines. But that "exit point" was not adjusted to remain aligned with changes in the federal guidelines.

The new law specifies that for each year of the next biennium, a family of three will again maintain MFIP eligibility until their income reaches 120 percent of the new federal poverty guidelines. (Art. 6, Sec. 28)

Raises for workers

Seeking to end the days of low pay for the state's nursing home workers and those who provide in-home services to senior citizens and people with disabilities, the new law

includes a provision to boost the reimbursement rate for agencies that pay those workers.

Providers will see a 4-percent increase in 2000 and a 3-percent increase the following year. Of that money, 80 percent will have to be used on wage-enhancement packages. The increases total \$99 million for the biennium. (Art. 1, Sec.2; Art. 3, Secs. 17-20)

Throughout the session, many people told both House and Senate committees that they could earn more working at a fast-food counter than they could caring for the elderly or disabled.

Improving pay is also designed to entice more people into health care to alleviate a statewide shortage of workers.

In 1998, lawmakers passed a similar measure that provided \$21 million to improve the pay for workers.

More job counselors

The state's overworked MFIP job counselors — many hired when welfare reform was enacted in 1997 — will have their ranks increased under the new law, which dedicates an additional \$25.9 million of the state's federal welfare block grant money to reduce the job counselors' workloads. (Art. 6, Sec. 75)

In committee hearings earlier this session, MFIP counselors testified that they often had workloads of more than 100 clients each, making it almost impossible to provide adequate service.

More labor help

In another move aimed at alleviating the health care worker shortage, the new law creates a health care and human services



The 1999 Legislature created two separate endowments to fund statewide and community anti-smoking efforts. The funds are two of three endowments created with the \$968 million in one-time money coming to the state as a result of the 1998 settlement with tobacco companies. The endowments are provisions of the 1999 omnibus health and human services funding law.



Disputes between patients, their families, doctors, and nursing homes concerning the use of side rails on nursing home beds led to several provisions in the 1999 omnibus health and human services law. The new law clarifies how the Minnesota Department of Health should deal with federal regulations such as the one prohibiting the use of restraints not medically necessary.

worker training and retention program, to be run by the Minnesota Job Skills Partnership Program.

The \$1.5 million two-year program is funded by earmarking a portion of the additional money for job counselor workloads.

The program aims to assist small nursing homes, rural hospitals, and other entities that cannot develop employee programs on their own. The help comes in the form of grants to locally formed consortiums. The Job Skills Partnership will require each project to provide a 50-percent match in local money.

The money can be used for marketing and outreach programs to recruit employees, pay salaries during training periods, encourage shared staff, and provide scholarships, basic computer skills, and English as a second language instruction. (Art. 10, Secs. 4-8)

Aid to developmentally disabled

Nearly \$6.5 million over the biennium goes to increase the availability of home- and community-based services for people with mental retardation or related conditions.

Throughout the session, lawmakers heard from parents and guardians of developmentally disabled adults who said their resources for providing care were nearly exhausted and their options were few.

The money appropriated allows group homes in the state to serve 100 additional people each year over the next four years.

Money also is set aside for semi-independent living services and for family support grants to further assist the developmentally disabled. (Art. 1, Sec. 2; Art 4, Sec. 61)

Nursing home regulation

Disputes spurred by 1998 fines on nursing homes because of side rail use on patients' beds prompted several provisions in the new law. The provisions are effective May 25, 1999.

The Department of Health is now required to hold orientation sessions on any new regulatory guidelines and to release to nursing homes copies of reports and letters pertaining to the evaluation of the homes.

The new law also changes the conditions under which a nursing home can be fined for placing patients in what is called "immediate jeopardy" and offers an informal dispute resolution process.

Federal law prohibits the use of restraints that are not needed to treat a patient's medical symptoms. That law was often cited by the state health department when assessing fines on facilities that were using bed rails. (Art. 3, Secs. 3-7)

Encouraging abstinence

A provision requires AIDS prevention programs that are targeted toward adolescents to include the promotion of abstinence from sexual activity outside of marriage. (Art. 2, Sec. 31)

And the new measure amends the goals of the state's Education Now and Babies Later program to include "promoting abstinence until marriage." (Art. 2, Sec. 33)

Removing work barriers

A provision changes how and when state benefits for the disabled are computed. The provision aims to allow certain disabled individuals to work without losing health coverage under the Medical Assistance program. (Art. 4, Sec. 34)

Under previous law, disabled individuals who worked lost their eligibility for assistance but often did not qualify for employer-offered health care plans because of the nature of their medical needs.

A separate provision also removes an existing spending cap on the senior drug program. (Art 4, Sec. 23)

Special case autopsies

The pleas of a Minneapolis family whose Jewish faith prohibits autopsies were answered with a \$20,000 appropriation for a grant to conduct case studies and develop guidelines for autopsy practice in special cases.

Initially, a separate bill sponsored by Rep. Jim Rhodes (R-St. Louis Park) called for an exemption from autopsy requirements in cases where religious beliefs would be compromised. But after concerns were expressed that the exemption could be used to conceal illegal behavior, the plan was altered to include the study and development of guidelines included in the new law. (Art. 1, Sec. 3; Art 2, Sec. 45)

Medical Assistance broadened

The new law increases the number eligible for Medical Assistance by raising the income base standard for Minnesota residents to qualify. The standard is set according to a state formula based on federal assistance. Effective July 1, 2000, the base income limit will be raised 3 percent, from \$467 to \$481 per month for a household of one and from \$583 to \$600 per month for a household of two.

Minnesota residents on Medical Assistance also will be able to receive specialized maintenance therapy provided by physical therapists, occupational therapists, and speech language pathologists, under a provision that clarifies coverage under the program.

Those services were not previously included in the list of options available under the program, designed for those who cannot receive or are not eligible for employer-provided health care coverage.

Medical Assistance will also be allowed to cover the cost of anorectics — weight loss drugs — under very specific instances, including the treatment of "Pickwickian Syndrome," a condition in which a patient's obesity prevents sufficient oxygen from entering the lungs. (Art. 4, Secs. 32, 39-41, 43)

High-tech medicine

The new law expands Medical Assistance and General Assistance Medical Care to cover “telemedicine” consultations via two-way, interactive video or store-and-forward technology.

The provision is aimed at providing more comprehensive services to patients in Greater Minnesota, where specialty services are sometimes difficult to find.

Under the provision, these programs will cover costs so, for instance, doctors can electronically transfer an X-ray or similar digital scan to a specialist at a far-away location for reading and interpretation.

A report on whether such services result in a cost saving or other benefit to the health-care system will also be prepared by the Department of Human Services. (Art. 4, Sec. 37)

Wading pools

Wading pools used in family day care settings are no longer considered public pools and thus will be less stringently regulated, under the measure.

The new law specifies they must be less than 24 inches deep and able to be emptied manually to qualify as non-public.

In-home day care operators across the state had complained to the Legislature that the health department’s interpretation that their pools were “public” had meant either a costly registration and training process or no wading for children.

Under the new measure, the department will provide material for distribution to all child care facilities related to the use of portable wading pools, including the risk of disease transmission as well as other health risks. This provision will expire in two years. (Art. 1, Sec. 3)

Brain injury study

A provision calls for a study and report to the Legislature by Jan. 15, 2000, on the status of people with brain injuries residing in public and private institutions.

The state is hoping to gather information to help determine what support services are needed to allow these people to return to their communities.

The state will also apply for federal funds to carry out a demonstration project to transition disabled persons out of nursing homes.

A similar program adopted several years ago provided for the transition of the developmentally disabled in the state from large institutions to group home settings in communities around the state. (Art. 1, Sec. 2)

Rural doctors plan

A plan to spend an additional \$300,000 on a grant to the city of Duluth for a family practice residency program is included in the new law.

The program has for years been the main source of doctors for the Iron Range and much of northern rural Minnesota. Doctors are trained at the University of Minnesota–Duluth and then begin their practices in rural clinics. (Art. 1, Sec. 3)

Veterans’ homes improvements

Five of the state’s homes for veterans will be allowed to make improvements to their facilities using money donated specifically for those improvements, under a new provision.

The Minneapolis home will receive a picnic pavilion, walking trails will be added at Hastings and Silver Bay facilities, an entrance canopy will be constructed in Fergus Falls, and a suspended wooden dining deck will be built at Luverne. Receiving and using donated money for such projects requires legislative approval. (Art. 1, Sec. 4)

Seniors at home

The new law provides an additional \$120,000 each year of the biennium to create six more Living at Home/Block Nurse Programs in the state. (Art. 1, Sec. 2; Art. 4, Sec. 62)

The programs organize neighborhoods to provide assistance to help older people continue to live at home and to link them with support services and professionals when necessary. There are currently 25 programs in the state — 13 in urban neighborhoods in St. Paul and Minneapolis and 12 in Greater Minnesota.

Another \$160,000 for the biennium will be made available to the Minnesota Senior Service Corps, a program that provides similar services. (Art. 1, Sec. 2)

Adolescent gambling

Another provision will use \$150,000 of lottery prize fund money each year of the biennium to continue state support for the Minnesota Council on Compulsive Gambling.

The Duluth-based organization is devoted to dealing with young gamblers, who run twice as high a risk of developing a gambling problem than do adults. Officials said the organization can take its message to two-thirds of the state’s middle school students over the next two years with the funding. (Art. 1, Sec. 2)

Prompt payment for care

A new law requires health maintenance organizations (HMOs) to promptly pay claims for home care services.

Effective July 1, 1999, a valid claim must be paid within 30 days of receipt by the health plan or interest can be requested by the organization submitting the claim.

Prompt payment language was adopted by the Legislature in 1997 for claims filed on state-operated funding programs, reducing the average wait to 14 days.

In the private sector, home care agencies reported it is not uncommon to wait 60 to 90 days for payment, and sometimes as long as 120 days. That slices into their cash flow and makes it difficult to pay workers on time.

Most of the services are physician-ordered and pre-authorized. For claims to qualify for rapid processing under the new law, they must be submitted in a complete fashion.

The language of the new law reflects a compromise between the Minnesota Home Care Association and insurers Blue Cross-Blue Shield and Allina Health System.

Rep. Kevin Goodno (R-Moorhead) and Sen. Sheila Kiscaden (R-Rochester) sponsored the measure.

HF1658/SF1268*/CH146

Services for hard-of-hearing

A new law helps make life easier for the state’s deaf citizens.

Effective Aug. 1, 1999, the process for obtaining deaf interpreting services is amended and outdated provisions dealing with the way the Department of Human Services purchases communication devices for the state-run Equipment Distribution Program are repealed.

Also, the state Department of Health is added as a fourth member of the interagency management team for the Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing Service Division.

Through feedback from forums held around the state, the division learned that there continues to be a shortage of quality interpreter services across Minnesota. The new law adds “interpreting services” to the division’s purview to enable it to explore alternatives for getting interpreting services to consumers in those areas of the state where there are no freelance interpreters.

The new law also repeals the requirement to contract out for referral services in the metro area, making it optional instead. The

repeal is designed to accommodate the changing nature of services in the area.

For many years, there was only one sign language interpreter referral service available in the Twin Cities area — the service receiving state support. In recent years, competition in the referral marketplace has developed because of increasing demands for interpreting services.

As a result, it is expected over time that the metropolitan area's need for state-supported referral services will diminish. The new law gives flexibility to allow that to happen.

All of the revisions came about as a result of periodic review of legislation that impacts the division's programs.

Rep. Lynda Boudreau (R-Faribault) and Sen. Charles Wiger (DFL-North St. Paul) sponsored the measure.

HF1414*/SF1584/CH149

Law expands eligibility

A new state law makes it easier for people with developmental disabilities to access the Consumer Support Program operated by the Department of Human Services.

Effective March 16, 1999, the new law eliminates an income cap for participation in the program.

Under previous law, people were ineligible for the program if their income was equal to or more than the level at which they would be required to pay a parental fee for medical assistance services and county social services. (That would translate to an income level that is the lesser of 150 percent of the federal poverty guidelines or \$30,000 annually.)

The program is generally used to pay for in-home support services received by qualifying individuals.

Rep. Jerry Dempsey (R-Hastings) and Sen. Steve Murphy (DFL-Red Wing) sponsored the new measure.

HF356/SF73*/CH10

Making reform official

A new law rids state statute of references to one welfare program — the former federal Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) — and updates references to the state's reform initiative — the Minnesota Family Investment Program (MFIP).

AFDC officially ended with the adoption by the U. S. Congress of the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996. That legislation required

states to develop welfare-to-work programs and specified a host of other changes.

Minnesota chose to base its welfare reform program on its Minnesota Family Investment Program, a pilot program that operated in eight counties from 1994 to 1998.

When the state enacted its statewide welfare reform program in 1997, it called the program MFIP-S — the Minnesota Family Investment Program-Statewide — to differentiate the new statewide program from the pilot program.

The pilot program ended on June 30, 1998, and the new law updates the name of the state's welfare reform program to simply "MFIP," dropping the "S" tag that is no longer needed.

Effective Aug. 1, 1999, the new law eliminates obsolete references to both programs.

Rep. Loren Jennings (DFL-Harris) and Sen. Dan Stevens (R-Mora) sponsored the measure.

HF1393/SF1585*/CH159

Seeking service solutions

A task force to develop a new rate structure for state reimbursement for certain services offered to the developmentally disabled is established under a new law effective May 14, 1999.

The task force is required to report to the Legislature by Jan. 15, 2000, and must operate under the umbrella of the commissioner of human services.

Although the method of providing services to the developmentally disabled in the state has shifted focus from large institutions to individual needs, the system of reimbursements for those services hasn't kept pace.

Also, the current payment procedure provides a higher reimbursement rate for new agencies entering the market than for existing operations.

The new law instructs the task force to develop a plan "that reflects individual consumer needs and demands for services" that is flexible, simple, and equitable.

The Minnesota Habilitation Coalition and Minnesota Day Activities Center Association supported creation of the task force. The task force includes officials from a variety of parties interested in reimbursements for services, including counties.

Rep. Lynda Boudreau (R-Faribault) and Sen. Dallas Sams (DFL-Staples) sponsored the measure.

HF1933/SF1615*/CH152

Funds for families, kids

(See Family, page 35)

Cash for strapped agencies

(See Government, page 40)

Dealing with data

(See Government, page 41)

Bed rails by prescription

(See Health, page 43)

Local programs cut

(See Vetoed Bills, page 82)

INSURANCE

Health coverage alternatives

A new law is aimed at increasing competition in the state's health care insurance market.

It provides options for less expensive and less comprehensive employee health policies for small businesses, many of them in rural areas.

Effective Aug. 1, 1999, it permits insurance companies that do not already have a major presence in the state — those that have less than 3 percent market share — to offer plans that don't include all of the state's otherwise mandated coverage. The Department of Commerce must approve the plans.

Under prior law, insurers and health maintenance organizations could offer small employers — those with fewer than 50 employees — the same benefit sets they offer to large companies, or they could sell two alternative plans with lower costs and lower benefits.

The new law provides another option to those small firms.

It allows policies with different co-payments and deductibles, as well as those that pay on a basis other than medical expenses incurred — such as a flat dollar amount per day in the hospital or a flat dollar amount upon a diagnosis of cancer.

Rep. Bill Haas (R-Champlin) and Sen. Linda Scheid (DFL-Brooklyn Park) sponsored the measure.

HF870/SF841*/CH181

AIDS study volunteers

People who participate in AIDS vaccine research are protected from being unfairly denied insurance, under a new law.

AIDS vaccine clinical tests involve injecting candidates with a synthetic substance designed to cause the immune system to

develop antibodies against the HIV virus. The vaccine itself doesn't contain the virus.

However, people who participate in the trials may develop antibodies to the HIV virus. And when insurance companies test applicants for life, disability, and other types of insurance, they often test for the presence of HIV antibodies as a method of determining whether a person is HIV positive.

The new law, effective Aug. 1, 1999, requires insurers to look more carefully before denying coverage. When informed that a client has participated in a vaccine test, an insurer must obtain a confidential certificate from the sponsor of the trial verifying the person's HIV status.

If it can be proven that the person's HIV antibodies are a result of exposure to the vaccine and that the person was HIV negative prior to the injection, the insurer cannot refuse to issue a policy on the basis of the HIV test.

The legislation was requested by the Minnesota AIDS Project, which is coordinating four test sites in the state involving about 200 volunteers.

The National Institutes of Health has evaluated over 20 vaccine possibilities, which are undergoing nationwide trials to determine the safety of the vaccines and their impact in stopping the disease.

Rep. Peg Larsen (R-Lakeland) and Sen. John Hottinger (DFL-Mankato) sponsored the measure.

HF1106*/SF1075/CH121

Cap on benefits increased

People who participate in the Minnesota Comprehensive Health Association (MCHA) insurance program receive increases in the maximum limit of their lifetime health benefits, under a new law effective May 8, 1999.

MCHA provides insurance to Minnesotans who are unable to obtain health insurance through the private market because of pre-existing conditions. Participants usually pay higher premiums than they would for private plans.

The law raises the lifetime cap on health benefits to \$2.8 million from \$2 million. Proponents of the measure said MCHA participants often have high health-care costs and will benefit from the increased limit.

Rep. Mike Osskopp (R-Lake City), who was the House sponsor of the measure, said he originally wanted to remove the cap entirely. He said an 8-year-old boy in Red Wing

who requires constant supervision and a special ventilator to breathe was nearing the \$2 million lifetime cap. The boy's medical needs cost about \$30,000 per month.

The measure became law without Gov. Jesse Ventura's signature.

Ventura said raising the benefit limit will further increase MCHA's deficit. The state requires MCHA to assess the insurance industry to cover MCHA's deficit, and those assessments are passed on to the regular insurance purchasers in the form of higher premiums.

Ventura said he is wary of supporting a program that continues to impose a burden on these insurance purchasers. And, he said, most large companies are self-insured and don't pay the assessment, so the burden falls on small employers and individuals who purchase their own insurance.

"I greatly appreciate the importance of assisting individuals who are in danger of exhausting health care benefits under (MCHA)," he stated in a letter explaining why he didn't sign the new law. "However, I am becoming increasingly concerned about the growing unfairness of the financing mechanism that supports MCHA."

Sen. Steve Murphy (DFL-Red Wing) sponsored the legislation in the Senate.

HF270*/SF470/CH130

Coverage for survivors

Dependents of peace officers and firefighters who are killed in the line of duty will continue to be eligible for health insurance coverage, even if they are not covered at the time of the person's death, under a law effective March 17, 1999. The law applies only to dependents of officers or firefighters killed on or after Nov. 1, 1997.

The measure allows a spouse who is not covered as a dependent at the time of the death — but was eligible or later became eligible to be covered — to be a dependent on the employer's health plan.

A 1997 law provided health coverage to officers and firefighters and their dependents, because many who were disabled by duty-related injuries were receiving pensions but were not eligible for health coverage.

Rep. Dennis Ozment (R-Rosemount) and Sen. Randy Kelly (DFL-St. Paul) sponsored the legislation.

HF49*/SF162/CH12

Selling settlement funds

The practice of buying a person's rights to structured settlement payments from an insurance company is now regulated under a state law.

People who sell the rights to such payments are generally claimants in personal injury or workers' compensation cases.

In the past, critics of the transactions said that some people who sold their rights to such payments did not have experience dealing with complex financial transactions. In some instances, people squandered the cash they received and were unable to pay their bills when they stopped receiving the insurance payments.

Under a new law effective Aug. 1, 1999, a company that pays a lump sum for a person's rights to future insurance payments must disclose detailed financial information about the transaction, known as a factoring transaction.

The claimant must receive advice on the proposed transaction, such as how the present value of the cash being offered compares to the total amount of money from the scheduled payments, tax implications of the proposed transaction, and explanations of other possible consequences of the transaction.

Also, the law requires the claimant to be advised of closing costs, legal fees, brokers' commissions, and any other administrative fees or costs that may reduce the gross amount of money the claimant will receive.

The new law also requires more disclosure of that type of information in the initial negotiations of structured settlement claims.

Factoring transactions will be allowed only if the court determines it is in the best interests of the claimant and the claimant's dependents.

And the law clarifies a previously existing law prohibiting the sale of structured settlements of Minnesota workers' compensation claims.

Rep. Bill Haas (R-Champlin) and Sen. Edward Oliver (R-Deephaven) sponsored the measure.

HF478*/SF148*/CH212

Rental car insurance

Rental car companies in Minnesota can sell two more types of insurance, under a new law effective Aug. 1, 1999.

While previous law allowed rental car companies to sell vehicle personal accident

insurance, the new law allows them to also sell liability and personal effects insurance.

Liability insurance covers injuries to others due to the negligence of the driver of the rental car, and the company has the option to include coverage for uninsured or underinsured motorists. Personal effects insurance covers loss or damage to personal belongings of the person renting the vehicle.

The companies do not need to use licensed insurance agents to sell the insurance, but the law requires rental car companies to conduct a training program for employees that is approved by the commissioner of commerce.

Rep. Loren Jennings (DFL-Harris) and Sen. Linda Scheid (DFL-Brooklyn Park) sponsored the measure.

HF1932*/SF1607/CH236

Coverage for funeral costs

The state law regarding insurance for funeral or burial expenses is updated, under a new law effective Aug. 1, 1999.

The new law allows funeral home owners, directors, and employees to receive commissions from the sale of insurance contracts totaling \$20,000 or less. However, the commissions can apply only to "pre-need" contracts, or those purchased before the services are needed.

In addition, the law clarifies the definition of who can make decisions regarding a person's funeral arrangements. Prior state law allowed such decisions to be made only by family, next of kin, or another representative. The new law simply states that such decisions can be made by one who has the legal authority to act on behalf of the deceased.

Rep. Greg Davids (R-Preston) and Sen. Arlene Lesewski (R-Marshall) sponsored the measure.

HF1150/SF1182*/CH100

All's FAIR in insurance

A new law makes several technical changes in the way the state's Fair Access to Insurance Requirements (FAIR) plan operates.

FAIR is a high-risk pool for homeowner's insurance and business property insurance designed to provide coverage when it is not available through the normal private market.

Effective Aug. 1, 1999, FAIR must issue a policy if the property meets preliminary underwriting requirements; however, the coverage may be rescinded in the next 59 days if

further analysis shows the policy should not have been issued.

The new law also requires a standard form to be used in all dealings with FAIR and broadens the FAIR plan's exemption from liability to include criminal liability.

The changes were requested by the board that oversees operation of the plan.

Rep. Jim Seifert (R-Woodbury) and Sen. Linda Scheid (DFL-Brooklyn Park) sponsored the measure.

HF1708*/SF1675/CH120

Paying for translators

A new state law requires no-fault automobile insurance to cover the cost of sign language interpreting and language translators as part of medical benefits.

The state's no-fault automobile insurance law is designed to ensure prompt payments by insurance companies for medical and other benefits to victims of car accidents. It was created to relieve the financial burden of uncompensated victims who might have costly medical or repair bills as a result of an accident.

In order to communicate their illness or injury, people who don't speak English often need a family member or professional interpreter to accompany them to the doctor's office.

Effective May 8, 1999, the new law directs automobile insurance companies to pay for translators as necessary medical expenses, but the services will only be covered if they relate to medical care associated with an

accident and will not apply if a family member serves as the translator.

Rep. Andy Dawkins (DFL-St. Paul), the House sponsor of the measure, said he discovered many insurance companies were not covering translating services as part of necessary medical expenses.

Sen. Sandy Pappas (DFL-St. Paul) sponsored the legislation in the Senate.

HF684/SF521*/CH134

Funds for jobs, housing: Commerce department

(See Development, page 24)

Health care solvency

(See Health, page 45)

Chiropractic care contracts

(See Health, page 45)

Prompt payment for care

(See Human Services, page 52)

Mandates for health plans

(See Bills in Limbo, page 91)



LAW

Seat belt veto overridden

A new law changes the so-called seat belt gag rule to allow defective seat belt claims — like Jodi-Michaelle Carlson's claim against the Hyundai car company — to move forward in court.

The seat belt gag rule law states that whether a person was wearing a seat belt cannot be



A new law allows Jodi-Michaelle Carlson to move forward with a lawsuit against the Hyundai car company. The law exempts claims of defective or malfunctioning seat belts from the state's gag law, thus allowing seat belt information to be considered in court. Carlson, of Bemidji, was partially paralyzed in a 1995 accident involving an allegedly malfunctioning seat belt.

considered by the courts when deciding personal injury or property damage claims resulting from a car crash.

In a 1997 case, the Minnesota Supreme Court ruled that the gag rule law, as it was written, also applied to cases in which the claim is filed against the auto manufacturer for a defective seat belt.

If plaintiffs can't establish that they were actually wearing a seat belt, they can't prove that the seat belt caused or failed to prevent an injury, and the cases cannot move forward.

Carlson, a resident of Bemidji, was partially paralyzed in a 1995 accident involving an allegedly malfunctioning seat belt. Under new law, Carlson can pursue legal remedies against the maker of the seat belt.

The new law simply exempts claims of defective or malfunctioning seat belts from the gag rule law. It went into effect May 18, 1999, and applies to any legal action pending or begun on or after that date.

Lawmakers passed the measure into law over Gov. Jesse Ventura's veto — the first successful override of a governor's veto in 17 years. A two-thirds vote was necessary in both houses to override the governor's veto.

The last successful veto override happened in 1982 when the DFL-controlled Legislature passed two bills into law that Republican Gov. Al Quie had vetoed.

In his veto message, Ventura argued that the bill didn't go far enough and that the entire gag rule should be repealed.

The governor also expressed concern that the measure would affect cases currently before the courts and that it favors one party over another in these cases.

"By partially repealing the seat belt gag rule an unfair advantage will be given to one party in the courtroom," Ventura wrote. "Juries should hear all of the arguments and facts in a case before rendering a decision."

Rep. Mary Jo McGuire (DFL-Falcon Heights) and Sen. Leo Foley (DFL-Coon Rapids) sponsored the legislation.

HF462/SF303*/CH106

Malpractice limit extended

A new law promises to give more victims of medical malpractice their day in court.

Previous law required lawsuits dealing with medical malpractice to be initiated within two years of the alleged occurrence of the malpractice. The new law allows up to four years to take legal action.

Bill sponsor Rep. Henry Todd Van Dellen (R-Plymouth) said that some cases of malpractice do not become evident within two years. When the victims discovered their problems, it was often too late to take action under the old law.

Van Dellen said his plan will not change the standard for malpractice; it will just allow more legitimate cases to move forward.

The new law is effective Aug. 1, 1999, and applies to legal actions commenced on or after that date.

Sen. Don Betzold (DFL-Fridley) sponsored the measure in the Senate.

HF56*/SF90/CH23

Jury pay examined

A new law asks the state's highest court to look at the subject of jury pay.

The measure, effective Aug. 1, 1999, requests that the Minnesota Supreme Court study several issues involving juror compensation, including a study of daily pay rates, reimbursements for child care and travel, and special considerations for longer civil trials.

The law also requires the court to examine ways to balance these concerns with a desire to have juries represent a cross-section of society. The report is due back to the Legislature in December 1999.

The measure came as a result of the hardships reported by jury members serving during the lengthy trial in Minnesota's lawsuit against major tobacco companies in 1998. The trial lasted for weeks before it ended in a settlement.

Minnesota courts currently pay jurors a \$30 daily stipend for expenses related to jury duty.

Rep. Michael Paymar (DFL-St. Paul) and Sen. Randy Kelly (DFL-St. Paul) sponsored the measure.

HF1153/SF973*/CH71

Liability limited for trails

People injured while participating in recreational activities on land owned by a municipal power agency cannot sue for damages, under a new law effective Aug. 1, 1999.

The measure was brought forward in response to a bike trail that is being built in Olmsted and Mower counties. Parts of the bike trail are located on land owned by a municipal utility.

Prior to the new law, only private landowners had limited liability for personal injuries sustained on their property. This

applies when people are allowed to use the private party's land for recreational activity without charge. Those activities could include hunting, hiking, or taking pictures of wildlife.

The new law gives the same limited liability to municipal power agencies that allow trail use or other recreational activities on land in which they have an easement or right-of-way. An easement is a legal right to use land, such as cutting down trees on a person's property to accommodate power lines.

Rep. Rob Leighton (DFL-Austin) and Sen. Pat Piper (DFL-Austin) sponsored the legislation.

HF805/SF556*/CH183

Cover for 911 dispatchers

Emergency dispatchers can give over-the-phone medical instructions to callers without fear of legal troubles, under a new law effective April 28, 1999.

The measure exempts dispatchers from civil liability when in the course of an emergency call they provide medical information before emergency responders arrive on the scene.

Some municipalities had advised dispatchers not to give medical information over the phone because the local unit of government could possibly be held liable in a lawsuit.

Rep. Rich Stanek (R-Maple Grove), House sponsor of the new measure, said the law will give emergency dispatchers the ability to do their job "without fear of superfluous litigation."

Sen. Leo Foley (DFL-Coon Rapids) sponsored the measure in the Senate.

HF541/SF436*/CH108

Divorce law correction

An error contained in the state's marriage dissolution law has been corrected.

In 1991, the Legislature created a simplified process for couples without children and with limited property to file for divorce.

Then in 1997, the Legislature amended the summary process but unintentionally failed to remove a provision that discontinued the program in the summer of that year.

The new measure, retroactively effective July 1, 1997, restores the summary process and makes it permanent.

Rep. Matt Entenza (DFL-St. Paul) and Sen. Leo Foley (DFL-Coon Rapids) sponsored the new law.

HF1258*/SF487/CH37

Reporters under contract

A new law requires freelance court reporters to disclose contracts or agreements they may have with litigants.

The measure comes in response to a growing use of contracted court reporters. These contracted employees are often used by large companies, such as insurance companies, that frequently need the services of court reporters for depositions and other legal proceedings.

Under such deals, the company agrees to use the court reporter exclusively and the court reporter provides services at a reduced rate. The practice is used as a way to reduce overall litigation costs.

The new law, effective Aug. 1, 1999, requires that court reporters disclose any contracts or agreements both in writing and orally before the beginning of any legal proceeding.

The measure also outlines procedures for cases where attorneys object to the use of contracted reporters and provides legal remedies for litigants who aren't given the information before a proceeding.

Earlier versions of the legislation would have simply outlawed such contracts altogether and freelance court reporters would have been required to work only on a case-by-case basis.

Critics of the agreements say that reporters need to provide services that are neutral and fair and that the contracts give the impression the court reporter is biased toward one side in the legal dispute.

Rep. Steve Smith (R-Mound) and Sen. John Hottinger (DFL-Mankato) sponsored the measure.

HF346*/SF278/CH215

Suing over Y2K bug

The Year 2000 Consumer Protection Act seeks to give consumers reasonable legal protections against lawsuits that may result from Y2K computer errors.

The new law, effective May 26, 1999, allows defendants in civil suits to argue that their action or inaction — the basis of the plaintiff's claim — was caused directly by a computer failure. If the judge rules that the claim is justified, the measure requires the judge to dismiss the case without ruling for either side, and the plaintiff must wait 60 days to bring the claim back before the court.

Rep. Peg Larsen (R-Lakeland), the measure's House sponsor, said that the

waiting period gives defendants time to resolve whatever issue may have been caused by the Y2K bug and settle the claim with plaintiffs. She said the measure also takes some pressure off the courts, which may be forced to hear a large number of claims based on the Y2K computer problem all at once.

The law also clarifies that consumers who have credit problems resulting from the Y2K bug may dispute such items on their consumer credit report as allowed under the federal Fair Credit Reporting Act.

And the state law requires the credit reporting agency to include a note with those negative items stating that the consumer reported that those items resulted from the computer problem, if the consumer requests that the information be included. The new law will only be in effect until July 1, 2000.

The Y2K bug is a problem that may occur in many computers that were not programmed to handle the switch to the year 2000. Many older programs use only the last two digits to track the year, and at midnight on Jan. 1, 2000, those programs will roll to 00. That means some computers will think it's 1900, which could cause major technical malfunctions.

Sen. Warren Limmer (R-Maple Grove) sponsored the measure in the Senate.

HF2337/SF1262*/CH234

Blocking fraudulent liens

Elected officials and public employees have new protections from nonconsensual common law liens, under a new law effective Aug. 1, 1999.

Liens are used by creditors to secure property in place of payment of debt. For example, a plaintiff can file a lien against a defendant's property when the defendant cannot pay a judgement, or a home contractor can file a lien against the property when the owner hasn't paid a debt. The lien must be filed under the authority of the court, and the subject of the lien must be notified.

However, nonconsensual common law liens have been used as a political tactic by some anti-government organizations — such as the Montana Freeman — to put pressure on elected officials and public employees. The documents don't have a legitimate claim and often don't even include information on the person filing the lien.

The lien is often based on a "breach of contract" claim stating that the official didn't perform the function of the job and therefore owes money. Sometimes the documents are

filed under the authority of "courts" created by members of the movement.

In some cases, the person filing the fraudulent claim deposits the lien in the bank as credit and then writes bad checks against the lien.

If the nonconsensual common law lien is successfully filed, the document can cause serious financial problems for the official named in the lien.

In the early 1990s, the Montana Freeman filed millions of dollars in nonconsensual liens against public officials in that state and wrote millions of dollars of bad checks against these claims. The Freeman also claimed that the group had the authority to seize state property as payment for the liens.

The new Minnesota law states that a nonconsensual lien against an elected official or public employee based on the performance of official duties is not valid unless authorized by a recognized court with proper jurisdiction.

And officials can seek damages from the person filing the invalid claim, under the law. A person found to have filed such a lien is liable for \$5,000 or the actual damages, whichever is greater. And the court can provide additional punitive damages.

The law also states that for a common law lien to be valid it must be authorized by a court of proper jurisdiction, have proof that the subject has been notified, and include the address of the claimant.

And the law provides a process whereby any subject of a nonconsensual common law lien can have the court force the person filing the lien to appear in court to explain the filing. In those cases, judges can award damages and attorneys' fees if the court determines the claim is fraudulent.

Rep. Wes Skoglund (DFL-Mpls) and Sen. Richard Cohen (DFL-St. Paul) sponsored the new law.

HF578/SF84*/CH170

Last word for prosecutors

(See Crime, page 16)

Limiting inmate lawsuits

(See Crime, page 19)

Protecting witness privacy

(See Crime, page 19)

Sex offender plea agreements

(See Crime, page 19)

Unconstitutional DWI law

(See Crime, page 20)

Making no-shows pay

(See Crime, page 21)

Voting rights returned

(See Elections, page 29)

References for firefighters

(See Employment, page 30)

Cash for tobacco jurors

(See Government, page 39)

Dealing with data

(See Government, page 41)

Protected peer review

(See Health, page 44)

Records on renters

(See Housing, page 49)

Determining liability

(See Local Government, page 58)

Seat belt veto overridden

(See Vetoes, page 76)

Defending your castle

(See Bills in Limbo, page 83)

Forbidding gun lawsuits

(See Bills in Limbo, page 91)

Hike for jury stipends

(See Bills in Limbo, page 91)

Limits on liability

(See Bills in Limbo, page 92)

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT****Amortization prohibition**

A new law prohibits cities and counties from setting a deadline for property owners to cease operations that do not conform to zoning ordinances—a maneuver sometimes used to force out undesirable businesses or halt unpopular practices.

The practice is known as amortization, and the new law, effective April 24, 1999, prohibits it except in cases where it is used to close strip clubs and other “adult” businesses.

Cities and counties can change zoning ordinances to reflect changing land uses, such as a growing business or industrial district. But if an existing property becomes a non-conforming use due to a change in zoning, state law allows the owner of that property to continue that use under certain conditions.

The city or county can also condemn the nonconforming property, but the property owner must be paid fair market value.

Opponents of amortization call it a loophole in the law, because it effectively makes a property worthless. If the local government sets a deadline for a business owner to conform to a new zoning ordinance or to move, a potential buyer would have no incentive to buy the property until after the deadline, when the value would plummet.

Rep. Peg Larsen (R-Lakeland) and Sen. Keith Langseth (DFL-Glyndon) sponsored the measure.

HF896/SF854*/CH96

Determining liability

A new law holds local units of government responsible for damages caused by snow and ice accumulation when one government unit owns a building in another unit’s jurisdiction.

Under current state law, local units of government are not liable for damages caused by snow and ice accumulation on public sidewalks that adjoin privately owned property. Provided that the local government was not negligent, private property owners can be sued for damages if injuries occur on sidewalks that adjoin their buildings or parking lots.

Effective Aug. 1, 1999, the new law clarifies which unit of government is liable if one entity owns property in another’s jurisdiction.

According to the new law, the unit of government that owns the property is liable if people are hurt on icy sidewalks or streets that adjoin the property.

For example, if Hennepin County owns a parking lot in the city of Minneapolis and a person is injured from slipping on ice on a sidewalk bordering the parking lot, Hennepin County is the responsible party in the event of a lawsuit.

The measure was brought forward by the League of Minnesota Cities in an effort to clear up who would be the responsible party in the event of such cases.

Rep. Mary Liz Holberg (R-Lakeville) and Sen. John Hottinger (DFL-Mankato) sponsored the legislation.

HF1348/SF891*/CH188

Challenging state rules

A local unit of government can request a state agency to amend or repeal an administrative rule through a petition process, under a new law.

State law allows many agencies to adopt

rules, such as specific standards for water quality or regulations for industries or occupations. Those rules are adopted through a process that includes public hearings.

Under the new law, if there is new evidence that a rule is unnecessary or that there would be a less expensive way to achieve the rule’s purpose, a city council or county board can request the appropriate agency to amend or repeal the rule.

An agency that receives a petition must reply in writing within 30 days to indicate if it agrees or disagrees with the petition. The agency will then have 90 days to begin taking action on the request. The agency could either give public notice of its intent to comply with the request or schedule a public hearing with an administrative law judge to resolve the disagreement.

The costs of the administrative hearing are to be shared equally by the state and the local unit of government that submits the petition. The new law is effective Aug. 1, 1999.

Rep. Jim Knoblach (R-St. Cloud) and Sen. LeRoy Stumpf (DFL-Thief River Falls) sponsored the measure.

HF879/SF1636*/CH193

Fees for pinball machines

A new law requires Minnesota cities that issue permits for amusement machines such as pinball or video games to charge only as much as it costs them to issue the permit or \$15 per site and \$15 per machine, whichever is lower.

The new law was supported by the Minnesota Operators of Music and Amusements, a trade association for the coin- and currency-activated amusement industry, which expressed concern that some cities were using fees to control personal and business activity and to generate revenue.

The association claimed some cities charged as much as \$150 per location plus \$60 per machine.

Cities are not required to license amusement machines; however, if they do, they are limited to charging only the cost of issuing and administering the license. The new law, effective Aug. 1, 1999, clarifies that provision of statute for the machine owners.

Rep. Rob Leighton (DFL-Austin) and Sen. Jim Vickerman (DFL-Tracy) sponsored the measure.

HF1140/SF1329*/CH179

Employees' legal fees

A new law allows townships to reimburse certain legal costs to employees.

Under already existing law, cities and counties can reimburse legal costs of employees charged with committing crimes while performing their official duties. The law requires that the payment be approved by the district court.

The new law, effective April 2, 1999, simply gives the same authority to Minnesota's 1,793 townships. The measure came as a result of a case in New Scandia Township in Washington County. In 1994, prosecutors charged the township's former chief of police with misconduct by a public employee while serving as chief.

Although the case was dismissed by a judge in 1995, the former employee incurred \$4,500 in legal fees. And because she worked for a township and not a city or county, the employee could not seek reimbursement from the local government.

Rep. Doug Stang (R-Cold Spring) and Sen. Jim Vickerman (DFL-Tracy) sponsored the measure.

HF475*/SF517/CH30

More liquor licenses

Certain cities are allowed to increase their number of on-sale liquor licenses under a new law.

The number of licenses that can be issued by a city is based on population. As cities grow they can seek legislative approval for more licenses.

The new law allows seven cities to increase the number of liquor licenses they can issue. The changes take effect when the local authorities approve the licenses.

Eden Prairie can issue five additional licenses, Marshall can issue four, Stillwater can issue two, and Bemidji, Detroit Lakes, and Proctor each can issue one additional license. The city of Minneapolis also can issue one additional license to the Acadia Café on Nicollet Avenue.

The law also allows temporary licenses for events, including alumni programs at Macalester College and the University of Minnesota's new Gateway Center and Northrop Auditorium. And the law provides temporary licenses for the Twin Cities Marathon, at which only Minnesota-brewed beer can be sold.

Special licenses can also be issued to the Brave New Workshop and Theatre de la Jeune

Lune in Minneapolis and the Fitzgerald Theatre in St. Paul to serve wine and beer during intermissions of performances.

The season for tour boats that have licenses to serve alcohol was extended under the new law. Those boats that give tours on Lake Superior, the St. Croix River, and the Mississippi River can serve alcohol from May 1 to Nov. 1. Under previous law, the season was from May 1 to Oct. 1.

Rep. Erik Paulsen (R-Eden Prairie) and Sen. Sam Solon (DFL-Duluth) sponsored the measure

HF1079*/SF1331/CH202

Residency rules repealed

Minneapolis and St. Paul can no longer require city employees to live within city limits, under a new law effective March 5, 1999.

The measure repealed laws that allowed those cities to make residency a condition for employment.

Proponents of the proposal, sponsored by Rep. Rich Stanek (R-Maple Grove), argued that residency requirements make it more difficult for those cities to hire and retain qualified employees.

Stanek, who works as a Minneapolis police officer, said residency requirements also violate people's basic right to choose where they live.

The Legislature passed measures allowing residency requirements for Minneapolis in 1993 and for St. Paul in 1994. People hired after the requirements took effect were required to live in the city where they were employed (after a grace period to allow time to find housing).

Sen. Steve Novak (DFL-New Brighton) sponsored the new measure in the Senate.

HF133*/SF107/CH3

Help for temporary workers

Some temporary workers hired by the city of Minneapolis are able to participate in a deferred compensation plan, under a new law effective March 19, 1999.

The measure affects workers hired through labor organization hiring halls, such as stagehands and other production technicians, skilled building and construction trades workers, electrical workers, and apprentices in those positions.

Deferred compensation allows employees to put a portion of their earnings into

tax-deferred accounts that can be invested over time and used when they retire.

The city of Minneapolis, the Minneapolis schools, and the municipal building commission are now required under the new law to offer deferred compensation to the temporary union employees.

Union employees affected by the law are often hired temporarily by the city but kept on for long periods of time. Because of their temporary status, they do not receive the same benefits as regular city employees. While the city does not pay into the account, the new law gives temporary union employees the option of putting their own earnings into a retirement program.

Rep. Barb Haake (R-Mounds View) and Sen. Linda Higgins (DFL-Mpls) sponsored the measure.

HF453*/SF416/CH15

Funding historical projects

Most Minnesota cities can now make unlimited donations to historical projects, under a new law.

A \$500 cap on what cities could spend on historical projects was enacted in 1957 and later raised to \$2,000 in 1977.

The proposal to eliminate that cap was supported by the Minnesota Historical Society as a way of encouraging additional historical investment by cities.

The new law, effective Aug. 1, 1999, also clarifies state law regarding contributions to senior and youth centers. That provision was requested by the city of Paynesville, where officials discovered that while the city could operate a transit program, it couldn't legally give financial support to an existing service operated by someone else.

Rep. Doug Stang (R-Cold Spring) and Sen. Michelle Fischbach (R-Paynesville) sponsored the measure.

HF371*/SF461/CH155

Dangerous dogs

Registering a dangerous dog in Anoka County just got closer to home for pet owners. A new law puts cities, instead of the county, in charge of dangerous dog registration.

A dangerous dog is one that, when unprovoked, inflicts substantial bodily harm to a human being or kills a domestic animal away from its owner's property.

The state requires that owners of dangerous dogs register their animals with

the county in which they reside. In addition, owners must keep them properly restrained and, when necessary, post notification for neighbors that a dangerous dog lives near them.

The measure is identical to a special law enacted in 1998 for Dakota County that was an effort to streamline record keeping for law enforcement officials. The new law becomes effective when Anoka County completes the necessary work to implement the new procedures.

Anoka County, however, remains responsible for dangerous dog registrations for townships within its boundaries.

Rep. Andrew Westerberg (R-Blaine) and Sen. Linda Runbeck (R-Circle Pines) sponsored the legislation.

HF525*/SF404/CH48

Police hiring procedures

A new law provides cities with a new procedure to abolish their police civil service commissions.

Police civil service commissions oversee the hiring and employment issues of city police forces. Some cities opt to use other methods for police personnel issues, such as a citywide civil service commission, but getting rid of the police commission can be a tedious and costly process for those cities.

Effective May 14, 1999, a city may abolish its police civil service commission either by a unanimous city council vote or by a two-thirds vote of residents participating in a municipal election. If a city chooses to submit the decision to the voters, that action must be initiated by a petition signed by 25 percent of the voters.

Previously, the initiative and referendum option was the only way a city could get rid of its police civil service commission. That method can end up being expensive because of high advertising or communication costs to educate voters.

Under the new law, the status of the police department and its employees will be the same as if the police civil service commission had not been created. The measure governs all cities except the state's three first-class cities: Duluth, Minneapolis, and St. Paul.

The House bill originally only covered the city of Spring Lake Park, but its scope was broadened in the Senate.

Rep. Alice Johnson (DFL-Spring Lake Park) and Sen. Don Betzold (DFL-Fridley) sponsored the legislation.

HF66/SF9*/CH165

Township capital reserves

A new law clarifies the authority of Minnesota townships to set up capital reserve funds to pay for large projects or purchases.

Effective Aug. 1, 1999, townships may accumulate tax money in an account specifically dedicated for capital projects. And the electors, or citizens, of townships may designate the use of the money.

The Legislature is the direct authority over the state's townships, and the towns are authorized only to do what the Legislature expressly gives them permission to do. While townships can levy taxes and make decisions on spending, it was implied but not directly stated in the law that they could set up long-term funds for capital projects.

The measure simply puts into law the express permission to set up the funds.

Rep. Ray Vandever (R-Forest Lake) and Sen. Jane Krentz (DFL-May Township) sponsored the legislation.

HF1538/SF1463*/CH113

Local hiring & elections

A new law changes state statute related to the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board and allows Lakeville to move its local elections to even-numbered years.

The law adds one more title to the list of employees that are appointed by the superintendent of the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board. The board requested a new fundraising and development position to be an appointed position, which means that it is not subject to civil service hiring procedures.

That section of the law, effective upon the park board's approval, also changes the title of the park police chief to the director of park safety. And the park superintendent is authorized to hire other selected future employees by appointment, which avoids having officials come before the Legislature for approval each time.

Another provision of the new law, effective May 19, 1999, allows Lakeville to change its municipal general election in November to even-numbered years from odd-numbered years with a shortened publication and review period. The measure exempts the city from a law that requires 240 days for an ordinance changing an election date to be effective.

Under the new law, the ordinance is effective immediately after it passes and is published, unless a petition is signed within 60 days objecting to the election date change.

Rep. Joe Mullery (DFL-Mpls) and Sen. Linda Higgins (DFL-Mpls) sponsored the legislation.

HF526/SF615*/CH174

Bloomington land deal

A new law allows the Department of Human Services to sell a piece of property to the city of Bloomington, effective April 21, 1999.

The 14,000 square-foot parcel currently contains a state-owned group home for the developmentally disabled. It is one of three parcels the city is acquiring to accommodate construction of a 41-unit senior housing facility at the corner of Beard Avenue and Old Shakopee Road.

The department hopes to build another group home in the Bloomington area. Legislative action was required so that the proceeds from the sale could be used for purchasing a new site, rather than being channeled into the state's general fund.

Rep. Alice Seagren (R-Bloomington) and Sen. William Belanger (R-Bloomington) sponsored the measure.

HF960/SF829*/CH80

Paynesville hospital plan

A new law effective May 12, 1999, authorizes the Paynesville area hospital district to add the city of Richmond to its domain.

Under state law, only cities that lie geographically next to hospital districts, which may levy taxes, can become part of the districts without approval from the Legislature.

In this case, Richmond is separated from the hospital district by a township. The hospital is building a new clinic in Richmond and wants the city to be part of the district in the event that it might have to impose a tax in the future.

Rep. Doug Stang (R-Cold Spring) said the request needed legislative approval because of the hospital district's taxing authority, in addition to granting the geographic exception.

Stang and Sen. Michelle Fischbach (R-Paynesville) sponsored the legislation.

HF174*/SF156/CH147

County hiring practices

A change in the Ramsey County personnel process allows employers to have an open application and screening process instead of a civil service examination for hiring managers.

The new law, brought forward by Ramsey County, states that the county may establish hiring criteria for positions that involve the “development, interpretation, and implementation of departmental and county policy.” The law is effective Aug. 1, 1999.

While manager positions are within the union classifications, the law exempts them from the standard civil service examination prospective employees must take when applying for jobs with the county.

Rep. Steve Trimble (DFL-St. Paul) and Sen. Sandy Pappas (DFL-St. Paul) sponsored the measure.

HF751/SF768*/CH173

Board member expenses

A new law effective Aug. 1, 1999, increases per diem rates for board members of some Minnesota sanitary districts.

A per diem rate is paid to a person much like an allowance to cover travel, dining, or other expenses associated with that person’s duties as an employee or elected official.

Under the new law, board members who serve the Western Lake Superior Sanitary District receive a per diem rate of \$50 each, up from the previous \$35 rate.

And per diem rates for board meetings of the Moose Lake-Windemere Sanitary Sewer District are increased from \$35 to \$50, but the annual maximum of \$1,000 remains. In addition, the per diem for the board’s chair rises from \$45 to \$50. For events other than meetings, that district’s per diem for its board members is increased from \$35 to \$50.

Both sanitary districts were established in the 1970s, and their rates had not changed since they were created.

Rep. Willard Munger (DFL-Duluth) and Sen. Sam Solon (DFL-Duluth) sponsored the measure.

HF258/SF376*/CH145

Deposit requirements OK’d

County recorders may require a minimum deposit in accounts to assure payment of charges, under a new law.

County recorders are responsible for keeping track of property records. Under existing law, companies can post security deposits with county recorders to pay for fees when records are filed. This allows the county to deduct the fees from the company’s account and does not require company couriers to carry money with them when they deliver documents to the county recorder.

The new law, effective Aug. 1, 1999, allows county recorders to require a minimum balance in those company accounts to guarantee the payment of fees. It applies to all counties in the state.

The measure stems from a state auditor’s report that found Ramsey County was requiring the minimum deposit without the legal authority to do so.

Rep. Andy Dawkins (DFL-St. Paul) and Sen. Sandy Pappas (DFL-St. Paul) sponsored the legislation.

HF908/SF465*/CH69

Requesting local projects

(See Bonding, page 12)

No criminals as cabbies

(See Crime, page 22)

Election law changes

(See Elections, page 28)

Filling vacant city posts

(See Elections, page 29)

Ready for redistricting

(See Elections, page 29)

Child support in court

(See Family, page 36)

Funds for state government: Y2K preparation

(See Government, page 39)

Funds for state government: No repayment of local loan

(See Government, page 39)

Changes in pension law

(See Retirement, page 62)

Tax cuts and rebates: Border cities aid

(See Taxes, page 65)

Tax cuts and rebates: Tiff over TIF

(See Taxes, page 65)

Slowdown on town roads

(See Transportation, page 69)

Purchasing plans nixed

(See Vetoed Bills, page 77)

Cities and counties pay up

(See Bills in Limbo, page 92)



MILITARY

Armory board eligibility

The Department of Military Affairs is given more flexibility in hiring for temporary duties under a new law, effective Aug. 1, 1999.

The law broadens eligibility for National Guard members to serve on armory boards. Prior law limited eligibility for such positions to officers. The new law extends it to enlisted personnel and warrant officers, who already perform duties of managers of armories.

The measure also allows retired National Guard members to serve as recruiters and to handle other temporary duties.

Rep. Bruce Anderson (R-Buffalo Township) and Sen. Deanna Wiener (DFL-Eagan) sponsored the legislation.

HF1565*/SF1677/CH46

Funds for state government: Historical correction

(See Government, page 38)

Funds for state government: Veterans’ benefits extended

(See Government, page 38)



RECREATION

Relieve for stud users

A scheduled statewide ban on metal traction devices — or studs — for snowmobiles was repealed effective March 5, 1999.

Stud use remains illegal on paved trails. Damage to those trails caused by illegal use of studs prompted the 1998 law banning studs on all public lands, paved or unpaved. The ban was scheduled to take effect July 1, 1999.

But the new law repeals that law, which also included a requirement that snowmobilers buy a \$50 sticker to use studs until the ban was to take place.

A separate law (HF2388/SF2226*/CH231) requires Minnesota snowmobilers to purchase an annual \$12 sticker to use studs. Those proceeds are earmarked for paved public trail repair, and the stickers will only be required until July 1, 2004. The provision, effective July 1, 1999, is part of the omnibus agriculture, environment, and natural resources spending measure sponsored by Rep. Mark Holsten (R-Stillwater) and Sen. Jane Krentz (DFL-May Township).

Rep. Tom Hackbarth (R-Cedar), sponsor of the repeal bill, said the special fee and



Minnesota snowmobilers may continue to use the metal traction devices known as studs on unpaved state trails, after a new law repealed a scheduled statewide ban on the devices. The ban, passed into law in 1998, was scheduled to take effect July 1, 1999. Studs remain illegal on paved trails, and snowmobilers must purchase an annual \$12 sticker to use them on unpaved trails.

pending ban caused parts of the state to suffer from lost tourism revenue. And he said the repeal will help bring some tourism dollars back to the state.

Sen. LeRoy Stumpf (DFL-Thief River Falls) sponsored the repeal measure in the Senate. HF6*/SF40/CH4

Antique boats on parade

Owners of antique boats have more leeway in displaying their boat licenses, under a new law effective Aug. 1, 1999. Gov. Jesse Ventura allowed the measure to become law without his signature.

The measure allows owners of restored historic boats to affix the license number and decals to a detachable device on the boat instead of to the boat itself. It affects boats that were built before July 1, 1959, and that are used solely as collector's items.

Rep. Jim Rostberg (R-Isanti), House sponsor of the measure, said it allows owners of those boats to participate in parades or events without having to deface the valuable crafts with license stickers.

In a letter filed with the bill, Ventura wrote that he believes the law should apply to all watercraft.

"It is my expectation that the Legislature will revisit this issue in a future legislative session and pass a bill exempting all watercraft from the license display requirement during any exhibit, regatta, or boat parade held in Minnesota," he wrote.

Sen. Douglas Johnson (DFL-Tower) sponsored the measure in the Senate. HF137*/SF463/CH22

Ag, environment funding:
Watercraft fees altered
(See Environment, page 32)

Ag, environment funding:
Ski pass costs rise
(See Environment, page 32)

Ag, environment funding:
Snowmobile stud use
(See Environment, page 32)

Licensed fishing guides
(See Game & Fish, page 38)

RETIREMENT

Changes in pension law

A new pension plan is created for employees of local government correctional facilities, under the 1999 omnibus pension law. The law also makes minor changes to some of the state's policies regarding pensions for various groups of public employees.

Employees of local correctional facilities had been covered by the general plan through the Public Employees Retirement Association. But lawmakers felt those employees who spend at least 95 percent of their work day in direct contact with prisoners should receive more benefits and a lower age for retirement.

Under the new plan, called the local government correctional service plan, the normal retirement age is 55, and employees are eligible for early retirement at age 50. Those who retire early receive lower annuity payments than those who retire at age 55.

Also, the new correctional plan has higher contribution rates than those of the general plan. Employees contribute 5.83 percent of their salary instead of 4.96 percent, and employers contribute 8.75 percent instead of 5.49 percent.

The correctional service plan is effective July 1, 1999.

The law also decreases the membership of the Legislative Commission on Pensions and Retirement from 12 to 10 members, effective May 26, 1999.

Rep. Harry Mares (R-White Bear Lake) and Sen. Lawrence Pogemiller (DFL-Mpls) sponsored the new law.

Here are some other highlights of the measure.

HF1077/SF319*/CH222

Early retirement provisions

The law lowers early retirement penalties for state patrol officers, police officers, and firefighters.

Effective July 1, 1999, the annuity for state patrol officers who retire early is reduced by 0.1 percent for each month in which the person is under age 55. Under previous law that penalty was 0.2 percent. And for employees in the Public Employees Retirement Association police and fire plan, the early retirement penalty is reduced from 0.2 percent to 0.1 percent.

Changes in the pension plan for arson and fire investigators include eliminating the early retirement penalty for those who retire at age 55 and providing higher disability benefits and a higher multiplier rate for calculating pensions. The changes are effective May 26, 1999.

Proponents of reducing early retirement penalties for those employees said the likelihood of suffering serious injuries in those jobs increases as a person gets older, due to the dangerous nature of the work.

Merging accounts

The law allows local police and fire departments to merge their pension plans into consolidated accounts, effective May 26, 1999. Under previous law, many local police and fire departments have consolidated their pension plans, but those plans have been maintained as separate accounts within the Public

Employees Retirement Association police and fire funds.

Under the new law, those separate accounts for police and fire departments will be merged, unless a municipality opts out of the merger. In some cities, one of the pension funds for the police or fire department has a surplus while the other fund has a deficiency. In those instances, a portion of the surplus in one fund can be used to pay off the deficiency in the other.

Sharing space

The law also allows three different governing boards for pension funds to build an office together and share administrative services, under a provision effective May 26, 1999.

The boards of the Public Employees Retirement Association, the Minnesota State Retirement System, and the Teachers Retirement Association have begun the design process for a new building and are planning to have a building completed by the end of the year 2001.



SAFETY

Responding to gas leaks

An explosion in downtown St. Cloud on Dec. 11, 1998, spawned a new law that changes statewide notification requirements in the event of a gas leak.

The St. Cloud blast killed four and injured 15. It was caused when a crew installing fiber-optic cable struck a gas line.

State law enacted in 1988 requires anyone excavating to call Gopher State One Call, which in turn contacts utilities in the area of the dig. The utilities then send locaters to the sites before excavation begins, and the locaters mark each utility with a different color. The 1988 law also called for notifying utility operators "as soon as reasonably possible" in the event of damage to an underground facility.

The new law, effective Aug. 1, 1999, clarifies that provision to require prompt notification of damage to an underground facility or its protective covering to the owner or operator of the facility.

The law also requires the local 911 emergency service to maintain a response plan for notifications generated under the provisions.

Rep. Jim Knobloch (R-St. Cloud) and Sen. Dave Kleis (R-St. Cloud) sponsored the measure.

HF1184/SF794*/CH43

**Millions for building projects:
Brooklyn Park bridge**

(See Bonding, page 11)

Fireworks for sale

(See Bills in Limbo, page 92)



TAXES

Tax cuts and rebates

A significant cut in income taxes and a \$1.3 billion sales tax rebate are part of a new law signed by Gov. Jesse Ventura.

The permanent income tax cuts in the law total \$775 million in the first year of the biennium and \$550 million in the second year.

The plan will reduce income tax rates for married couples filing joint returns from 6 to 5.5 percent on the first \$25,200 in taxable net income, from 8 to 7.25 percent for income from \$25,200 to \$100,200, and from 8.5 to 8 percent on all income over \$100,200. The reductions are effective January 1, 1999. (Art. 2, Sec. 8)

Many Minnesota taxpayers began noticing the reductions in July 1999, when the state issued new withholding tables. Officials expect the decreases in taxes paid to average about 9 percent.

Although the rebate amount was approved at \$1.25 billion, it will rise to \$1.3 billion, given the continued strength of the state's economy.

The average household will receive about \$600. Rebates will be determined by taking the total from Line 4 of the M-1 Form filed in 1998 for income earned in 1997 and applying it to one of two tax tables — one for single people or married couples filing separately and another for joint filers or people filing as a head of household. The rebate is effective May 25, 1999, and the state is scheduled to begin issuing automatic rebate checks August 15, 1999. (Art. 1, Secs. 1-4)

The new law also eliminates the so-called "marriage penalty" in Minnesota's rate structure, a hitch in state law that forces some married couples filing jointly to pay more taxes than single filers with the same income.

Under the plan, couples may claim a credit ranging from \$9 to \$261, based on income level and the distribution of income between spouses, effective for tax years beginning after Dec. 31, 1998. (Art. 2, Sec. 15)

Rep. Ron Abrams (R-Minnetonka) and Sen. Douglas Johnson (DFL-Tower) sponsored the omnibus tax law.

Here are other highlights of the package.
HF2420*/SF1276/CH243

Charity for all

More Minnesotans making contributions to charitable organizations will be rewarded with a tax deduction, under the measure.

Previous law allowed deductions for charitable giving only if a taxpayer itemized his or her return. Those who don't itemize will now be allowed to deduct 50 percent of their contributions over \$500, under the new law, effective for tax years beginning after Dec. 31, 1998.

The aim is to boost the stock of nonprofits in the state as a way of providing needed services without having to directly spend more tax dollars. (Art. 2, Sec.4)

Sick tax doctored

The state's medical services provider tax — often called the "sick tax" — remains in place, under the new law. The House had originally proposed a two- or three-year phase out of this tax, which currently raises about \$150 million in annual revenue.

The gap in revenue was to have been filled with a portion of the state's tobacco settlement money. But once an agreement was reached to spend that money on health-related endowments, the provider tax remained.

However, a scheduled increase in the rate in January 2000 was put off for two years by the new law. (Art. 8, Secs. 2, 7)

The legislation sent to Ventura also included an \$84.9 million transfer from the state's general fund for the biennium to the Health Care Access Fund to plug the gap left by not raising the tax. That appropriation was line-item vetoed by Ventura. (See related story, page 82.)

Sales tax changes

Among the changes are sales-tax exemptions for those filming television commercials in the state, for materials consumed in metal casting production, for purchase of bio-solids processing equipment and materials, and for prizes in games of skill or chance at carnivals and fairs.

The exemption for those filming commercials was requested by Ventura as a way to spur business activity in the state. The tax break will likely cost the state more than \$2 million during the biennium. The break does not extend to machinery and equipment or to fuels used in space heating or lighting.



Regions Hospital in St. Paul, along with seven other Minnesota hospitals, qualifies for state reimbursement for medical care provided to Minnesotans who do not reside in the facilities' home counties, under a provision in the 1999 omnibus tax law.

The sales-tax breaks are effective for purchases after June 30, 1999. (Art. 4, Secs. 4, 6, 7, 9)

Caring for the poor

Two large hospitals in the Twin Cities area — one in Hennepin County and one in Ramsey County — as well as six smaller hospitals around the state qualify to be reimbursed for providing medical care to low-income Minnesotans who do not reside in the hospitals' home counties.

Under the new law, \$10 million is available effective July 1, 1999, based on each hospital's share of the charity care.

Representatives from Hennepin County Medical Center in Minneapolis and Regions Hospital in St. Paul appeared before several House committees this year, requesting help with the ever-growing costs of admitting patients who can't pay and who don't live in the county. Those two hospitals will get about \$8.8 million of the aid.

Reimbursement recipients have to file a report describing how the aid was spent. (Art. 5, Sec. 52)

Steel plant boost

The new law contains a \$20 million commitment from the state for fiscal year 2000 to a plan for building a cutting-edge steel-making facility near Nashwauk in northern Minnesota. The provision is effective July 1, 1999.

The funds will be added to \$30 million already committed to the project by the Iron Range Resources and Rehabilitation Board. (Art. 9, Sec. 5)

Banks and taxes

The new law allows the state's small bank owners to elect "S corporation" status and avoid most of the state's corporate franchise tax, effective for tax years beginning after Dec. 31, 1998.

The move is expected to cost the state \$10.6 million in revenue over the biennium.

"S corporation" status allows profits to flow through a corporation without taxes being assessed to the individual shareholders. Congress enacted Subchapter S of the Internal Revenue Code in 1958 to allow some businesses to be treated as partnerships for tax purposes.

The Legislature in 1997 moved to conform to the federal law, but the state didn't include banks. Under provisions of the new law, banks aren't given the status at parity with other companies, but their shareholders are allowed a credit of 80 percent of the corporate tax paid by the bank. (Art. 2, Secs. 4, 10, 26, 27)

Multi-state businesses

Changes in how Minnesota's large multi-state corporations pay their taxes are included in the new law.

Existing law requires most corporations to use a three-factor formula, based on property, payroll, and sales to determine how much of their income is subject to Minnesota tax. The tax is weighted heavily on sales, which favors companies that have larger shares of their property and payroll in Minnesota, but sales outside of Minnesota. By contrast, companies with larger percentages

of their sales in Minnesota have higher taxes as a result.

The new law, effective for taxable years beginning after Dec. 31, 2000, will increase the weight to the "sales" category and lower the amounts paid based on property and payroll. The net effect is intended to attract more manufacturing businesses and high-paying jobs to the state.

The change will result in an estimated \$23.4 million less in tax revenue flowing into state coffers in the 2002-03 biennium. (Art. 2, Sec. 24)

Economic development

Three business ventures in the state are granted exemptions from various state taxes, under the new law.

Owners of a beef-slaughtering house near Windom are exempt from paying sales tax for materials, supplies, and equipment used in the expansion and improvement of their facility. The change is effective May 25, 1999. To qualify, the project must be completed by Dec. 31, 2001, exceed \$15 million in costs, and create at least 150 new jobs. (Art. 4, Sec. 8)

Another exemption from sales tax for materials and supplies used in construction of an electrical generating facility at an unnamed location is also included, effective for taxes payable in 2000 and thereafter. The facility must use wood waste and by-products exclusively for generating electricity. (Art. 4, Sec. 10)

Finally, an electric utility peaking facility in Martin County is exempted from property taxes on attached machinery and other personal property. An out-of-state company is proposing to build a facility that would generate electricity for area power companies on an "as needed" basis.

The plant is to be located at a spot where a 42-inch natural gas pipeline and a 345-kilovolt high-voltage electric transmission line converge. The exemption is effective for taxes payable in 2000 and thereafter. (Art. 5, Secs. 3, 4)

Airport help takes off

Community leaders from Richfield appeared en masse to support a provision in the new law that will help provide relief for their community once the Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport expands.

The measure designates an airport impact zone in Richfield and directs the Metropolitan Airports Commission to issue \$30 million in bonds no later than Jan. 30, 2000, to pay for land acquisition, relocation,

redevelopment, and public improvements in the zone.

Commission revenues, specifically funds from higher landing fees, will secure the bonds. (Art. 16, Sec. 35)

All in the family

Two provisions in the new law are aimed directly at Minnesota families.

An expanded eligibility for the working family credit for taxpayers with children will cost the state about \$12.1 million over the coming biennium. The new law increases the credit by 10 percent in the lowest income bracket, effective for tax years beginning after Dec. 31, 1998.

The measure also expands eligibility for education tax credits, and it provides for the credit to be phased out for incomes between \$33,500 and \$37,500. The changes are effective for tax years beginning after Dec. 31, 1998. Under the new law, parents can claim a credit for fees for certain lessons taught by members of Minnesota Music Teachers Association. Under previous law, piano teachers had to have a bachelor's degree in order for their services to fit under the education tax credit.

The new law also changes the definition of those who qualify for the education credit to include custodial parents even if the noncustodial parent claims the child as a dependent, effective for tax years beginning after Dec. 31, 1999. (Art. 2, Secs. 12, 13)

Property tax relief

The compression of property tax class rates, begun in 1997, is furthered under the 1999 omnibus law.

To prevent shifting taxes to homeowners and farmers as a result of those class rate changes, the state-paid education homestead credit is increased by more than \$70 million per year, under the new law. In addition, a new education agricultural credit and increased homestead and agricultural credit aid will provide more than \$46 million per year to reduce property taxes for farmers. (Art. 5, Sec. 21)

The measure also modifies limited market value to limit the increases in market value of qualifying property to 8.5 percent of the preceding year's assessment or no more than 15 percent of the difference between the current assessment and the preceding assessment, whichever is higher. (Art. 5, Sec. 6.)

These provisions are effective for taxes payable in 2000 and thereafter.

Business subsidies

State and local government units have new regulations on how, when, and why they provide subsidies to attract new businesses.

Under one provision, government agencies awarding business subsidies have to establish a specific public purpose for the subsidy and enter specific subsidy agreements. The agreements must include an obligation to repay part or all of the subsidy if the recipient does not meet its obligations.

The new rules, effective in large part for subsidies entered into on or after Aug. 1, 1999, generally apply to subsidy amounts of more than \$25,000. (Art. 12, Secs. 1-5)

The provisions were offered in response to public concern that too much money is being "given away" to attract businesses by cities, counties, and some state entities with little to show for it.

Border cities aid

Four communities along Minnesota's western border will divvy up \$1.5 million, to be used for city enterprise zone credits. The credits are designed to help Breckenridge, Dilworth, East Grand Forks, and Moorhead compete for businesses and jobs with neighbors in North Dakota and South Dakota.

Effective July 1, 1999, the money can be used to provide exemptions for sales tax on building materials and equipment, income tax credits of up to \$3,000 for each additional employee hired, debt financing for constructing or expanding facilities, or a state-paid property tax credit. (Art. 16, Secs. 27-29)

The new law also provides an exemption from the limits on state funding for border city development zones in those four cities and Ortonville. (Art. 16, Sec. 26)

Tiff over TIF

Spending tax-increment finance (TIF) dollars to construct or renovate facilities for social, recreational, or conference facilities or for public parks is prohibited, under the new law. Cities and counties are no longer permitted to build ice rinks, community centers, or other similar facilities with TIF money.

Further, the new law prohibits TIF funds from being spent on improvements, equipment, and other items whose primary purpose is decorative or aesthetic. The provision is effective for all tax-increment financing districts, regardless of when the request for certification was made, but does not apply to expenditures made before Jan. 1, 2000; expenditures made under a binding contract entered before Jan. 1, 2000; or expenditures

made under a binding contract entered pursuant to a letter of intent with the developer or contractor if the letter of intent was entered before Jan. 1, 2000. (Art. 10, Sec. 2)

Entities that violate state law regarding TIF can lose their right to form TIF districts for up to five years. That new provision begins Dec. 31, 1999. (Art. 10, Sec. 6)

Many communities have come to rely on TIF districts to create economic development. Using TIF, a local government can create a specific district in which property tax values are frozen. As a developer proceeds with a project, the taxes generated by the increase in property value over the frozen amount, known as the increment, are captured to finance economic development, usually improvements directly beneficial to the project.

Bug farm gets break

The Gordon Vadis farm near Ham Lake has been deemed agricultural property for property tax purposes under a section of the new law.

Vadis raises crickets for animal consumption, and he was denied agricultural classification because he wasn't raising food for human consumption.

The provision adds "insects primarily bred to be used as food for animals" to the definition of agricultural property, effective for taxes payable in 2000 and thereafter. Also included in the new law is a provision to allow Christmas tree farmers to enjoy agricultural status under the tax code. (Art. 5, Sec. 16)

Offers-in-compromise

The new law offers specific guidelines for when farmers and others seek arrangements to settle their tax liability.

Under a measure backed by Rep. Bill Kuisle (R-Rochester), the commissioner of revenue must establish guidelines to determine whether an offer-in-compromise or an offer to make installment payments is adequate and should be accepted.

The guidelines must include a stipulation that the department will not reject an offer-in-compromise from a low-income taxpayer solely on the basis of the amount of the offer.

The new law, effective for offers submitted after June 30, 1999, also provides an appeal process, should the taxpayer not agree with the department's determination.

Without guidelines, offers-in-compromise are considered case by case, and critics have said that leads to problems. (Art. 16, Sec. 6)



State taxes on taconite production are frozen at the 1998 level through 1999, under a provision of the omnibus tax law. The tax had been scheduled to increase each year.

Taconite taxes

The measure freezes the taconite production tax at the 1998 level of \$2.141 per gross ton through 1999. The tax had been scheduled to increase by a specific percentage each year in perpetuity. (Art. 9, Sec. 1)

ZIP is out

Consumers who have items delivered to their homes have sometimes found themselves paying more sales tax than they should. Many companies use ZIP codes, rather than city boundaries, to determine whether a sale is subject to local sales tax.

Under a provision effective May 26, 1999, that practice is prohibited unless the ZIP code is entirely contained in the political subdivision that imposes the local tax.

The onus is on the consumer to inform the company that he or she doesn't live in a community that has an enhanced sales tax. (Art. 4, Sec. 13)

Lawful gambling tax relief

The new law contains good news for the operators of lawful gambling operations in the state.

The tax on paddlewheels, raffles, and bingo is reduced from 9.5 percent of gross profit (gross receipts minus prizes) to 9 percent. The tax on pull-tabs and tipboards is lowered from 1.9 percent of ideal gross (gross receipts if all pull-tabs or tipboards in a package are sold) to 1.8 percent. (Art. 7, Secs. 5-7)

Finally, the combined receipts tax (gross receipts from pull-tabs and tipboards received by an organization with more than \$500,000 in gross receipts from these sources in a year)

also is reduced proportionately. The tax cuts are effective July 1, 1999. (Art. 7, Sec. 8)

The new law also delays the time those taxes are due from the 20th of each month to the last business day of the month, effective Aug. 1, 1999. (Art. 7, Sec. 4)

Sprayer payers

The new law sets the maximum annual registration fee for "agricultural aircraft" at \$500 for aircraft registered after June 30, 1999. Under previous law, the fee was 1 percent of the aircraft's value.

The provision applies only to planes used only for agricultural purposes. (Art. 16, Sec. 23)

Other key provisions

Other notable portions of the new law include a provision that would exempt Holocaust survivors who receive a financial settlement from having to pay state income tax on the money, effective for tax years beginning after Dec. 31, 1998. (Art. 2, Secs. 7, 28)

The new law also extends levy limits for cities and counties for another year—through taxes payable in 1999—and it gives New Ulm and Proctor permission to levy a local sales tax under specific conditions and for specific projects. The provisions are effective July 1, 1999. (Art. 6, Sec. 6; Art. 4, Secs. 17, 18)

Tax refunds are provided for purchases of a certain type of kerosene and racing fuel. The kerosene refund is effective retroactively to July 1, 1998, and the racing fuel refund is effective retroactively to Jan. 1, 1999. (Art. 7, Secs. 2, 3)

Finally, an appropriation of \$50,000 for each year of the biennium goes to nonprofit organizations that offer tax-filing assistance services to low-income Minnesotans, effective May 26, 1999. (Art. 2, Sec. 31)

Tax collection streamlined

Minnesota's district courts are out of the loop when the Department of Revenue pursues collection of certain back taxes, under a new law.

The revenue commissioner is now allowed to serve a summons and complaint by certified mail to the taxpayer's last known address.

Under prior law, the department was required to file with the court administrator showing the taxes due. The court administrator then began the collection process.

The association that represents the court administrators requested the change. The procedure applies primarily to collection of taxes from people who have left the state.

The new law, effective May 12, 1999, represents a streamlining of tax collection procedures in the state.

Rep. Sherry Broecker (R-White Bear Lake) and Sen. Jane Ranum (DFL-Mpls) sponsored the measure.

HF1131/SF1115*/CH143

Funds to help farmers

(See Agriculture, page 9)

Millions for building projects:

Cash to bonding

(See Bonding, page 11)

No bucks for health fund

(See Vetoed Bills, page 82)

Few cheers for tax plan

(See Bills in Limbo, page 93)

Collecting from retailers

(See Bills in Limbo, page 93)

Affordable housing plan

(See Bills in Limbo, page 93)

Sales tax exemptions

(See Bills in Limbo, page 94)

Higher bar for tax hikes

(See Bills in Limbo, page 94)

Encouraging transit use

(See Bills in Limbo, page 95)



TECHNOLOGY

Costs of getting online

Telephone companies can offer telecommunications services at discount rates to government entities, under a new law effective May 26, 1999.

The law gives companies that provide Internet access and other telecommunication services more flexibility to respond to service requests from schools, counties, public corporations, and other public entities. Also, the law allows companies to join together to respond to requests for services.

Proponents of the law said it will help smaller companies compete for those projects in rural areas.

Rates for those services are regulated by the Public Utilities Commission, and the law requires the commission to approve the lower rates without requiring companies to offer those rates to every customer.

Rep. Bob Gunther (R-Fairmont) and Sen. Mark Ourada (R-Buffalo) sponsored the new measure.

HF1778*/SF1785/CH228

Crimes by credit card

(See Crime, page 17)

Child porn online

(See Crime, page 20)

**Funds for state government:
Y2K preparation**

(See Government, page 39)

**Funds for state government:
Telecommunication oversight**

(See Government, page 39)

Suing over Y2K bug

(See Law, page 57)



TOURISM

The Wilder way

A road named after one of Minnesota's most famous authors is changing its route, under a new law.

Effective March 19, 1999, the Laura Ingalls Wilder Historic Highway near Rochester is rerouted from a U.S. highway to a county highway.

Previously, the specially designated route ran through a mostly commercial area on heavily traveled U.S. highways 14 and 52. After the reroute, it is on a county road and

now passes by the Olmsted County Historical Society, which is expected to develop exhibits about the famed pioneer author.

The historical center has a log cabin that resembles one in which the Ingalls family lived. Plans for a prairie restoration project are under way, and the historical society wants to name the prairie in the author's honor.

The Ingalls family did not live in the Rochester area, but Pa Ingalls once worked in Olmsted County. And Laura Ingalls Wilder is known to have traveled through the city many times on her trips to neighboring states.

Rep. Bill Kuisle (R-Rochester) and Sen. Kenric Scheevel (R-Preston) sponsored the measure.

HF157*/SF379/CH16

**Funds for jobs, housing:
Tourism in Minnesota**

(See Development, page 23)



TRANSPORTATION

Funds for transportation

Lawmakers this session put together a \$3.3 billion omnibus transportation law that includes spending provisions for road construction, transit, public safety, airports, and railroads.

Of the spending total, about \$166 million comes from the state's general fund. The remaining dollars are generated from the constitutionally dedicated funds for state and local highways.

Following is a look at the transportation package's major spending initiatives. Except where noted, the provisions are effective July 1, 1999.

Rep. Carol Molnau (R-Chaska) and Sen. Janet B. Johnson (DFL-North Branch) sponsored the legislation.

HF2387*/SF2217/CH238

Plates and licenses

The Department of Public Safety's Driver and Vehicle Services Division gets more money to replace equipment, hire additional driver's license testing examiners, and make more license plates, which lawmakers were told were in short supply.

Nearly \$43 million goes toward licensing drivers. Of that sum, about \$1.9 million in new spending beefs up driver's license testing sites in several ways. (Art. 1, Sec. 4)

In an effort to reduce waiting times at testing stations, the department has an-

nounced it will now be able to hire 18 more driver's license examiners, buy 16 additional automated testing machines, and set up a 24-hour hotline for booking test appointments. In addition, four new languages — Vietnamese, Hmong, Somalian, and Russian — will be added to the automated testing machines.

Along with those changes comes a new design for the state's driver's license and identification cards. The measure did not require legislative approval and drivers won't have to pay additional fees for the cards.

The new license has many features designed to prevent tampering and fraudulent use, including two pictures of the driver and more holographic designs. The format no longer uses embossed printing, and it boasts a new bar code that can be read vertically and horizontally. Effective in late May 1999, the licenses are going to be phased in over the next four years as people renew their licenses.

The new law also repeals a tax credit for disabled license plates, which helps to pay for an initiative to crack down on illegal use of handicapped parking permits. (Art. 2, Sec. 6) And \$309,000 enables the division to begin registering vehicles over the Internet in fiscal year 2001. (Art. 1, Sec. 4)

In other provisions, the \$12.50 fee for state identification cards is lowered to 50 cents for individuals who suffer from mental illness, and the department is now allowed to solicit paid advertising for Minnesota driver's license manuals. (Art. 2, Secs. 27, 69)

Title transfers

The omnibus plan creates a detachable postcard for people to mail to the state public safety department after they sell a motor vehicle. (Art. 2, Secs. 8-14)

The form, which will be attached to a vehicle's title, aims to decrease registration fraud. The new system is effective July 1, 2000.

The seller will send in the form to notify the state of the sale, which could put more pressure on the buyer to make sure he or she completes the registration of the vehicle. Under the plan, penalties are stepped up for not registering a vehicle after a purchase.

Highways, runways, waterways

The Minnesota Department of Transportation receives about \$38.7 million for aeronautics projects, such as airport construction and maintenance funds.

Greater Minnesota Transit, a program that aids rural areas and cities outside the metro area in providing bus service, receives

\$30.8 million, and \$3.2 million goes toward railroads and waterways. A sum of \$100,000 helps to fund a railroad corridor improvement plan in southern Minnesota.

The new law provides \$1 billion for state road construction funds. Another \$9.3 million covers pavement striping, traffic safety and freeway operations technology, and other maintenance projects.

Gov. Jesse Ventura line-item vetoed \$6 million earmarked for the department. (See related story, page 82)

The legislation allows for one more year the transfer of an extra 0.25 percent of gas tax revenue generated by snowmobiles to be allocated to the snowmobile trails and enforcement account. During the trial period under existing law, that figure was 1 percent, but was slated to revert to 0.75 in fiscal year 2000. The money is used for upkeep and safety of snowmobile trails.

In total, the transportation department garners about \$3 billion from the bill. (Art. 1, Sec. 2)

Bus money

The Metropolitan Council receives an increase in state funding to preserve and expand its transit service.

Council officials initially asked lawmakers for a \$14.9 million increase over two years. However, the new law allots only an additional \$11.2 million, bringing the state appropriation for Metro Transit — the city bus system — to \$109.9 million for the biennium. (Art. 1, Sec. 3)

Security patrols

The Minnesota Department of Public Safety receives \$220.8 million for its administration and transportation-related programs.

About half of the money would go to the Minnesota State Patrol, with nearly \$1.4 million to replace radios in patrol vehicles. The bill would also fund the replacement of a helicopter and provide \$735,000 for the state trooper training academy. (Art. 1, Sec. 4)

Funding in the amount of \$492,000 supports the protection of elected officials, but those funds are allocated to Capitol Security. Gov. Jesse Ventura had originally asked for funding for additional state troopers to provide executive protection, but the law does not grant his request.

A separate new law (HFnone/SF2234*/CH141), however, does appropriate \$200,000 in one-time emergency funding to provide additional security for the governor in the current year.

Other changes

The transportation department begins a conversion back to the English system for construction project measurements, under a plan backed by Rep. Torrey Westrom (R-Elbow Lake) that was included in the new law. The department started converting to the metric system in 1992 in a move to comply with federal intentions to convert. But implementation has been slow, and Congress has made conversion optional for the highway industry. The change back to the English system makes it easier for local governments and private contractors to do business with the state. (Art. 1, Sec. 2)

Vehicles owned by commercial driving schools are exempt from registration taxes, under the new law. And home schools are allowed to teach driver's education classes. (Art. 2, Secs. 3, 25)

The measure also requires several studies by the transportation department, including a report on regional taxi regulation and another on providing Amtrak service between the Twin Cities and the Iron Range. (Art. 2, Secs. 80, 81)

Emissions testing to end

Twin Cities drivers can say goodbye to emissions testing. A new law requires an end to the state's motor vehicle inspection program no later than March 1, 2000.

If the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) deems the state to have met federal standards for carbon monoxide and other requirements before the March deadline, the law allows for the 8-year-old program to end earlier.

Officials from the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency said they believe the EPA will approve the state's request to re-designate the area in compliance with federal standards.

If the state were to halt the emissions testing program before getting the nod from the federal government, the EPA could withhold highway funding and impose other sanctions.

Since going into effect in 1991, the vehicle emissions testing program has met opposition from citizens and lawmakers alike. An attempt to repeal the program in 1995 failed, but it resulted in a law exempting cars less than five years old from testing.

Proponents of the new law said the program has done the job of improving air quality in the Twin Cities and is no longer needed. But opponents, including officials from the company that conducts the vehicle inspections, argued that the program is effective and should have been continued.

Rep. Barb Haake (R-Mounds View) and Sen. Jim Metzen (DFL-South St. Paul) sponsored the legislation.

HF7*/SF142/CH178



The state's nine motor vehicle emissions testing sites, including this one in Roseville, will soon close under a new law ending the state's inspection program no later than March 1, 2000.

Deadline for title release

A new law closes a legal loophole that sometimes caused car dealerships to break the law.

The law decreases the amount of time banks are allowed to release a title after a car is paid off. Under the previous law, banks had 15 days to do so. The new provision, effective Aug. 1, 1999, reduces that to seven days when the cars are sold by most types of auto dealerships.

Under the old system, car dealers had only 10 days to transfer titles to buyers after a vehicle is sold. This occasionally presented a problem when dealers needed to obtain titles from a bank. If the bank took longer than 10 days, the dealer's deadline had not been met and they broke the law.

The new measure requires banks to release a title within seven days for new and used auto dealerships and leasing companies.

The law also includes a change in state law regarding the mounting of television screens in motor vehicles.

That provision, effective May 8, 1999, allows television screens in any place except where visible by the driver of an automobile.

Under the new law, Minnesota dealers are able to sell the Oldsmobile Silhouette minivan. The van's television screen did not comply with previous state law, which restricted screen mounting to a space specifically behind the driver.

Rep. Bill Kuisle (R-Rochester) and Sen. Dallas Sams (DFL-Staples) sponsored the legislation.

HF790/SF778*/CH131

Slowdown on town roads

A new law effective Aug. 1, 1999, reduces speed limits in residential areas of rural townships.

The law sets a speed limit of 30 miles per hour on town roads that run through residential developments.

Under a previous law, many of those roads had limits of 55 miles per hour. The roads did not qualify for a lower speed limit because they do not pass through areas that meet the state's definition of an urban district.

In an urban district, the speed limit is 30 miles per hour where buildings are within 100 feet of each other.

The new law, sponsored by Rep. Tom Workman (R-Chanhassen) and Sen. Janet B. Johnson (DFL-North Branch), creates a separate definition for rural residential districts,

allowing the reduced speed limit when houses are within 300 feet of each other for a distance of at least one quarter of a mile.

HF1265/SF1150*/CH44

Easing plate application

A new law effective Aug. 1, 1999, reduces the steps required to obtain disability license plates.

The law affects anyone who applies for a set of disability license plates for a vehicle that has been modified for permanent use by a person with a disability.

It does away with a requirement that people provide additional proof of their disability by a physician's statement or other means to obtain the special license plates.

Rep. Doug Stang (R-Cold Spring) and Sen. Michelle Fischbach (R-Paynesville) sponsored the legislation.

HF165/SF460*/CH25

Blue lights on bikes

A new law effective April 13, 1999, allows motorcycles to display blue rear brake lights.

Previously, only emergency vehicles, snowplows, and road maintenance vehicles could display a blue light.

Proponents of the new law said the blue lights would improve safety for motorcycle riders by increasing the visibility of their vehicles on the road.

Rep. Sherry Broecker (R-White Bear Lake) and Sen. Steve Murphy (DFL-Red Wing) sponsored the measure.

HF766*/SF739/CH35

Exception for milk trucks

A new law eases road restrictions on milk haulers who carry shipments that sometimes exceed weight limits.

Until 2003, vehicles carrying milk are exempt from seasonal road restrictions and the state's 5-ton per axle weight limit on local roads.

The seasonal weight restrictions are designed to prevent costly wear and tear on roads that can be caused by heavy vehicles. But the springtime restrictions often put milk transporters in positions where they are breaking the law.

Under federal food regulations, milk carriers are not allowed to make two trips on one load and often end up carrying more than allowed under the seasonal limits. Penalties for such violations include fines and can put a milk carrier's license in jeopardy.

The law exempts milk carriers from the weight restrictions from one point of production to the first processing point. Subsequent trips are not covered under the measure, which in turn prevents haulers from carrying many farmers' loads at one time.

The law allows carriers to exceed restrictions by 2 tons per axle on roads with restrictions of 5 tons per axle.

The measure also eliminates a reference to an obsolete test for determining the fat content of milk, effective Aug. 1, 1999. All other provisions of the law are effective May 14, 1999.

Another new law (HF1551/SF1762*/CH230) eliminates the statutory dates for the seasonal weight restrictions, which were in



Vehicles carrying milk between production points are exempted from seasonal weight restrictions on Minnesota roads, under a new law passed by the 1999 Legislature.

effect statewide from March 20 to May 15 each year. That new law allows the transportation department to set the dates each year.

Rep. Al Juhnke (DFL-Willmar) and Sen. Dean Johnson (R-Willmar) sponsored the milk-hauling legislation.

HF1641/SF1645*/CH154

Unused highway land

Land purchased by the state in the early 1960s will be transferred back to the city of Kenyon, under a new law.

The land was originally intended to be used when the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) planned to reroute Highway 56, but the department has since abandoned the proposed changes.

House Speaker Steve Sviggum (R-Kenyon), one of the measure's sponsors, said the city intends to use the land for property development.

The law becomes effective when MnDOT and Kenyon city officials negotiate a sale price for the land.

Senate Minority Leader Dick Day (R-Owatonna) sponsored the legislation in the Senate.

HF1305*/SF1280/CH29

Trucking regulations ditched

A new law eliminates a registration requirement for two types of vehicles.

Effective Aug. 1, 1999, drivers of trucks whose taxes are based on their weight listed on license applications and trucks traveling through the state that need one-way permits no longer have to apply in writing to the Minnesota Department of Public Safety.

Alice Gonzalo, assistant director of the department's Driver and Vehicle Services Division, said the two categories are the only ones left that required written applications. She said the requirements were lifted to make it easier for the department to implement electronic registration, such as by fax or the Internet.

Rep. Rod Skoe (DFL-Clearbrook) and Sen. Carol Flynn (DFL-Mpls) sponsored the measure.

HF1507/SF1600*/CH70

Steel storage tanks

A new law changes fuel storage tank specifications for the Minnesota Department of Transportation.

Effective Aug. 1, 1999, the measure requires the department's specifications to allow for steel storage tanks, in addition to the fiberglass tanks already used by the agency, to store fuel underground.

Rep. Torrey Westrom (R-Elbow Lake), House sponsor of the measure, said some steel tank manufacturers believed the department's previous specifications had shut them out of the bidding process.

Under the new law, the steel tanks will have to meet standards set by the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency before the department may use them.

Sen. Steve Murphy (DFL-Red Wing) sponsored the legislation in the Senate.

HF528*/SF1259/CH88

Planning commuter rail

A new law puts into law a planning process for a commuter-rail system, if lawmakers decide to go forward with such a project, and repeals a law considered punitive by many motorcyclists.

Those provisions are parts of a largely technical bill that makes several changes to laws governing the operations of the Minnesota Department of Transportation.

The measure strikes from the books a state law that allows into evidence proof of whether a motorcyclist was wearing a helmet. The law had applied in civil cases where the cyclist was seeking damages, but many cyclists considered it unfair because state law does not require helmet use.

Rep. Tom Workman (R-Chanhassen) backed the repeal in the House, which is effective Aug. 1, 1999.

Under the new law, the commissioner of transportation is required to adopt a plan for commuter rail, a system that uses passenger cars on existing freight railroad lines. That provision is effective Aug. 1, 1999.

The transportation department has been studying how such a system would work in the Twin Cities area for the past two years at the direction of the Legislature.

A master plan for the region's transit system is also required by the Metropolitan Council. The law calls for that plan to be completed by Feb. 1, 2000, when the Legislature reconvenes.

And the law authorizes a construction method for officials who are preparing for the planned light-rail transit line in Minneapolis.

The new measure also updates many provisions of state law, such as allowing 18-year-olds to drive 3,500-gallon petroleum tankers. That provision is effective May 26, 1999.

It also raises from \$75,000 to \$150,000 the amount above which the department must go through the competitive bidding process for construction projects. That provision, effective July 1, 1999, is intended to allow the department to act quickly on emergency road repairs by not having to go through the bidding process.

Workman and Sen. Carol Flynn (DFL-Mpls) sponsored the legislation.

HF1551/SF1762*/CH230

Penalties for truck violations

A new law effective April 1, 2000, will increase penalties for drivers who use trucks that have been ordered out of service.

An out-of-service order means that a truck is damaged or defective and cannot be driven until repairs are made. Under current law, penalties for driving such a vehicle involve fines for drivers and their employers.

The impetus for the new law was a potential loss of some federal highway dollars if the state did not step up its penalties.

Under the law, drivers will be disqualified from driving commercial motor vehicles for 90 days after the first offense. A second offense in five years will disqualify drivers for one to five years, and a third offense within five years will result in three to five years' disqualification.

In addition, the Minnesota Department of Transportation will be required to impose fines of at least \$1,000 for drivers and up to \$10,000 for employers who knowingly violate out-of-service orders.

Rep. Tom Workman (R-Chanhassen) and Sen. Charles Wiger (DFL-North St. Paul) sponsored the legislation.

HF1046/SF1324*/CH93

Millions for building projects:

Light-rail transit

(See Bonding, page 11)

Auto rental charges

(See Business, page 13)

No criminals as cabbies

(See Crime, page 22)

K-12 education finance:

School buses

(See Education, page 27)

Cash for strapped agencies
(See Government, page 40)

Rental car insurance
(See Insurance, page 54)

Seat belt veto overridden
(See Law, page 55)

Reprieve for stud users
(See Recreation, page 61)

Antique boats on parade
(See Recreation, page 62)

**Tax cuts and rebates:
Airport help takes off**
(See Taxes, page 64)

The Wilder way
(See Tourism, page 67)

Funds to hire road crews
(See Vetoed Bills, page 82)

Sane lanes to stay
(See Bills in Limbo, page 95)

Ramp meters remain
(See Bills in Limbo, page 95)

Transit minus the masses
(See Bills in Limbo, page 95)

No cut in tab fees
(See Bills in Limbo, page 96)

Local speed limits
(See Bills in Limbo, page 96)

Many capitol projects cut
(See Vetoed Bills, page 77)

 **VETERANS**

Drive to honor veterans

A new law honors veterans in Otter Tail County.

The law, effective Aug. 1, 1999, designates a portion of Minnesota Highway 59 running through the county as "Otter Tail Veterans Memorial Drive."

Rep. Bud Nornes (R-Fergus Falls) and Sen. Cal Larson (R-Fergus Falls) sponsored the legislation.

HF1986/SF1888*/CH42

**Funds for state government:
Historical correction**
(See Government, page 38)

**Funds for state government:
Veterans' benefits extended**
(See Government, page 38)

**Health, human services law:
Veterans' homes improvements**
(See Human Services, page 52)

Many capitol projects cut
(See Vetoed Bills, page 77)

Selected New, Increased Fees Adopted in 1999

Area/Purpose	Existing Fee	New Fee	Chap.	Art.	Sec.	Effective Date
Transportation						
Annual registration for motor carriers of passengers	\$40/vehicle	\$75/vehicle	238	2	55	1/1/00
Disabled license plates with wheelchair symbol	Registration fee authorized by law less a credit of \$1 for each month registered	Registration fee authorized by law (\$1 credit repaid)	238	2	6	7/1/99
Minnesota identification (ID) card for a person who is mentally retarded, a physically disabled person, or a person with serious and persistent mental illness	Regular fee for a state-issued ID card is \$12.50	50 cents	238	2	27	7/1/99 for ID cards issued on or after that date
Reinstatement fee for suspended license due to failure to file title certificate within allotted time	\$5/10 days	\$10/30 days	238	2	9	7/1/99
Transfer or retain existing plates upon sale of antique or classic aircraft	_____	\$5	238	2	71	7/1/99
Environment						
Annual snowmobile metal traction device sticker	\$50	\$12 plus \$1 issuing fee	231	2	94	7/1/99
Annual snowmobile metal traction device duplicate sticker for snowmobiles	_____	\$2 plus 50-cent issuing fee	231	2	94	7/1/99
Cross country ski pass issuing fee	50 cents	\$1	231	2	108	7/1/99
Daily cross country ski pass	\$1	\$2/person 16 years and older	231	2	109	7/1/99
Annual cross country ski pass	\$5/person and \$7.50/husband and wife	\$9/person 16 years and older	231	2	109	7/1/99
Three-year cross country ski pass	\$14/person and \$21/husband and wife	\$24/person 16 years and older	231	2	109	7/1/99
Duplicate state trail sticker issuing fee	_____	\$2 plus 50-cent fee	231	2	87	7/1/99
License fee for watercraft 17-19 feet or less except those watercraft: [1] offered for rent or lease, [2] canoe, kayak, sailboat, sailboard, paddle boat, or rowing shell, [3] used by a nonprofit corporation for teaching boat and water safety, [4] owned by a dealer under a dealer's license	\$12	\$18	231	2	112	1/1/00

Area/Purpose	Existing Fee	New Fee	Chap.	Art.	Sec.	Effective Date
License fee for personal watercraft 19 feet or less	\$12 fee plus \$50 surcharge	\$25 (surcharge repealed)	231	2	112	1/1/00
19 to 26 feet	\$20	\$30	231	2	112	1/1/00
26 to 40 feet	\$30	\$45	231	2	112	1/1/00
40 feet or more	\$40	\$60	231	2	112	1/1/00
Watercraft dealers' license	\$30	\$45	231	2	112	1/1/00
Economic Development						
Various transaction fees paid to commerce commissioner:						
- letter of certification of licensure	\$20	\$0	223	2	1	7/1/99
- licensure history	\$20	\$0	223	2	1	7/1/99
- duplicate license	\$10	\$0	223	2	1	7/1/99
- change of name or address	\$10	\$0	223	2	1	7/1/99
- temporary license	\$10	\$0	223	2	1	7/1/99
Application review fee for currency exchanges	\$250	\$1000	223	2	2	7/1/99
Additional annual license fee for remainder of calendar year (for currency exchanges)	\$50	\$500	223	2	2	7/1/99
Annual license fee for subsequent years (for currency exchanges)	\$50	\$500	223	2	2	7/1/99
Amended license for name or location change of any of its currency exchanges	\$50	\$100	223	2	3	7/1/99
Emergency Medical Services (EMS)						
Initial application and renewal of ambulance service license	\$96	\$150	245	9	41	7/1/99
Each ambulance operated by a licensee	\$48 Additional \$48 fee for the full licensing period or \$2 per month for any fraction of the period for each ambulance added to the ambulance service during the licensing period	\$96 Additional \$96 fee for the full licensing period or \$8 per month for any fraction of the period for each ambulance added to the ambulance service during the licensing period	245	9	41	7/1/99
Duplicate copy of an original license, certification, or approval	_____	\$25	245	9	41	7/1/99
Fines for failure of licensee to comply with an applicable law or rule	_____	\$50 to \$750 depending on law violated	245	9	43	7/1/99
Initial application for and renewal of approval for training program	_____	\$100	245	9	41	7/1/99

Area/Purpose	Existing Fee	New Fee	Chap.	Art.	Sec.	Effective Date
Health						
Food establishments requesting certificates to facilitate export of Minnesota processed and manufactured food	_____	\$75	231	2	53	7/1/99
Medical Assistance Senior Drug Program						
- Annual premium	\$120	\$0	245	4	21	7/1/99
- Annual deductible, based upon expenditures for prescription drugs	\$300	\$420 (paid in \$35 monthly increments)	245	4	21	7/1/99
Occupational Licenses						
Certification or renewal as a certified interior designer	\$70	\$104/two years (Amends CH213)	223	2	59	5/26/99
Licensure or renewal of licensure as architect, professional engineer, land surveyor, landscape architect, or geoscience professional	\$70	\$104/two years (Amends CH213)	223	2	59	5/26/99
Initial registration and biennial registration, and temporary registration or renewal for registration as a speech-language pathologist or audiologist	\$160	\$200	245	2	34	1/1/00
Initial registration and biennial registration, and temporary registration or renewal for dual registration as a speech-language pathologist and audiologist	\$160	\$200	245	2	35	1/1/00
Surcharge fee for speech language pathologist and audiologist registration or registration renewal		\$25 in addition to any other fees due upon registration or registration renewal	245	2	36	7/1/99 (This subdivision expires June 30, 2003)
Penalty fee for late submission of a speech language pathologist and audiologist renewal application	\$15	\$45	245	2	37	5/26/99
Initial license and two-year renewal for self-insurance or insurance plan administrators who are vendors of risk management services	\$500	\$1000	223	2	5	7/1/99
Application for a reinsurance intermediary initial two-year license	\$160	\$200	223	2	6	7/1/99
Application for a reinsurance intermediary license renewal	\$120	\$150	223	2	6	7/1/99

Vetoed Bills

Governor vetoes 18 bills

Editor's Note: A total of 250 bills and three resolutions reached the governor's desk during the 1999 Legislative Session.

The governor vetoed six bills and line-item vetoed appropriations from 12 more measures. The Legislature voted to override one of the governor's vetoes.

The summaries in this section give brief descriptions of each bill vetoed and some of the reasons for the governor's actions.

The bills are divided into two categories: full vetoes and line-item vetoes. Within the two categories, the bills are arranged alphabetically by topic.

Once a bill has passed both the House and the Senate in identical form, it is sent to the governor. The governor has several options when considering a bill. The governor can: sign the bill and it will become law; veto the bill; or line-item veto individual items within an appropriations bill.

It is important to remember that in the first year of the biennium the governor has three days from the time of "presentment" to veto a bill. If the governor does not sign the bill within this time frame, it will become law without his signature. (Sundays are not counted in the three-day time limit, but holidays are.)

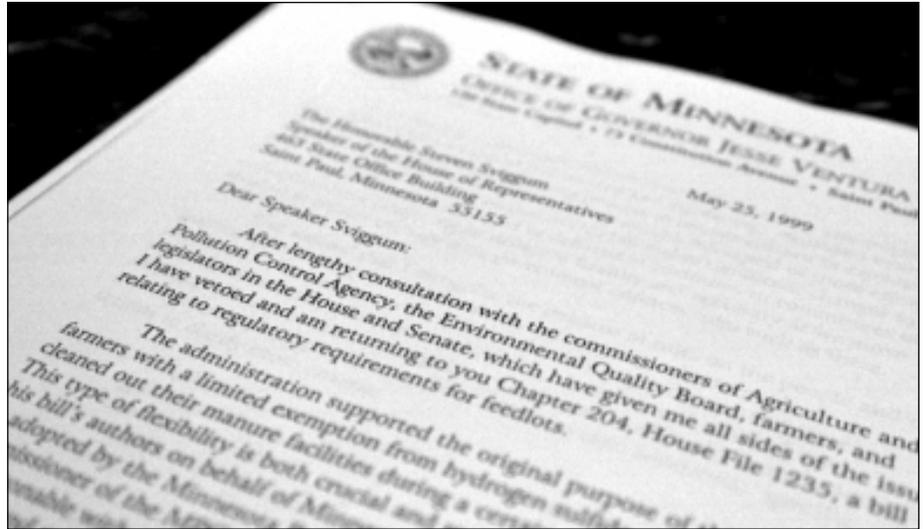
For bills passed during the last three days of the second year of a biennium, however, the governor has 14 days from "presentment" during which he can use his veto authority. If the governor takes no action on a bill during this time, the bill is vetoed in what is called a "pocket veto."

Vetoed bills are returned to the body of origin, and the House and Senate may attempt to override. A two-thirds vote in each house is needed to override a veto (90 votes in the House and 45 votes in the Senate).

The governor can exercise line-item veto authority on appropriations bills only. This option allows the governor to eliminate appropriation items to which he or she objects. As with all vetoes, the governor must include a statement listing the reasons for the line-item veto with the returned bill.

A specific listing of the sections of bills that were line-item vetoed is included in the Summary section, which begins on page 100.

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



Gov. Jesse Ventura vetoed six bills and used his line-item veto authority to cut appropriations from 12 more during his first legislative session in office.

Full vetoes (6)



AGRICULTURE

Feedlot bill rejected

A bill that would have eased restrictions on feedlot operators was vetoed by Gov. Jesse Ventura.

The bill contained a specific exemption from state-mandated ambient hydrogen sulfide emission levels for animal feedlot operations. It would have allowed feedlot operators to exceed emission standards during the relatively brief periods of the year when manure lagoons are stirred and the material is taken out for use as fertilizer.

The bill was viewed by many as a way of helping feedlot operators work through other mandates and save money at a time when the farm economy is weak.

Ventura said he sympathized with the intent of the legislation, but he said the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) could deal with the matters without the new language.

"Until the final feedlot rules are adopted by the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, I am directing the commissioner of the MPCA to use discretionary authority when appropriate and reasonable with regard to hydrogen sulfide enforcement during the agitation and pump out of manure storage facilities," Ventura wrote in his veto message.

"I am recommending that farmers be

allowed a period of not less than 14 days per year, as was allowed in the House version of this bill, and not more than 21 days per year, as was allowed in the Senate version of this bill."

The final version of the bill also would have undone "connected action" in reference to feedlots.

In rural Minnesota today, groups of neighboring farmers often band together to develop a "farrow to finish" operation. They pool their money to build a facility where sows give birth to piglets and then raise them for the early weeks of their lives at the site. Later, when the pigs begin to grow, they're sent to feedlots on the farms of the investors until they're ready for market.

Under existing law, all of the operation sites connected by farmer agreements are considered one large feedlot, no matter the distance apart, for the purposes of regulation. The bill specified that although the pigs have a common ownership, the sites on which they are raised should be considered separate operations.

The bill also spelled out a process under which feedlot operators could obtain air-quality easements from neighbors. Under that plan, the monitoring would have shifted away from the feedlot boundaries to the boundaries of the land contained in the easement.

Ventura also stated in his veto message that he is directing that action be taken to assure environmental concerns regarding feedlots are addressed in a sensible and cost-effective manner.

Rep. Howard Swenson (R-Nicollet) and Sen. Steve Dille (R-Dassel) sponsored the bill.

HF1235*/SF692/CH204



ENVIRONMENT

When it rains, it sprinkles

The first veto executed by Gov. Jesse Ventura killed a bill that he called “a classic example of unnecessary government intervention.”

The bill, aimed at ensuring that lawns and gardens are not over-watered when it rains, was sponsored by Rep. Dennis Ozment (R-Rosemount) and Sen. Leonard Price (DFL-Woodbury).

Landscape irrigation systems can be equipped with a sensor, called a rain check, that shuts off the system when there is sufficient moisture in the soil. The bill would have required the sensors to be installed on all new irrigation systems but would not have applied to agricultural systems.

Proponents of the measure said it would save millions of gallons of water. The devices cost about \$35.

Ventura, in his veto message, wrote that the problem is “better left to the judgment of manufacturers and consumers.

“Citizens who are heavy users of irrigation systems and are concerned about the conservation of water should be willing to pay a little extra for these devices in return for lowering their water bills, without the burden of a government mandate that will be virtually impossible to enforce,” the governor continued. “Manufacturers who are concerned about being competitive would do well to either absorb the costs of these devices or demonstrate the value to consumers, without turning to government to force all competitors to act in a similar manner.”

Ozment said manufacturers have tried to solve the problem but have been unsuccessful.

Proponents also said landscape irrigation systems are often contracted through a competitive bidding process. If a company voluntarily adds extra costs for a rain check, it could mean the project would be awarded to a competitor.

“My concern is if people don’t do it voluntarily, millions of gallons of water will go through the treatment process, which is very expensive, and then to go through the irrigation systems while it’s raining. [That] doesn’t make any sense,” Ozment said. “However, I

agree that [Ventura’s] solution is best, and I will work even harder to make that occur.”

HF564/SF609*/CH27



GOVERNMENT

Two plans, one veto

Gov. Jesse Ventura chose to veto the first version of the omnibus state government finance bill and sign a second version, which includes \$31.7 million more for electronic government service initiatives designed to make government more efficient.

The \$721.4 million state government funding law provides the operating budgets of Minnesota’s constitutional offices, the Legislature, and several executive branch agencies over the next two years. That measure (HF878*/SFnone/CH250) was sponsored by Rep. Dave Bishop (R-Rochester) and Sen. Leonard Price (DFL-Woodbury). (See related story, page 38.)

Both versions of the bill passed by the Legislature would have appropriated the same amount. The major difference in the two bills is the amount of money spent on electronic government services initiatives that were originally submitted in Ventura’s budget recommendations.

Those initiatives include establishing an electronic directory for government services available online, providing business licenses over the Internet, and restoring \$2 million that would have been cut from the Office of Technology, which coordinates information technology projects throughout state government. Also, the signed version establishes a separate budget book for new technology initiatives in state government.

The vetoed version of the finance package would have appropriated only about \$15.7 million for those initiatives. The measure signed into law increased that amount by reducing appropriations to the state employee self-insurance plan and delaying payment to an account for the repair and maintenance of state buildings.

Rep. Phil Krinkie (R-Shoreview) and Sen. Leonard Price (DFL-Woodbury) sponsored the vetoed bill.

HF2386/SF2223*/CH242



LAW

Seat belt veto overridden

Gov. Jesse Ventura vetoed a plan to change the so-called seat belt gag rule to allow defective seat belt claims to move forward in court, but his veto was overridden by the Legislature.

Lawmakers disagreed with Ventura and put together the two-thirds votes necessary in both houses to override the governor’s veto. The bill became law over the governor’s objections. (See related story, page 55.)

In his veto message, Ventura wrote that the Legislature overstepped its bounds by designating what evidence the courts can consider.

“It is not the place of the Legislature or the executive branch to determine what evidence is, or is not, admissible in a court of law,” he wrote.

The gag rule states that courts and juries cannot consider the fact that the victim was wearing or not wearing a seat belt when deciding personal injury or property damage claims resulting from a car crash.

The new law stems from a 1997 Minnesota Supreme Court decision stating that defective seat belt claims — claims that the seat belt itself caused or failed to prevent the injury — also fell under the gag rule as it was written.

The measure simply exempts claims of defective or malfunctioning seat belts from the gag rule.

The new law is effective May 18, 1999, and applies to any legal action pending or begun on or after that date.

Ventura argued that the law doesn’t go far enough and that the entire gag rule should be repealed.

“Only a full repeal will ensure citizens the right to introduce evidence at trial that is germane to their cases and allow the other party to refute that evidence on the same terms,” Ventura wrote.

The governor also expressed concern that the law affects cases currently before the courts and that the measure favors one party over another in these cases.

Rep. Mary Jo McGuire (DFL-Falcon Heights) and Sen. Leo Foley (DFL-Coon Rapids) sponsored the measure.

HF462/SF303*/CH106



LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Purchasing plans nixed

Gov. Jesse Ventura vetoed two bills dealing with the way cities and counties make purchases.

Current law requires cities to solicit sealed bids for purchases if the estimated cost is more than \$25,000. One bill (HF1097/SF1188*/CH82) would have raised the threshold to \$50,000.

For purchases between \$10,000 and \$50,000, the bill would have allowed cities to either seek price quotes from at least two vendors or to solicit sealed bids.

Proponents of the plan said the formal bidding process is unnecessary in purchasing items in that price range.

The measure also would have allowed cities to purchase supplies, materials, or equipment through a national municipal association or purchasing alliance cooperative without following the bidding requirements of the Uniform Municipal Contracting Law.

In his veto message, Ventura wrote that the proposal could have increased unethical conduct in purchasing decisions.

“The municipal contracting statute was enacted, in part, to ensure that municipal contracts are awarded on the basis of the best value at the best price, rather than being awarded on the basis of favoritism,” Ventura wrote.

“I believe that contracts should be awarded on the basis of what you know, not who you know. Competitive bidding is essential to ensure that this type of favoritism does not negatively affect a community’s interest to the benefit of a contractor who happens to be in favor with the city manager, mayor, or city council.”

Rep. Bill Kuisle (R-Rochester) and Sen. Steve Kelley (DFL-Hopkins) sponsored the measure.

A separate vetoed measure (HF1544/SF1609*/CH167) contained the same provision allowing local governments to forgo the bidding requirements for purchases made within those cooperative agreements.

But it also would have exempted governmental units from the requirement to have an agreement in place to act jointly or cooperatively for purchases under \$25,000.

In his veto message, Ventura wrote that the bill would have gone too far in providing exemptions from standard state procurement

practices in the name of streamlining government.

“Providing a mechanism for municipalities to evade the procurement policy objectives established by the Legislature will adversely affect the state’s cooperative purchasing program and state mandates for environmentally responsible purchasing,” the governor wrote.

Rep. Alice Hausman (DFL-St. Paul) and Sen. Charles Wiger (DFL-North St. Paul) sponsored that measure.

Line-item vetoes (12)



AGRICULTURE

Farmer aid funds cut

Gov. Jesse Ventura line-item vetoed \$245,000 intended to help farmers with financial management

The funds were struck from a new measure that provided \$1.25 million to Minnesota farmers to allow them to purchase pseudorabies vaccine for their hogs.

The vetoed money was to go to the Center for Farm Financial Management at the University of Minnesota, which would have used the funds to support a program aimed at helping farmers gain access to operating revenue.

In his veto message, Ventura said the plan to provide about 500 farmers with assistance to apply for spring operating loans had no

place in the pseudorabies vaccine bill.

“In my view, all such relief proposals belong in an omnibus bill, especially now that the legislative process has already taken too long to ensure adequate and timely financing application assistance to farmers for this planting season,” Ventura said.

Rep. Bob Gunther (R-Fairmont) and Sen. Paula Hanson (DFL-Ham Lake) sponsored the measure.

HF414*/SF428/CH45



BONDING

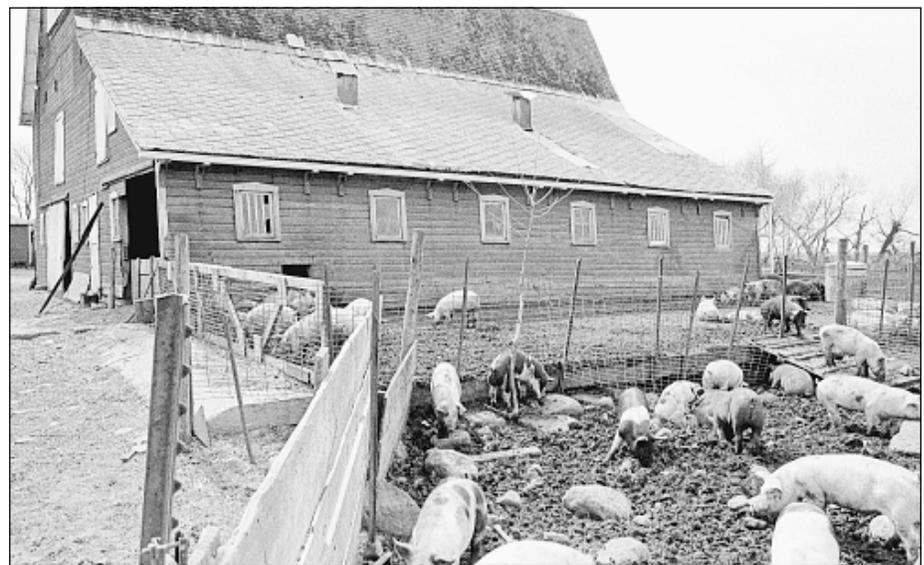
Many capital projects cut

Gov. Jesse Ventura used his line-item veto power to slice \$54.2 million in projects from the emergency bonding measure—over one-third of the entire bill.

The remaining \$100 million bonding measure authorizes the state to borrow money to fund several building improvement projects statewide. The Legislature usually produces its main bonding legislation in the second year of the session, which is the even-numbered year. But smaller measures for emergency needs are usually passed in the first year.

In his veto letter, Ventura wrote that the projects that he vetoed are not what he considers emergency projects.

“Projects that are less than emergencies should wait for consideration until the 2000 legislative session, when they can be reviewed



Gov. Jesse Ventura line-item vetoed a provision that would have provided \$245,000 to the Center for Farm Financial Management at the University of Minnesota to support a program aimed at helping farmers secure operating money.

and prioritized against competing requests,” the governor wrote.

And Ventura indicated that some of the projects could best be handled by state agencies or political units of government without an emergency appropriation.

“[S]tate agencies and political subdivisions should fund their projects to the fullest extent possible before requesting additional state assistance,” he wrote.

For example, the governor cited his veto of a total of \$11.1 million that would have gone to the Minnesota State Colleges and University (MnSCU) system. The bulk of that amount would have gone to Winona State University for a new boiler system and emergency generators.

Ventura wrote that MnSCU should have reprioritized its capital budget and used the bonding appropriation provided by the 1998 bonding measure to fund its emergency projects.

Also included in the MnSCU veto, Moorhead State University would have received \$3.7 million to demolish blighted structures and build new parking facilities on recently acquired land, and Ridgewater Community and Technical College in Hutchinson would have been given \$1.3 million for improvements to its heating and cooling system.

Ventura also stated that the emergency bonding bill shouldn't provide aid to local projects that wouldn't benefit the entire state.

“It is not appropriate to include items that should be funded at the local level when items of statewide importance are left out of the bill,” he wrote.

The governor also vetoed a \$2.4 million appropriation to the Board of Water and Soil Resources. That appropriation would have provided a grant for a floodwater retention project at Lazarus Creek in the Minnesota River basin and a grant to the city of Willmar for a water quality improvement project on Grass Lake.

Ventura also removed two provisions that would have given \$20 million to the transportation department. Of that, \$10 million would have been used for local bridge replacement and rehabilitation, and \$10 million would have gone to a revolving loan fund also for highway maintenance and other local transportation projects.

Consistent with a line-item veto in the omnibus jobs and economic development measure (HF2390*/SF2227/CH223), Ventura vetoed the reauthorization of a 1990 appropriation for the Labor Interpretive

Center in St. Paul. The governor wrote that such a project should be coordinated by the Minnesota Historical Society, not operated as a stand-alone agency.

The governor also vetoed a provision that would have transferred an additional \$20 million from the general fund to a Minnesota Minerals 21st Century fund created by the omnibus jobs and economic development funding measure. The fund will be used to provide financial assistance for mineral processing facilities.

A similar \$20 million appropriation was included in the omnibus tax measure (HF2420*/SF1276/CH243) and was not vetoed by the governor. (See related story, page 63.)

And Ventura removed a provision that would have provided \$150,000 to the administration department for planning and design of a monument to honor World War II veterans.

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

HF2205*/SF1058/CH240



CRIME

Funds to prosecute abusers

Gov. Jesse Ventura used his veto pen to cancel a \$500,000 appropriation that would have coordinated domestic assault and child abuse prosecution in Ramsey County.

The appropriation, included in a \$1.1 billion judiciary finance and crime prevention measure, would have gone to the Ramsey County Attorney's Office through a grant from the Department of Public Safety. The funding would have been used to implement a project that would have combined city and county prosecutors into one unit to deal with these crimes.

Currently, the Ramsey County Attorney's Office prosecutes child abuse cases and felony domestic assault cases, and the various city attorneys within the county prosecute other domestic assault cases.

In his veto message, Ventura wrote that he vetoed the appropriation because the money would have provided “a specific grant to one organization with limited statewide impact and no measurable outcomes.”

Rep. Sherry Broecker (R-White Bear Lake) and Sen. Randy Kelly (DFL-St. Paul) sponsored the omnibus measure.

HF2404/SF2221*/CH216



DEVELOPMENT

Cuts in development funding

Gov. Jesse Ventura line-item vetoed four provisions totaling \$1.15 million from a \$498 million jobs and economic development funding measure.

The measure provides two-year funding for two dozen state agencies and boards, and outlines several one-time funding initiatives for housing, economic development, and employment issues statewide.

The governor removed a \$300,000 appropriation that would have provided a grant to the city of Owatonna for infrastructure improvements associated with an economic development project.

In his veto message, Ventura wrote that the state shouldn't provide funds for decisions already made at the local level.

“Reimbursement after the fact for this local decision is not an acceptable way to consider commitments by the state,” he wrote.

The governor also cancelled a \$252,000 appropriation to the nonprofit organization Advocating Change Together Inc. The organization provides employment training for people with developmental disabilities and other mental health disabilities.

Ventura stated that the organization currently receives funding from the Department of Economic Security and provides services already provided by other programs.

The governor vetoed a \$200,000 appropriation to St. Paul's District 5 Planning Council. That grant would have funded an empowerment support group demonstration project where workers who have found employment would share experiences with people seeking employment.

“This project received funding as a pilot program in 1997 and provides very localized benefit,” he wrote. “It should compete with other projects for state funds.”

And Ventura vetoed a \$400,000 appropriation for the Labor Interpretive Center in St. Paul. The governor wrote that such a project would be best as an exhibit displayed by the Minnesota Historical Society, not as a separate facility.

Rep. Dan McElroy (R-Burnsville) and Sen. Jerry Janezich (DFL-Chisholm) sponsored the jobs and economic development measure.

HF2390*/SF2227/CH223



EDUCATION

K-12 spending items cut

Spending provisions totaling \$770,000 were line-item vetoed from the \$7.9 billion K-12 education finance package passed by lawmakers this year.

Gov. Jesse Ventura eliminated \$100,000 that would have provided start-up funds for a teacher training pilot program outlined in the omnibus measure.

The money was earmarked for grants that were to be used by school districts to set up teacher preparation programs for post-secondary students.

While Ventura left the provisions intact for the training program to be established, there is no funding available to support it. Through an application process to determine their eligibility to participate in the program, districts could have received up to \$20,000 to cover start-up costs, under the vetoed proposal.

The program allows districts and higher education institutions to collaborate in offering teacher preparation courses in K-12 classroom settings. Through a variety of methods, college students studying to be teachers would learn while teaching at a school. Proponents said it would bring students into the classroom at an earlier stage in their education and for a longer period than under the traditional student-teaching method.

In his veto message, Ventura placed the responsibility for teacher training on post-secondary institutions.

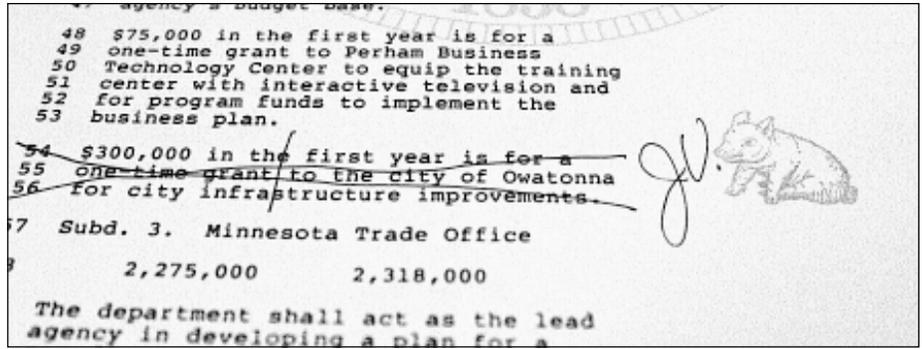
"I am vetoing this appropriation because I believe it is the responsibility of our higher education institutions to identify best practices and incorporate such methods into the training of our teachers," Ventura stated.

"It also is time for our higher education systems to respond to the changing needs and expectations of the students who are their customers and the community businesses and institutions that will employ these students," he wrote.

Also cut from the omnibus law was \$320,000 in one-time funding that would have supported the Minnesota Talented Youth Math Project.

The money — \$145,000 in 2000 and \$175,000 in 2001 — would have gone to the South Central Service Cooperative, which has been acting as the fiscal agent for four math programs operated by itself and three other service cooperatives around the state.

In his veto message, Ventura wrote that



By using a line-item veto, the governor can cut specific appropriations while signing the rest of a measure into law. In his usual unconventional manner, Gov. Jesse Ventura marked some line-item vetoes with a stamp of a hog, making it hard to miss how he really felt about the proposed spending.

school districts working in cooperative ventures should be able to fund those projects with the increased general formula funding provided in this year's K-12 spending bill.

"I appreciate the efforts of the Legislature to reserve state funding for statewide needs or purposes and for those few programs without a local funding source," he continued.

Ventura also line-item vetoed \$50,000 that would have gone to study options for creating an urban agricultural high school near the University of Minnesota's St. Paul campus.

Supporters of such a school said that in addition to providing a golden opportunity to bring agriculture into the education process, the school would help reverse the current shortage of workers for jobs in the agricultural areas of business, education, and production.

Part of the grant money would have been used to conduct a market study to determine exactly how many students would be interested in attending the school.

But Ventura wrote in his veto message that he does not want "to begin capital planning for an additional magnet school until a metro-wide plan has thoroughly examined the future development of these schools and the need for an urban agricultural high school specifically."

Also removed was money for a program that received duplicative funding in the family and early childhood omnibus law. Ventura cut \$300,000 earmarked for adolescent parenting grants from the omnibus education measure but left the appropriation in the omnibus family law because, he said, the latter is "a more appropriate place for this funding."

Rep. Alice Seagren (R-Bloomington) and Sen. Lawrence Pogemiller (DFL-Mpls) sponsored the omnibus K-12 education measure.

HF2333*/SF2242/CH241



ENVIRONMENT

Environment projects slashed

Gov. Jesse Ventura used his line-item veto pen to strike about \$4.29 million in funding from the \$1.1 billion omnibus environment, natural resources, and agriculture spending measure.

The largest cut was \$1.57 million from the second year of the budget for the Fish and Wildlife Management Division of the Department of Natural Resource (DNR). Another \$500,000 that would have funded the second year of a walleye stocking program through that division was also cut.

The division's budget is funded mainly by revenue from hunting and fishing license fees, and Ventura said in a letter accompanying his veto that he was dismayed that the bill presented to him did not include fee increases.

The Legislature had approved \$3.1 million from the state's general fund for the division. Proponents of that funding said it would be used to improve natural habitat for game and non-game wildlife, which in turn would provide environmental benefits for the entire state.

Ventura's veto cancelled the appropriation to the division from the state's general fund for fiscal year 2001, but not for fiscal year 2000.

"My support for general fund increases in these activities was contingent upon passage of legislation increasing the (license) fees," Ventura wrote. "I believe the Legislature must come back in the 2000 session and adopt the fee increases which had been agreed to by the legislative leadership of both bodies and myself."

Here's a look at the other provisions line-item vetoed by Ventura. The omnibus measure was sponsored by Rep. Mark Holsten

(R-Stillwater) and Sen. Jane Krentz (DFL-May Township).

HF2388/SF2226*/CH231

Commission-backed projects

Ventura also vetoed money for three projects that were recommended by the Legislative Commission on Minnesota Resources.

The vetoed appropriations were \$1.2 million for trout stream protection, \$200,000 for an environmental education center in the Hyland-Bush-Anderson Lakes Regional Park Reserve, and \$350,000 to the University of Minnesota to develop a database of climate information that is relevant to recreation, tourism, agriculture, and forestry.

In the veto letter, Ventura wrote that the trout stream protection could be funded through the budget of the Department of Natural Resources. He also wrote that the state's role in paying for environmental learning centers is unclear and should be clarified.

And regarding the database of climate information, Ventura wrote, "I am not sufficiently confident that this expenditure of funds will result in meaningful analysis and findings."

Voyageurs council

A total of \$134,000 that would have gone to the Citizens Council on Voyageurs National Park was cut by Ventura.

The 17-member council was created in 1977 to serve as a watchdog for the National Park Service. Voyageurs National Park is the state's only national park and is located near the Canadian border in Koochiching County.

State funding for the council has paid for the use of an office and wages for one part-time staff member. With the funding cut, the council ceased to exist June 30, 1999.

Rep. Irv Anderson (DFL-Int'l Falls) is one of four lawmakers who served on the council. He said the group raised awareness on some controversial issues and allowed residents to express concerns about the federal government's management of the park. For example, some people who owned land adjacent to the park had gone to the council when they disagreed with federal tactics used to purchase land for the park.

Anderson said that several years ago the council persuaded the U.S. Congress to improve the park by building visitor centers. The council also fought to change the operation of a nearby dam to create higher water levels, which Anderson said has improved the habitat for fish.

But Ventura had advocated eliminating the council in his original budget recommendation and reaffirmed his recommendation with the veto.

"It does not appear that 20 years of continued funding for this council has yielded any demonstrable results in resolving issues of local concern," Ventura wrote in his veto message.

County payments ditched

Ventura also eliminated a proposal to pay three counties for unpaid ditch assessments on Consolidated Conservation Lands in northwestern Minnesota.

Consolidated Conservation Lands are state-owned lands designated for conservation. The state received the lands in exchange for paying off bonds issued by those counties in the 1920s and 1930s that were used to build drainage ditches.

The DNR owes the three counties money for ditch assessments, and the vetoed measure had reflected an agreement among the DNR and the three counties — Beltrami, Marshall, and Roseau.

Rep. Doug Fuller (R-Bemidji), who originally sponsored the measure in the House, said the DNR had agreed to pay the back assessments through 1997 and to pay for a new study to determine the benefits of those drainage ditches to property owners. The agreement was contingent upon the Legislature allocating money for that purpose in the DNR's budget.

The vetoed measure called for a \$232,000 appropriation to the DNR.

"This appropriation circumvents a dispute currently in mediation and undermines the (DNR's) authority to verify the benefit of county assessments," Ventura wrote. "Language requiring the counties to complete the mediation process was excluded from the bill."

Wastewater treatment

The governor also line-item vetoed a \$200,000 grant to study rural wastewater issues.

The provision's aim was to study ways to develop cooperatives for sewage treatment systems in rural areas. Proponents of the measure said it would give groups of people an alternative to having individual septic systems or connecting to the nearest municipal sewer system.

The money would have gone to the University of Minnesota's Center for Rural Technology and Cooperative Development

to study and prepare a report to the Legislature on the pros and cons of such systems, including the potential for those systems to reduce pollution.

"Tension between this group and local units of government makes it doubtful that they will be able to create a model system that will be acceptable to the affected communities," Ventura wrote.



FAMILY

Education, family funds cut

Gov. Jesse Ventura used his line-item veto to carve \$335,000 out of the omnibus family and early childhood spending package, a measure that provides grant money or matching funds to many non-profit social service organizations.

Ventura vetoed \$25,000 over two years for Perspectives, Inc., a transitional housing program in St. Louis Park for women who are homeless and in recovery from chemical dependency and for their children.

Another \$25,000 per year was cut for the Meadowbrook Collaborative Housing Project, also located in St. Louis Park.

Funds were also cut for Kids Capacity Initiative, a combined foster care and transitional housing program in Hennepin County that would have received \$50,000 per year for the biennium.

In his veto message, Ventura stated that the projects are "meritorious," but he said he would have rather seen them go through the competitive grant process within the Department of Children, Families and Learning.

Ventura also used the line-item veto to eliminate \$75,000 per year for GED on TV, a program that provides televised instruction to adults seeking their high school equivalency degrees. The program uses public television stations and operates mostly in southwestern Minnesota.

While the governor stated that helping citizens earn their GEDs is important, he said the family and early childhood financing package already provides \$42.6 million for adult basic education programs.

"This appropriation provides a specific grant to one organization with limited statewide impact," Ventura wrote.

Rep. Barb Sykora (R-Excelsior) and Sen. Pat Piper (DFL-Austin) sponsored the legislation.

HF1467*/SF2222/CH205



GOVERNMENT

Bleacher funds among cuts

Gov. Jesse Ventura used his line-item veto authority to remove several provisions — including money for bleacher-safety initiatives and grants for amateur sports facilities — from a \$721 million omnibus state government finance measure.

One of the cuts was \$100,000 earmarked for grants to help communities comply with safety requirements for bleacher seats imposed by the new law.

The law requires bleachers, such as those in sports stadiums or other facilities, to include guardrails or safety nets. Also, open spaces between floorboards, seats, and guardrails are required to be four inches or less, or safety nets must be installed.

The requirements are effective Jan. 1, 2001, to allow time to comply, and are not affected by Ventura's line-item veto of the grant funding.

In a letter accompanying the line-item veto, Gov. Jesse Ventura wrote that the amount of money for grants was inadequate for its purpose, and that the proposed safety requirements would be "cost prohibitive."

The cost of installing safety nets underneath a 90-foot section of bleachers has been estimated at \$200 to \$600. The cost estimate for adding guardrails and reducing the gaps between floorboards and seats for a section that size was about \$3,000.

The bleacher-safety initiatives were originally in a separate bill sponsored by Rep. Steve Smith (R-Mound) and Sen. Gen Olson (R-Minnetrista).

Smith said many accidents involving bleachers have been reported throughout the state, including one fatality. Six-year-old Toby Lee of Mound died in January 1999 after falling from a set of bleachers while attending a hockey game at a Hutchinson arena. Smith said Toby fell through a 13-inch gap in those bleachers.

Here's a look at other line-item vetoes from the state government finance package, which was sponsored by Rep. Dave Bishop (R-Rochester) and Sen. Leonard Price (DFL-Woodbury).

HF878*/SF1464/CH250

No Mighty Ducks bucks

Another of the governor's cuts eliminates funding for grants to build ice arenas and other amateur athletic facilities around the state.

Ventura struck \$6 million that would have gone to grants to local communities through the Minnesota Amateur Sports Commission. Of that amount, \$4 million would have been for building or remodeling ice arenas and \$2 million would have been for acquiring and developing land for soccer fields or other amateur athletic facilities.

Proponents of the proposed money for soccer fields said the popularity of soccer is rapidly growing for people of all ages, and there are not enough soccer fields for recreational leagues, particularly in Minneapolis and St. Paul.

State grants for hockey arenas have been available for several years. A 1994 state law required public ice arenas to provide a percentage of "prime ice time" (weekdays from 4 p.m. to 10 p.m. and Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m.) to female hockey teams.

Under that law, up to 15 percent of the prime ice time would have to be available for female teams. The law also called for the percentage to increase each year, so that prime ice time could be split equally among male and female teams by the 1996-97 season.

The increasing number of females participating in hockey created the need for more ice arenas. So in 1995, \$2.9 million known as "Mighty Ducks" grant money was provided in the state government finance omnibus law. The law required 50 percent of the grants to be awarded to communities outside the metropolitan area.

In recent years, grants for athletic facilities have been made available through direct appropriations or through bonding. In 1998, the commission received \$2 million in bond funds to pay for grants for ice arenas.

In a letter accompanying his line-item veto, Ventura wrote that he feels bonding for those projects is the appropriate avenue for funding them. He also said he would consider supporting a plan to bond for facilities in 2000.

No money for council

Ventura also eliminated \$220,000 for the Intergovernmental Information System Advisory Council from the omnibus measure.

The council was created with members from cities, counties, libraries, school districts, and several state agencies and departments in an effort to improve communication among various units of government on technology issues.

The council acted as a liaison among different units of government to coordinate

upgrades to computer systems, develop standards and policies for intergovernmental information systems, help local units of government avoid potential year 2000 problems, and perform other related duties.

Previous state law had called for the council's elimination, effective June 30, 1999, and Gov. Jesse Ventura's veto of continued funding upholds that date.

Public television

Also removed by a line-item veto was money that would have helped public television stations meet a federal requirement to convert their broadcast signal from analog to digital by the year 2003.

The governor's veto cancelled \$113,000 that would have gone to public television stations to begin the conversion.

Proponents of the state funding said it was intended to pay for initial planning and engineering costs, such as studying which type of equipment will be necessary to upgrade the state's public television towers and stations. It would have helped the stations develop specific plans and apply for federal grants to match the state money.

The total cost of bringing public television stations into compliance with the federal mandate is estimated at \$48 million. Funding for the conversion was expected to be shared by federal, state, and local sources.

But Ventura said the state should not spend any money on the conversion.

"Digital (television) should be provided by the private sector," he wrote. "This is an expansion of the state's role and is in addition to substantial support already provided by the state for public television. This conversion should be funded by non-state sources."

Learning to read

Finally, a proposed \$1 million increase in funding for an adult literacy program was also struck by Ventura's veto pen.

The program is administered by the Minnesota Humanities Commission. The Legislature had approved the commission's budget at \$2.8 million, which included the \$1 million increase to expand the literacy program to outstate areas, particularly to towns where there are communities of people who are learning to speak English.

The veto keeps the program's funding at its 1998-99 level.

In his veto letter, Ventura wrote that the "significant increase was not requested by the Humanities Commission, and there was no demonstrated need for the increase."

**HIGHER EDUCATION****Funds for programs dashed**

Gov. Jesse Ventura used his line-item veto to remove two spending provisions from this year's omnibus higher education funding law.

He cut \$200,000 for a Minnesota State Colleges and Universities (MnSCU) effort to encourage entry-level health care employees to further their education.

Specifically, the funds would have gone for tuition waivers that health care or human services employees could have used in the Job Skills Partnership Program, an initiative created in the 1999 omnibus health and human services law (HF2412/SF2225*/CH245). The program aims to target worker shortages in the health care and human services fields and encourage entry-level employees to seek advanced employment through more education.

In his veto message, Ventura said he eliminated the appropriation for three reasons. First, he said he cannot support a new spending measure from the health care access fund, the state's account for the MinnesotaCare health insurance program and related items.

Second, he said he does not support the program because it would not be available to all entry-level health care workers in the state. Only students who attend MnSCU institutions and whose employers participate in the program would have been eligible for the tuition waivers.

Finally, the governor stated that the state's higher education system should be more responsive to the job market.

"Instead of legislatively creating special programs every second year, I want our post-secondary schools to develop an ongoing structure and strategy that uses their flexibility to identify emerging education and training needs, and then market those classes to potential students," he wrote.

Ventura also used a line-item veto to cut a one-time appropriation of \$250,000 that would have gone to the University of Minnesota for research on compulsive gambling addiction.

The funds would have been drawn from the Minnesota State Lottery prize fund.

"I simply do not support spending public dollars for such an open-ended proposal when there are numerous existing studies and other ways to fund such research," Ventura stated in his veto message.

Rep. Peggy Leppik (R-Golden Valley) and

Sen. LeRoy Stumpf (DFL-Thief River Falls) sponsored the omnibus higher education measure.

HF2380*/SF2235/CH214

**HUMAN SERVICES****Local programs cut**

Gov. Jesse Ventura used the line-item veto to remove two provisions totaling \$265,000 from a \$5.4 billion health and human services spending law.

The governor struck down \$200,000 earmarked for a DWI-offender program based in Brainerd.

In his veto message, Ventura pointed out that the policy portion of the program was eliminated from this year's omnibus crime legislation and therefore the appropriation was unnecessary.

Ventura also cut \$65,000 that was to go to a Ramsey County intermediate care facility for people with mental retardation that has fallen upon hard times.

The one-time money was targeted for the facility to cover a payment to the state mandated after an audit showed the facility's owners were out of compliance with certain requirements.

Ventura said the appropriation was "an improper use of state funds."

Rep. Kevin Goodno (R-Moorhead) and Sen. Don Samuelson (DFL-Brainerd) sponsored the measure.

HF2412/SF2225*/CH245

**TAXES****No bucks for health fund**

Gov. Jesse Ventura line-item vetoed a provision totaling \$84.9 million from this year's omnibus tax law.

The governor struck down a transfer of general fund dollars to the Health Care Access Fund. The money was intended to compensate for a new provision that was crafted to freeze at 1.5 percent the state's tax on health care providers, often called the "sick tax."

Ventura said in his veto message that he supports freezing the rate, but added, "I do not believe it is appropriate to subsidize these programs with general fund dollars."

The transfer was proposed as a way of keeping the access fund whole. The fund provides operating revenue for

MinnesotaCare, a health plan for low-income residents and others who cannot qualify for traditional employer-backed plans.

Critics of the governor's action said the veto creates a structural imbalance in the fund, which may trigger other taxes to make up the difference.

While the fund has a \$200 million surplus, it is structured such that if revenue doesn't accrue from certain sources at specific times, additional provider-based taxes are mandated.

Rep. Ron Abrams (R-Minnetonka) and Sen. Douglas Johnson (DFL-Tower) sponsored the omnibus tax measure.

HF2420*/SF1276/CH243

**TRANSPORTATION****Funds to hire road crews**

A potential increase in the number of state transportation workers was called off by Gov. Jesse Ventura.

The governor used his line-item veto to strike a \$6 million appropriation from the omnibus transportation finance law that would have provided funds for additional highway and road maintenance workers.

"This funding was neither requested by the department nor recommended in my budget," Ventura wrote in his veto message. "By including this item, the Legislature was in effect negotiating with the state workforce and intruding into the operating affairs of the executive branch."

The Senate included the vetoed provision in its initial transportation bill, while the House did not. The measure was kept in the final omnibus package produced by a House-Senate conference committee and passed both bodies. However, the money was contingent upon reaching a collective bargaining agreement by October 1, 1999.

The Minnesota Department of Transportation receives a total of about \$3 billion from the transportation spending law, of which nearly one-third is dedicated for state road construction projects.

Rep. Carol Molnau (R-Chaska) and Sen. Janet B. Johnson (DFL-North Branch) sponsored the legislation.

HF2387*/SF2217/CH238

Bills in Limbo

Bills considered, not passed

Editor's Note: While New Laws 1999 focuses on bills that were approved by the Legislature, it is also important to mention some of the bills that received attention during the session, but did not become law.

Because this is the first year of the two-year spending cycle, those measures remain alive, or viable, for consideration next year.

At the end of the 1999 session, bills remaining on the various calendars awaiting floor action were returned to the committee of last action, where the bills will stay unless they are acted upon by the 2000 Legislature.

Bills remaining in conference committees that have not submitted a report upon adjournment of the session return to the body of origin and are set aside temporarily (laid on the table). The conference committees are disbanded.

Bills that passed one body but not the other remain alive for the second year of the biennium. The house that approved the bill in the first year need not re-pass the bill in the second.

Bills remaining in standing committees at the end of the 1999 session can be taken up in the second year of the biennium by the committee to which they were last referred.



While thousands of bills were introduced during the 1999 Legislative Session, only 250 made it to the governor's desk. Bills discussed but not passed into law remain alive for consideration by the 2000 Legislature.

laws, which set maximum interest rates that may be charged for credit sales transactions.

The bill also would have provided limits on the total amount charged in rent-to-own contracts. Under the plan, the total cost of the contract could not have been more than four times the price the company paid for the item or two times the price the item could be purchased for from another merchant, whichever is greater.

Proponents of the measure say that laws regarding credit sale transactions should not apply to rent-to-own contracts because the customer does not actually own the merchandise. The company delivers the merchandise to the customer's home and is responsible for repair and maintenance. The customer leases the merchandise and can return it at any time.

Opponents of rent-to-own contracts argue that they penalize people who do not have enough cash or credit to buy merchandise and that the total costs of payments and fees in a rent-to-own contract can be exorbitant compared to the item's cash price.

Rep. Tom Workman (R-Chanhassen) and Sen. Steven Novak (DFL-New Brighton) sponsored the legislation.

HF1163/SF1423



CRIME

DWI bills stall

Proposals that would have lowered the blood-alcohol level at which a driver can legally operate a motor vehicle in Minnesota failed to become law this year.

Members of the House Crime Prevention and Judiciary Finance committees approved one bill (HF1004/SFnone), but the House Transportation Finance Committee rejected the plan. Rep. Kevin Goodno (R-Moorhead) sponsored that bill.

A similar bill (HF204/SF75) was approved by the Senate Crime Prevention Committee, but didn't come up for a vote in the Senate Transportation Committee. That measure, which did not receive a hearing in a House committee, was sponsored by Sen. Leo Foley (DFL-Coon Rapids) and Rep. Matt Entenza (DFL-St. Paul).

Both bills would have cut the legal limit for drunkenness from 0.1 percent to 0.08 percent. The lower limit would have applied to the operation of automobiles, off-road vehicles, and motorboats. And both bills would have applied the new limit to hunting with a firearm or bow.

Proponents argued that the proposed 0.08 limit is reasonable and would lead to fewer DWI-related fatalities.

Opponents said the bill would have focused law enforcement resources on social drinkers, while most problems are caused by chronic offenders.

According to the National Highway Transportation Safety Administration, the average male would have to drink four standard drinks in an hour and the average female would have to drink three standard drinks in an hour to reach the 0.08-percent level.

A number of factors affect the body's ability to process alcohol, including the duration of drinking, weight, ingestion of food, and gender. A standard drink is a 12-ounce can of beer, a five-ounce glass of wine, or a one-and-a-half-ounce shot of hard liquor.

Defending your castle

After a 1998 appeals court decision changed the standard for when deadly force can be used to defend your home, lawmakers threatened to change it back this session.

But the state Supreme Court beat them to



CONSUMERS

Rent-to-own deals

A plan to loosen restrictions on rent-to-own transactions — and in turn make them financially feasible for Minnesota businesses again — was approved by the House but rejected by the Senate.

Currently, a 1994 court decision requires rent-to-own businesses to comply with usury laws that make rental-purchase transactions financially impractical for Minnesota businesses. Retailers who previously engaged in the practice now simply rent goods without the option to buy.

The measure would have overturned the court decision, stating in law that these transactions are not subject to the state's usury

the punch and reversed the appeals court decision.

In *Minnesota vs. Carothers*, the Minnesota Court of Appeals ruled last year that deadly force can be used only as a last resort and that a resident has a duty to retreat from an intruder if at all possible.

But on June 17, 1999, the Supreme Court reversed the lower court's decision, stating that a person doesn't have a duty to retreat when defending his or her home.

"Mandating a duty to retreat for defense of dwelling claims will force people to leave their homes by the back door while their family members are exposed to danger and their houses are burgled," the Supreme Court stated in its opinion. "Further, forcing a resident to retreat from the home is at odds with the historical notion of the home as a place critical for the protection of the family."

The Supreme Court ruled that no duty to retreat exists, and that deadly force can be used to defend the home under certain circumstances. To be legally defensible, the deadly force must be used to prevent the commission of a felony within the dwelling, the resident's judgment of the gravity of the situation must be deemed reasonable, and the decision to defend must be deemed reasonable in light of the intruder's ability to pursue.

Before the Supreme Court issued its ruling, House Majority Leader Tim Pawlenty (R-Eagan) sponsored a bill that would have overruled the appeals court's decision and would have outlined in statute when deadly force could be used as self-defense in the home.

That bill passed the House but stalled in the Senate Crime Prevention Committee.

Similar to the Supreme Court ruling, the bill would have specifically stated that a resident doesn't have a duty to retreat before using deadly force when an intruder unlawfully enters a residence, as long as the resident believes the intruder intends to cause harm to people in the residence.

Pawlenty said that the appeals court decision was "misguided."

"If you wake up in the middle of the night to an intruder in your living room, possibly with a gun, you have a duty under the [appeals court's] decision to go back upstairs or to the basement," he said. "I think that's ludicrous."

Pawlenty noted that the appeals court's decision ran contrary to the so-called "castle doctrine." That doctrine states that unlike other cases of self-defense where the victim has a duty to retreat if possible, defending

oneself against an unlawful intruder inside the home has special status.

The appeals court itself noted in the Carothers opinion that most jurisdictions outside of Minnesota apply the castle doctrine to self-defense in the home.

Pawlenty said that he is satisfied with the Supreme Court's decision. But he said he would consider revisiting the issue if the Senate acts on the measure next year because the bill would actually place the ruling in statute.

Sen. David Knutson (R-Burnsville) sponsored the measure in the Senate.

HF839/SF1635

Assault by laser

A bill that would have made it a crime to aim a laser pointer into someone's eye passed the Senate, but did not come up for a vote in the full House.

House sponsor Rep. Betty McCollum (DFL-North St. Paul) said that laser pointers intended for office presentations can cause serious damage to the retina if aimed at directly at the eye.

She said the devices are being misused by some children. For example, students have taken them to high school hockey games and flashed the light at players to distract them.

McCollum's bill would have created the gross misdemeanor-level crime of laser assault. Under the proposal, intentionally pointing the beam of a laser device at another person's eye would have been a crime punishable by up to one year in prison and a fine of up to \$3,000.

Eye doctors and other health professionals using lasers for treatment purposes would have been exempt from the crime.

Sen. Charles Wiger (DFL-North St. Paul) sponsored the measure in the Senate.

HF1737/SF1120

Prison privatization

A proposal to allow private companies to compete with the Department of Corrections for the operation of the new Rush City prison did not become law this year.

Under the plan, sponsored by Rep. Phil Krinkie (R-Shoreview) and Sen. Randy Kelly (DFL-St. Paul), the Department of Administration would have been required to seek bids for the operation of the correctional facility.

Bidding would have been open for the state Department of Corrections and private companies, possibly making the Rush City prison the first state-owned facility to be operated by a private company.

Proponents of privately run prisons contend that companies can operate correctional facilities more efficiently and save taxpayers money.

Critics argue that private prisons raise safety concerns because the organizations are not subject to the same regulation and oversight as state-run facilities.

In the House, the measure was rolled into an omnibus state departments appropriation bill (HF2386/SF2223*/CH242).

However, the House-Senate conference committee removed that provision from the final bill.

In the Senate, the Rush City prison



A proposal to allow private companies to bid for an operations contract at the new Rush City prison failed to become law in 1999.

proposal was originally considered for the omnibus judiciary finance and crime prevention bill (HF2404/SF2221*/CH216). Members of the Senate Crime Prevention and Judiciary Budget Division rejected the plan.

Instead, the committee added a provision to authorize the Department of Corrections to operate the Rush City facility only until July 1, 2001. Under the Senate plan, the Legislature would then have to either re-authorize operation of the facility by the department or consider alternative methods of operation.

But members of the House-Senate conference committee accepted the House version of that proposal, authorizing the department to operate the prison indefinitely. (*See related story, page 14.*)

There are currently more than 160 privately run prison facilities in the United States.

The Rush City facility, scheduled to open in January 2000, will house over 950 inmates. HF2179/SF1482

Three-strikes bill is out

A bill that would have taken three-time violent felons off the streets for good didn't become law in 1999.

The so-called "three-strikes" bill would have required courts to sentence a person who is convicted of a third violent felony to life imprisonment.

"Civilized society should not permit a person freedom to injure others time and time again," said House sponsor Rep. Jim Seifert (R-Woodbury).

Seifert, who once served as an assistant public defender, said that his bill would send a strong message to violent criminals.

"You do this again, and you are out of society," he said. "You will not walk again as a free person."

The bill would have limited the scope of crimes that could be counted toward the mandatory sentence by exempting several felony-level crimes from consideration, including certain drug crimes, third-degree assault, second-degree arson, and burglary.

The bill would also have given judges the power to waive the mandatory life sentence if the court found substantial and compelling reasons to do so. Under the proposal, judges would have been required to state those reasons on the record.

Seifert said under the eyes of the law, for example, aiding and abetting a crime is the same as committing the crime and that he wanted to give judges discretion in such cases.

But some lawmakers expressed concern that this provision would give judges too much authority and that judges would just ignore the mandatory sentence guidelines.

Other critics argued that three-strikes laws clog the courts with jury trials as each felony conviction becomes more important, and the provisions prompt exploding corrections costs as convicts serve longer sentences.

Life imprisonment under existing Minnesota law means that inmates are not eligible for supervised release programs until they have served at least 30 years in prison.

In the House, a three-strikes bill was approved by the House Crime Prevention Committee and was eventually included in an omnibus judiciary finance and crime prevention bill.

But the companion bill didn't make it out of the Senate Crime Prevention Committee, and a three-strikes provision wasn't included

in the Senate's version of the omnibus bill.

Members of a House-Senate conference committee could not agree on the provision, and it wasn't included in the final omnibus measure.

More than 20 states have enacted three-strikes laws since Washington state voters approved the first one in 1993.

Sen. Thomas Neuville (R-Northfield) sponsored the bill in the Senate.

HF12/SF485



EDUCATION

Keeping tabs on teachers

Lawmakers considered a proposal that would have created an employment information depository on the state's teachers, but concerns that the plan was too far-reaching prevented it from becoming law in 1999.

Rep. Tony Kielkucki (R-Lester Prairie) introduced the measure, which called for a centralized database on the World Wide Web to be operated by the Department of Children, Families and Learning.

The database would have been available to school districts to access extensive employment history of teachers and other licensed education personnel.

The proposal also would have included a standard job application form to be used by school districts statewide, and would have provided legal immunity to school officials for releasing or acquiring personnel data.

Kielkucki's proposal contained recommendations made by the state Board of Teaching, which conducted a study of the issue under a 1998 directive from the Legislature.



Lawmakers again debated a plan that would have required life sentences for three-time violent felons. The bill would have given judges the power to waive the mandatory life sentence if the court found a compelling reason to do so.

Among those recommendations were the standard application form and the details of the database, which would have included information on teachers, administrators, superintendents, and charter school directors.

The database would have required mandatory reporting from school districts whenever a licensed teacher left a position for any reason. The bill called for nearly \$500,000 over two years to pay for the education department's development and operation of the database.

Lawmakers on the House Education Policy Committee chose to delay action on the bill because some were concerned that it would infringe on the privacy of teachers' employment files. There was no Senate companion bill.

HF586/SFnone

Dealing with unruly students

A bill that would have granted more authority to teachers when dealing with disruptive students did not make it into law this session.

House Majority Leader Tim Pawlenty (R-Eagan) sponsored the bill, which passed the House floor on a 127-5 vote.

The measure would have lowered the standard for student behavior that constitutes grounds for dismissal or removal from the classroom. It had the support of many education organizations, including the teachers union, Education Minnesota.

Current state law allows schools to dismiss students for conduct that "materially and substantially" interferes with other students' rights to an education or a teacher's ability to teach. Such conduct can include carrying a weapon in school, but there is no clear-cut definition.

Pawlenty's bill would have clarified that conduct as behavior that "significantly" affects the classroom atmosphere. The provision would have also extended beyond the classroom into any school function such as recess, a school assembly, or a meeting in a principal's office.

Proponents of the measure said it would let teachers have more control of their classrooms and would prevent one disruptive student from keeping an entire class from learning.

The Senate did not take up the bill, so lawmakers in the House tacked the plan onto their version of the K-12 omnibus bill. But during a joint House-Senate conference committee, the measure was taken out of the bill.

Sen. Thomas Neuville (R-Northfield) sponsored the legislation in the Senate.

HF16/SF442

Blocking online porn

For the second time in three years, lawmakers fought unsuccessfully for a plan that would have required schools to install software filters for blocking children's access to pornography on the Internet.

Lawmakers had considered the plan in 1997, but instead passed a law requiring the Department of Children, Families and Learning to develop a model policy for Internet access and use by students.

Rep. Jim Seifert (R-Woodbury) sponsored the 1999 proposal, which was discussed in the House Education Policy Committee. Lawmakers did not vote on the measure, but the bill was forwarded to the House K-12 Education Finance Committee.

The plan became part of the House's version of the omnibus K-12 finance bill, but it was taken out during House-Senate conference committee negotiations.

Seifert's proposal would have required all school districts in the state to adopt Internet use policies. It also would have ordered schools to purchase the blocking software, but would not have provided additional funding for districts.

Opponents of the bill said the software filters would inadvertently block access to some legitimate World Wide Web sites, and

they noted that search engines exist that are specially designed for children.

Sen. Linda Runbeck (R-Circle Pines) sponsored the measure in the Senate, where the plan never received a hearing in the Senate K-12 Education Budget Division.

HF923/SF1415

Profile left intact

Attempts to repeal or retool the controversial Profile of Learning failed this session when members of a House-Senate conference committee could not agree to a compromise on the issue.

The Profile, one half of the state's two-pronged Graduation Standards program, has been criticized by lawmakers, teachers, and parents as a set of mandated curricula with burdensome record-keeping requirements. Basic skills tests in math, reading, and writing at various grade levels comprise the second part of the Graduation Standards.

Early in the 1999 session, the House voted to scrap the Profile in exchange for locally determined rigorous standards. But the Senate chose to keep the statewide program and change some of its rules, including a provision that would have let schools opt out of some of the Profile's requirements.

A House-Senate conference committee convened to work out the differences in the two measures, but lawmakers were at an impasse after several meetings of that committee and ended the session without reaching a compromise.



The Profile of Learning — the controversial set of skills-based requirements that comprises one-half of the state's Graduation Standards program — remains intact after the 1999 session.

Rep. Harry Mares (R-White Bear Lake), co-chair of the conference committee, said that the Senate finished its version of the bill later than expected, which left little time to work out a compromise in the midst of work on many other bills.

That leaves the issue to next session or to the Department of Children, Families and Learning, where officials have said they will attempt some administrative changes within the mandated framework of the current Profile. Commissioner Christine Jax has said the Profile needs fixing but should not be abolished.

However, not much can be done to change the requirements without a directive from the Legislature. And until then, Minnesota schools will become more and more familiar with the Profile because all districts began implementing it in the 1998-99 school year.

Rep. Tony Kielkucki (R-Lester Prairie) sponsored the bill that would have altered the Profile's requirements. It was later amended to become the measure that would scrap the Profile entirely.

Sen. Lawrence Pogemiller (DFL-Mpls) carried the Senate plan.

HF15/SF125



ELECTIONS

Initiative and referendum plan

The effort to allow citizen initiative and referendum in Minnesota stalled this year.

The House approved a bill that would have allowed citizens to choose if they want the right of initiative, which means they could directly place on the ballot proposed changes in state law or in the Minnesota Constitution, and the right of referendum, which means the Legislature could let voters decide on proposed changes in state law.

Currently, only the Legislature can act to change state statutes. The only questions that can be decided at the polls are constitutional amendments proposed by the Legislature.

The House bill would have placed a constitutional amendment on the 2000 ballot asking voters if they want the power of initiative and referendum.

Rep. Erik Paulsen (R-Eden Prairie), the bill's sponsor, said many other states have similar initiative and referendum laws, and he argued that those laws promote higher voter turnout and increased accountability of lawmakers.

Under Paulsen's plan, an initiative would

have gone on the ballot if a petition were signed by 5 percent of the number of voters who voted for governor in the previous election. That threshold would have had to be met in three-quarters of the state's congressional districts and on a statewide basis. And a constitutional amendment question would have gone on the ballot if a petition were signed by 8 percent of those voters.

The requirement regarding congressional districts was designed to make it difficult for an initiative or referendum to be placed on the ballot without support from different areas in the state.

Opponents of initiative and referendum laws say that many measures are too complex to be simply stated on a ballot and voted upon without the extensive information, deliberation, and debate that help lawmakers make decisions.

Another objection is that initiative and referendum campaigns are often heavily influenced by big-spending special interest organizations.

But Paulsen said he had taken those concerns into consideration. The measure could be reconsidered in the 2000 session.

The Senate companion bill, sponsored by Sen. Roy Terwilliger (R-Edina) was referred to the Senate Election Laws Committee, which took no action on the measure.

HF484/SF678

Changes for primary elections

The Senate passed a proposal to rename and reschedule Minnesota's primary elections, but the measure never came up on the House floor.

Under the plan, Minnesota's primary election would have been renamed "state party nominating election" to reflect its purpose, said Rep. Ron Abrams (R-Minnetonka), House sponsor of the bill. Primary elections are where major political parties nominate their candidates to appear on the ballot for the general election.

Under current law, primary elections are held the Tuesday after the second Monday in September, which Abrams said is the latest date for those elections in the nation.

The bill would have moved that election date to the fourth Tuesday in June. The earlier date would benefit the electorate, Abrams said, because each major party would nominate their candidates sooner, allowing those candidates more time to debate each other before the general election.

The House Governmental Operations and Veterans Affairs Policy Committee approved the bill and sent it to the House floor, where the legislation never came up for a vote.

Sen. Carol Flynn (DFL-Mpls) carried the Senate bill, which passed in that chamber just days before adjournment.

HF272/SF60

Allowing 18-year-olds to run

Minnesotans would have had the chance to decide if 18-year-olds could run for public office, under a proposal considered by lawmakers this year. But the plan did not make it to a final vote in the House or Senate.

Current state law requires Minnesotans to be at least 21 years old to seek any state or local office except governor. Gubernatorial candidates must be age 25 or older.

The House proposal would have put a question on the ballot in the 2000 general election asking voters if the legal age should be age 18 for holding public offices except that of governor, where the age requirement would have remained the same. The proposal would have applied to candidates for other constitutional offices and for legislative, municipal, and school board openings.

Minimum age requirements for holding public office vary in other states. In 17 states, 18-year-olds can run for legislative seats. Twenty-five states have no minimum age requirement for attorney general or secretary of state races.

Some Minnesota lawmakers questioned whether an 18-year-old should be allowed to run for school board, because it could allow a high-school senior to become a member of the board that has authority over the faculty and administration. A student could conceivably be participating in decisions such as discipline policies for fellow students, hiring and firing of teachers, and negotiating faculty and staff salaries.

But Rep. Tom Rukavina (DFL-Virginia), House sponsor of the proposal, said voters would be able to decide if a situation presents such a conflict. He added that the first elected office he held was as a school board member in Virginia when he was 21.

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

Each Legislative chamber approved the bill at one step of the process toward becoming law. It was approved by the House Governmental Operations and Veterans Affairs Policy Committee's Subcommittee on Elections and Rules and by the Senate

Election Laws Committee. But the plan made no further progress.

HF122/SF172



EMPLOYMENT

Liability for job references

A bill that would have made it easier for employers to provide job references for former employees passed the House but failed to get a second interview in the Senate.

Rep. Jim Knobloch (R-St. Cloud), sponsor of the House bill, said the current system encourages past employers just to give "name, rank, and serial number" because employees can easily sue if they feel they have been unfairly characterized.

Knobloch's bill would have raised the bar for lawsuits in these cases. It would have required that employees prove that the employer intentionally and maliciously gave false information and that the information caused harm to the employee.

The measure also would have outlined how past employers should provide the information to prospective employers.

The Senate bill, sponsored by Sen. John Hottinger (DFL-Mankato), was approved by the Senate Judiciary Committee, but stalled in the Senate Jobs, Energy and Community Development Committee.

HF310/SF499



ENVIRONMENT

Managing wolf population

The increasing number of wolves in northern Minnesota led to debate on proposals to manage the wolf population, but lawmakers could not agree on any such plan in 1999.

A bill that would have allowed people to destroy wolves to protect themselves, their family members, their pets, or other domestic animals from attack was passed on the House floor but did not fare so well in the Senate.

The timber wolf, or gray wolf, was put on the endangered species list in 1974, but Minnesota's wolf population has exceeded the federal requirement to be removed from the list since 1994. However, the federal government is unlikely to "de-list" the wolf without a state plan to protect the wolf from becoming endangered again.

A group of 34 citizens representing various



A bill that would have put in place a statewide wolf management plan did not become law in 1999. The gray wolf has been on the federal endangered species list since 1974, and a state management plan is one requirement for removing Minnesota's growing gray wolf population from that list.

interests and the state Department of Natural Resources (DNR) began meeting as a roundtable in 1997 to develop a wolf management plan.

That group discussed the problems of reducing conflicts between wolves and people while also protecting the state's wolf population. Most roundtable participants agreed that the wolf population should be controlled somewhat, but there were disagreements over what circumstances should justify the killing of wolves.

The roundtable agreed to a compromise proposal, which led to bills being introduced in the House and Senate. The measure that passed the full House contained a controversial amendment that would have allowed the DNR to establish an open hunting season on wolves.

Under that plan, sponsored by Rep. Tim Finseth (R-Angus), the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) could have developed a plan to control the wolf population so that it would stay at or above the federal requirement, which is 1,400 in Minnesota.

Trapping and hunting procedures would

have been established if the wolf population should exceed 1,600. But any wolf trapping and hunting would have been prohibited in the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness.

Also, illegal hunting of a gray wolf would have been a gross misdemeanor, and the restitution value of a wolf would have been set at \$250. The bill would have allowed people to use a trained guard animal to protect livestock from gray wolves, and people could have killed a gray wolf if it attacked a human or threatened livestock or other animals. A person killing a wolf would have been required to report the incident to a conservation officer within 48 hours.

Some House lawmakers advocated amending the bill to revert to the roundtable's compromise agreement. No open hunting season on wolves would have been allowed under that agreement.

In the Senate, the bill was modified in several committees and sponsor Sen. Jane Krentz (DFL-May Township) made a successful motion to lay it on the table before it came up for a vote on the Senate floor.

HF1415/SF1543



ETHICS

Gift ban remains intact

A House-Senate conference committee failed to reach consensus on a campaign finance and ethics bill before the end of the 1999 session.

The Senate version of the bill would have allowed a food and beverage exemption to the state's so-called gift ban on lawmakers, but the House version would have upheld that part of the ban.

Current law prohibits elected officials from receiving gifts from lobbyists or principals—organizations that hire lobbyists. But some lawmakers have argued that the gift ban should not apply to food or beverages in some situations.

House lawmakers voted against an amendment proposed on the House floor by Rep. Dave Bishop (R-Rochester) that would have exempted food and beverages costing up to \$5 from the ban. Bishop called the current gift ban a "loony provision of law." He said buying someone a cup of coffee is common courtesy and his proposal would allow a "minimal level of hospitality."

Rep. Jim Knobloch (R-St. Cloud), House sponsor of the bill, strongly opposed Bishop's proposal. He said a former representative

from his district had described the days before the gift ban, when lobbyists would pay for a legislator's breakfast, lunch, and dinner. And many receptions would be held throughout the year with food and beverages provided by lobbyists.

Both versions of the bill contained other exemptions to the gift ban, such as gift exchanges at family events based on friendships that pre-date the recipient becoming an elected official.

Also, elected officials would have been able to accept a gift or a meal from their employer in the normal course of business, provided that all other employees receive the same gift. Under current law, an elected official who works as a teacher, for example, would have to pay for a meal provided to all other teachers at an event sponsored by the teachers' union. In those kinds of situations, the lawmaker who also works as a teacher would be the only person who is expected to pay for the meal.

But none of those exemptions were passed into law, as conference committee members did not agree on a compromise version to send back to each chamber for final approval.

Sen. Ember Reichgott Junge (DFL-New Hope) sponsored the Senate bill.
HF441/SF516

From lawmaker to lobbyist

Former state legislators would have been prevented from lobbying at the Capitol for one year after leaving office, under a bill passed by the House but not by the Senate.

House Speaker Steve Sviggum (R-Kenyon), the House bill's sponsor, said his goal was to avoid any appearance of impropriety.

He said lobbyists play an important role in the legislative process and that the bill was not meant as a critical statement on the lobbying profession.

But, he added, legislators have a special bond and they develop friendships while working together. Those friendships with former colleagues could give former lawmakers an unfair advantage over other lobbyists and undue influence over their former colleagues.

Critics opposed the one-year ban as unnecessary, saying former legislators have not taken advantage of friendships when they've become professional lobbyists.

Others said Minnesota already has stricter regulations on lobbying than other states. The state prohibits lobbyists from giving gifts

to elected officials, and several other regulations are designed to prevent any lobbyist from having undue influence on a lawmaker.

Several lawmakers advocated applying the one-year ban to legislative staff, judges, or commissioners of state departments or agencies, but Sviggum said he wanted to keep it specific to former legislators.

Similar legislation has been introduced and voted down in recent years, but Sviggum said that was partly because so many amendments were added to those bills. He encouraged committee members to pass the bill without amendments and said that separate legislation could address concerns regarding other people who become lobbyists.

Sen. John Marty (DFL-Roseville) sponsored the Senate bill, which never received a hearing in the Senate Election Laws Committee.

HF9/SF46



FAMILY

Making marriage stick

A proposal to offer married couples or couples planning to wed in Minnesota the option of a covenant marriage failed to become law this session.

Bill sponsor Rep. Elaine Harder (R-Jackson) said her bill would give couples the option of having "a deeper, more committed marriage."

The bill would have created a new type of marriage called a covenant marriage, and it would have provided procedures for entering into such an arrangement, including mandatory counseling for couples.

Under the bill, covenant marriages would have differed from standard marriages in that they would have been exempt from the state's no-fault divorce laws.

Divorce in a covenant marriage would have only been granted in cases of adultery, abandonment, physical or sexual abuse, or when a spouse has committed a felony-level crime and is incarcerated.

In the House, the bill was approved by the Civil Law and Judiciary Finance committees, but didn't come up for a vote on the House floor. In the Senate, the bill didn't make it out of the Judiciary Committee.

Sen. Steve Dille (R-Dassel) sponsored the bill in the Senate.

HF1571/SF1955

Get counseling, save cash

A plan to provide couples who receive premarital counseling a deal on the cost of a marriage license will have to wait. The Senate made it to the chapel, but the House got cold feet.

The current fee for a marriage license in Minnesota is \$70. Under the bill, couples who participate in at least 12 hours of counseling with a licensed counselor or ordained minister would have gotten a \$50 discount. The measure called for recouping costs by increasing the fee for filing for divorce.

"I think it is in the best interest of the state of Minnesota for people to enter into marriage very carefully with information about themselves, their relationship, and their future plans," said House sponsor Rep. Elaine Harder (R-Jackson).

The bill passed the full Senate but later stalled in the House Ways and Means Committee.

Sen. Steve Dille (R-Dassel) sponsored the measure in the Senate.

HF2229/SF884



GAMBLING

Casino at Canterbury

A bill that aimed to let voters decide if there should be slot machines at Canterbury Park was out of the starting gates but didn't make it to the finish line in 1999.

Lawmakers considered a plan that would have put a constitutional amendment on the 2000 ballot to let voters decide if a state-sanctioned casino should be established at the Shakopee horse-racing track.

The House Governmental Operations and Veterans Affairs Policy Committee approved the bill and sent it to the House Rules and Legislative Administration Committee, where the bill stalled. The Senate bill, sponsored by Sen. Douglas Johnson (DFL-Tower), never received a committee hearing.

Rep. Mark Holsten (R-Stillwater), House sponsor of the bill, acknowledged the controversy inherent in proposals to change gambling laws in the state, but he said that it would give a much-needed boost to the horse racing industry and to local farmers.

Under the original bill, a percentage of the proceeds from the slot machines would have been used to increase the purses for horse races. Members of the Governmental Operations and Veterans Affairs Policy Committee removed that provision, so the final proposal

would have simply asked voters whether or not card games and slot machines should operate at the park.

In the past four years, the total purses at Canterbury Park have been about \$4 million per year. One of the track's closest competitors is Prairie Meadows in Des Moines, Iowa, which has about 1,000 slot machines that help generate purses totaling about \$15 million.

The higher purses attract more horses to the track, a better quality of horses, and more breeders to Iowa, Holsten said. Many breeders who were once based in Minnesota have migrated south.

Among the benefits of revitalizing that industry would be a related boost to agriculture. The grain consumed by horses, for example, would increase demand for local commodities, Holsten said.

Opponents of the measure said the potential benefits are not worth the increased risk of compulsive gambling or other consequences of allowing more slot machines in the state.

HF1374/SF1505



GAME & FISH

Hunting preserves shelved

A plan to allow a limited number of elk and deer farmers across the state to open fenced-in shooting preserves was approved by the House, but was shot down in a House-Senate conference committee.

Farmed cervidae — the biological name for the family of animals including elk and deer — are currently raised on Minnesota farms for fiber, meat, animal byproducts, or as breeding stock.

Rep. Mark Holsten (R-Stillwater) sponsored the House measure, which would have expanded the permitted uses of farmed cervidae to include stocking them on up to 10 licensed shooting preserves.

Holsten's bill was rolled into the House version of the omnibus agriculture, environment, and natural resources spending bill (HF2388/SF2226*). In the Senate, the plan received a hearing in the Environment and Agriculture Budget Division but was not included in that panel's omnibus bill. The House-approved provision was dropped in conference committee.

The plan was supported by the Minnesota Elk Breeders Association, whose representatives told lawmakers that shooting preserves would contribute millions of dollars in feed

and fencing purchases to local economies.

An animal killed by a patron of a shooting preserve would bring in several times the dollar value that slaughter would yield, they said.

Officials from the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, animal rights groups, and even some hunters testified that shooting farm-raised, fenced-in animals is completely different from traditional hunting.

Sen. LeRoy Stumpf (DFL-Thief River Falls) sponsored the Senate measure.

HF710/SF720



HEALTH

Abortion bills stall

Three major abortion-related initiatives and a handful of minor ones did not win final passage during the 1999 session.

Lawmakers in the House included the provisions in an omnibus health and human services finance bill. However, the Senate version contained none of them. The provisions were dropped in conference committee.

One bill (HF177/SF210), sponsored by Rep. Richard Mulder (R-Ivanhoe) and Sen. Thomas Neuville (R-Northfield), would have banned certain procedures, called partial-birth abortions. It also would have established criminal penalties for violating the ban and would have allowed civil penalties to be sought.

Another bill (HF178/SF187), sponsored by Rep. Lynda Boudreau (R-Faribault) and Sen. Michelle Fischbach (R-Paynesville), would have prohibited a woman from receiving an abortion unless she received certain information at least 24 hours before the procedure. Under the plan, civil penalties could have been applied for violations.

And a third bill (HF377/SF326), sponsored by Rep. Kevin Goodno (R-Moorhead) and Sen. David Knutson (R-Burnsville), would have amended the state's abortion notification statutes to require additional information to be compiled and reported. The measure would have sought information on parental notification and judicial authorizations for abortion performed on minors and women with guardians or conservators.

In several committee hearings this year, opponents of all three bills argued that they are unconstitutional and would make it difficult for women to obtain a legal procedure.

Supporters claimed the proposals are reasonable and responsible ways to address legitimate concerns about abortion issues.

Encouraging organ donation

Plans to create a "Minnesota donor decision campaign" did not survive a House-Senate conference committee in 1999.

Funding totaling \$2 million over the next biennium for the project was rolled into the House version of the omnibus health and human services spending bill, but it was not included in the Senate's version.

The measure, sponsored by Rep. Darlene Luther (DFL-Brooklyn Park), herself the recipient of an organ transplant, contained a variety of features aimed at raising public awareness of the critical need for organ donations.

Luther called for a campaign to include research and public opinion surveys to assess attitudes toward organ, tissue, and eye donations and to evaluate public awareness efforts. She also sought advertising and public education programs aimed at raising awareness about organ donation and encouraging people to become donors.

Luther said that across the country 10 people die each day waiting for transplants.

More than 1,300 Minnesotans currently await a lifesaving organ transplant. The waiting list grows 12 percent to 15 percent annually, but the number of donors remains essentially unchanged.

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

HF127/SF348



HIGHER EDUCATION

Regent selection plan

A plan that would have altered the nominating process for members of the University of Minnesota Board of Regents failed to win approval in 1999.

The plan was backed by Rep. Lyndon Carlson (DFL-Crystal) and would have required all incumbent regents seeking reelection to automatically become finalists during the selection of a slate of candidates.

Currently, the Regent Candidate Advisory Council recruits and interviews candidates every two years for four spots on the 12-member board. The citizen panel then selects two to four names for each open seat and forwards them to the Legislature.

A joint House and Senate committee interviews the candidates and narrows the slate to one candidate for each seat, and the entire Legislature votes on those candidates.

During the February 1999 regent election, former Regent Julie Bleyhl was not selected as a finalist. She was twice nominated at the last minute during the Legislature's vote, but did not win a second term.

The election of regents has long been an issue of controversy in the Legislature because some view the process as too political. Carlson's proposal drew criticism from some lawmakers, who said it would put incumbents on the inside track to re-election and undermine the council's authority.

But Carlson said the measure would make the situation less uncomfortable for incumbent regents. He said he had heard from some incumbents who said they feel they are held to a different standard during the initial interview process because of their board experience.

Lawmakers on the House Education Policy Committee discussed the measure, but sent it on to another committee without a recommendation. The House Higher Education Finance Committee included the proposal in its version of the omnibus higher education package, but the plan did not survive House-Senate conference committee negotiations.

Sen. Ember Reichgott Junge (DFL-New Hope) sponsored the measure in the Senate, where it was discussed but no action was taken.

HF2056/SF1948

The other proposed mandate would have required health plans to cover hearing aids and eyeglasses for people who are hearing impaired and rely on vision for communication — either through American Sign Language or lip reading.

Rep. Greg Davids (R-Preston), chair of the House Commerce Committee, said he plans to study ways to resolve the problems related to mandates on the insurance industry.

One issue is that mandates tend to cause the industry to raise premiums. Another is that federal law exempts health plans provided by self-insured companies from state mandates.

About one-third of Minnesotans are covered by health plans provided by self-insured companies. State mandates on health coverage only apply to individuals and small employers who buy health insurance through the private market.

Some lawmakers said more and more medium-sized companies are switching to self-insured plans to avoid higher premiums due to state mandates.

Rep. Harry Mares (R-White Bear Lake) and Sen. Charles Wiger (DFL-North St. Paul) sponsored the proposal to require coverage related to cochlear implants. The bill (HF186/SF208) stalled in committee in the House and awaited a vote on the Senate floor when the session ended.

Rep. Luanne Koskinen (DFL-Coon Rapids) and Sen. Richard Cohen (DFL-St. Paul) sponsored the proposed mandate related to eyeglasses and hearing aids. That bill (HF846/SF243) met a similar fate.

costs incurred by the local government.

City officials in Minneapolis and St. Paul have said that they are considering filing similar claims against gun manufacturers.

The bill before the Legislature would have prohibited local units of government or political subdivisions from bringing lawsuits against gun manufacturers. But the state would still be allowed to bring forward such legal action.

In the House, the bill was approved by the House Civil Law Committee but didn't come up for a vote on the House floor. In the Senate, the bill stalled in the Senate Judiciary Committee.

Proponents of the bill argue that gun manufacturers produce legal products designed for self-defense, and the industry shouldn't be held responsible for the actions of people who use their products illegally. Others say that the cities are unfairly using litigation to implement public policy.

Similar legislation is pending before about 20 state legislatures and before Congress, and some governors have already signed such bills into state law.

In Atlanta, where a similar law was passed by the Georgia Legislature, the city's mayor has said that he will push forward with the lawsuit despite the state's action, which may force the courts to rule on the validity of the law.

Rep. Steve Smith (R-Mound) and Sen. Douglas Johnson (DFL-Tower) sponsored the bill.

HF1704/SF1135

Hike for jury stipends

Last year's tobacco trial netted the state a \$6.1 billion settlement. However, juror David Olson told lawmakers that he lost up to \$50,000 because of the four-and-a-half month trial.

Olson testified in favor of a bill that would have provided relief to jurors in long-running civil trials.

Under the bill, judges could have provided jurors an additional daily stipend of up to \$75 in cases of economic hardship. Litigants would have had to cough up the additional funds, and judges would have decided how much each litigant would pay.

During the tobacco trial — which was eventually settled outside of court — Olson was paid \$30 a day. In the meantime, he was responsible for raising his two daughters and for paying a \$1,300 monthly house payment.



INSURANCE

Mandates for health plans

Two proposals designed to help people who are hearing impaired failed to make it through the committee process, partly due to lawmakers' concerns about the consequences of mandates on health insurers.

One proposal would have required health plans to cover costs related to implant devices that help people hear, known as cochlear implants. The surgically implanted devices transmit sounds to the auditory nerve, bypassing the person's damaged inner ear.

While some insurance plans cover the costs of cochlear implant surgery, most plans do not cover post-operative expenses, such as speech therapy or repair costs if part of the device breaks down.



LAW

Forbidding gun lawsuits

A plan to prohibit Minnesota cities and counties from taking legal action against the gun industry failed to become law this year.

Several cities — such as New Orleans, Atlanta, Cleveland, Chicago, Los Angeles, Miami, and San Francisco — have recently brought lawsuits against the gun industry.

Attorneys for the city of Chicago, for example, claim that manufacturers and distributors are flooding the suburban markets with guns, making it easier for criminals to bring guns into the city where gun laws are more strict.

Other cities claim that gun manufacturers failed to incorporate safety features on their products and should be held liable for related

He was forced to refinance his home and to rely on credit to pay the bills, he said.

Olson said he tried to tell the judge that the case was causing economic hardship, but the judge was not convinced and wouldn't relieve him of jury duty.

House sponsor Rep. Dave Bishop (R-Rochester) said he sponsored the bill to address "the huge injustice in the way we treat jurors."

But Olson said Bishop's plan might not go far enough.

"Even with this (\$75) a day plus the additional \$30 from the county, it wouldn't have helped me," he said.

In the House, members of the House Civil Law Committee laid the bill over to allow Bishop to work with judges on the issue. In the Senate, the bill didn't make it out of the Senate Judiciary Committee.

Sen. Warren Limmer (R-Maple Grove) sponsored the legislation in the Senate.

Two other bills dealing with the issue did become law in 1999. One bill (HF1153/SF973*/CH71) authorizes the state court system to study the issue of how jurors could best be compensated for costs during extended trials. (See *related story*, page 56.)

And the claims measure (HF2221/SF2052*/CH169) provides compensation to Olson and the two other jurors most affected by the 1998 tobacco trial. (See *related story*, page 39.)

HF351/SF1322

Limits on liability

A bill that would have put a stop to what some consider the unfair practice of going after "deep pockets" in multiple-defendant lawsuits failed to become law this year.

The proposal passed the House but later stalled in the Senate Judiciary Committee.

The bill would have changed Minnesota's joint and several liability law. That common law principle states that in cases where there are multiple defendants, each defendant is responsible for all the damages if other defendants cannot pay.

Under existing law, joint and several liability is somewhat limited. Defendants found by the court to have a small amount of fault — 15 percent or less — can be held liable only for up to four times the percentage they are found to be at fault. That can mean they end up paying up to 60 percent of the total award if another defendant cannot pay because of bankruptcy.

The bill, sponsored in the House by Rep.

Dave Bishop (R-Rochester), would have changed the law so that defendants found to be less than 40 percent at fault would only be required to pay for their percentage of the damages, even if their co-defendant is bankrupt.

But if a defendant was found to be more than 40 percent at fault, the defendant could have been responsible for the entire amount of the damages, under the bill.

Bishop said the current law unfairly targets defendants with a small amount of fault.

"This becomes a method of skewing financial responsibility different from legal responsibility that the juries assess," he said.

But Rep. Kevin Goodno (R-Moorhead) said that the plaintiff who may have his or her total award reduced would suffer under Bishop's plan. He said the current law on joint and several liability recognizes that "but for" the actions of all defendants, the person wouldn't have been injured.

"We should hold people responsible for their actions that cause injuries to people," he said.

Goodno also said the Bishop bill could have cost the state financially because the state receives third party payments as a plaintiff in certain lawsuits. He said defendants paid \$78 million to the state in 1997.

Also under the bill, several types of lawsuits would have remained joint and severally liable — liable for the entire amount if another defendant cannot pay — even for defendants found to be at fault under the 40-percent threshold.

Certain environmental cases, defendants who act in a common scheme, and civil actions requiring an element of intent still would have been held joint and severally liable.

Sen. John Hottinger (DFL-Mankato) sponsored the bill in the Senate.

HF90/SF282



LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Cities and counties pay up

Minnesota cities and counties collect property taxes, a portion of which are in turn used to help pay state sales taxes on some purchases made by the municipal governments.

That practice will continue, at least for now.

A proposal sponsored by Rep. Bill Haas (R-Champlin) would have exempted from

sales tax all purchases made by local governments. It would have scrapped a laundry list of items that are specifically exempted under current law and replaced it with a blanket exemption.

Haas' proposal and other identical bills stalled in the tax committees in both the House and Senate.

Haas, who said he's been working on the legislation for five years, was the mayor of Champlin when the Legislature initially approached cities and counties with the idea of making them subject to sales tax in 1991.

At the time, the state was desperately trying to balance its budget, and in exchange for the sales tax revenue, it offered to establish a local government trust fund with a portion of the money collected.

Haas said the sales tax is particularly burdensome in disaster situations, such as those faced by several cities and counties last year after storms ravaged many communities.

Sales taxes paid annually range from thousands of dollars by small cities to hundreds of thousands of dollars by larger cities and counties.

If the bill had passed, the state would have lost about \$175 million in revenue over the next biennium.

Sen. Dan Stevens (R-Mora) sponsored the measure in the Senate.

HF52/SF330



SAFETY

Fireworks for sale

Proposals for limited legalization of fireworks never got off the ground in 1999.

Rep. Tom Rukavina (DFL-Virginia) sponsored one such measure, which would have allowed people age 18 or older to purchase firecrackers, bottle rockets, sparklers, and other novelty fireworks from July 1 to July 7 each year. The measure also would have required written safety guidelines to be issued with each purchase.

Penalties for violating related laws also would have been modified under the proposal. Under current state law, the maximum penalty for possessing 35 pounds or more of fireworks is one year in jail and a \$3,000 fine. The maximum penalty for possessing less than 35 pounds of fireworks is 90 days in jail and a \$700 fine.

The bill would have kept the same penalty for possessing more than 35 pounds of fireworks, but the penalty for possessing the

smaller amounts would have been changed to a petty misdemeanor with a maximum fine of \$200.

Proponents of the measure said it would allow the state to regulate a practice that is already common, because fireworks can be purchased in neighboring states.

But opponents argued that fireworks should remain illegal because they are dangerous. Eye doctors and firefighters were among the groups that spoke against legalizing fireworks.

The critics said that bottle rockets are the most dangerous of the common fireworks, particularly when it comes to eye injuries. But even sparklers, which burn at 1,800 degrees Fahrenheit, have caused serious accidents.

Rukavina's bill (HF233) fell one vote short of approval in the House Commerce Committee. The Senate companion (SF314), sponsored by Sen. Jerry Janezich (DFL-Chisholm), never received a hearing in the Senate Commerce Committee.

A separate plan to legalize non-explosive fireworks — such as sparklers, snakes, and smoke bombs — during the days around New Year's Eve and Independence Day was also considered this year.

The House Commerce Committee approved the bill (HF1896), sponsored by Rep. Henry Todd Van Dellen (R-Plymouth), and referred it to the House Crime Prevention Committee. That panel never took action on Van Dellen's proposal. There was no Senate companion bill.



TAXES

Collecting from retailers

A large number of Minnesota's retailers will continue to consider June their least favorite month.

They've been doing so since 1981, when the Legislature passed something called "accelerated payments," requiring certain businesses to submit at least 75 percent of their estimated June sales, liquor, and tobacco tax payments two business days before June 30. The balance of the June liability is due by Aug. 14. And if businesses don't estimate correctly, they can be penalized.

The practice was adopted in response to a state fiscal crisis. It was designed to allow the state to shift revenues forward from one fiscal year to another. The state fiscal year ends June 30.

A bill sponsored by Rep. George Cassell (R-Alexandria) would have ended the accelerated payments, but it remained on the cutting room floor in 1999 after both House and Senate versions of the omnibus tax bills were compiled.

Supporters said now that the state is running a large budget surplus, it is time to halt the 18-year-old practice.

The proposal would have cost to the state a one-time hit of \$146 million in the 2000-01 biennium. Although no less money would be collected, some of the funds would come in during a different biennium.

A later proposal to begin phasing in an elimination of the accelerated payments also stalled.

Officials from Minnesota Merchants Association and Minnesota Grocers Association spoke in favor of the repeal.

About 3,400 businesses that collect more than \$120,000 annually in these taxes are affected by the accelerated payments schedule.

Sen. Linda Scheid (DFL-Brooklyn Park) sponsored the measure in the Senate.

HF355/SF747

Few cheers for tax plan

Rep. Tom Rukavina (DFL-Virginia) doesn't believe taking a drink is a sin, but he thinks the tax you pay on the alcoholic beverage you purchase might be.

Rukavina sponsored a bill that would have gradually reduced the tax rate on alcoholic beverages from 8.5 to 6.5 percent by 2003. The bill was not included in the House version of the omnibus tax bill, nor was it part of the Senate companion.

Rukavina said he was not asking to eliminate the tax. He sought to reduce it only as a "matter of fairness."

Rukavina and those who testified in favor of the bill pointed out that the tax is particularly hard on border communities.

A spokesman for the Municipal Beverage Association, which represents communities with city-owned liquor stores, said 35 retail outlets have gone out of business in recent years, many of them in border cities, as a result of the tax.

The state collects nearly \$23 million in alcoholic beverage taxes every two years from 4,500 retailers.

Sen. Steve Murphy (DFL-Red Wing) sponsored the measure in the Senate.

HF617/SF648

Affordable housing plan

A measure that would have created a low-income housing tax credit in Minnesota similar to one already provided by the federal government did not make it into law in 1999.

Rep. Andy Dawkins (DFL-St. Paul), who sponsored the plan, said that by replicating the federal program, additional housing could be built without adding more bureaucracy.

About 1,500 new housing units, mostly apartments, are built annually in the state with money from the federal tax incentive



Although lawmakers discussed two plans to allow a limited legalization of fireworks, neither the full House nor the full Senate took up the proposals and it continues to be illegal to possess the devices in Minnesota.

program. Dawkins believes that number could have doubled if his bill had become law.

But the bill stalled in committee in the House and Senate.

Under the federal law, tax credits are sold at auction and investors purchase them, creating a pool of money for housing developments targeted to those in need. The money is made available to developers to build the projects. An independent company is often hired to run the housing complexes.

Dawkins said encouraging private sector participation is a good way to attain low-income housing goals, adding that past moves by the Legislature to lower property taxes on apartment buildings have not had a great deal of impact.

The bill would have cost the state about \$5 million annually.

Sen. Ellen Anderson (DFL-St. Paul) sponsored the measure in the Senate.

HF584/SF493

Sales tax exemptions

Lawmakers considered but did not pass numerous proposals to exempt specific goods and services — ranging from books to vitamins — from the state sales tax.

Rep. Margaret Anderson Kelliher (DFL-Mpls) and Sen. Steve Kelley (DFL-Hopkins) sponsored a plan to allow Minnesota's booksellers to stop charging sales tax. The bill (HF365/SF332) that would have exempted all sales of books, magazines, and other periodicals stalled in committee in both bodies.

Kelliher said the exemption was important in helping booksellers compete against "e-commerce," business transacted on the Internet.

"We exempt food and clothing now," Kelliher said. "Let's consider books food and clothing of the mind."

A separate proposal to eliminate the sales tax on pollution control equipment and solar energy systems was also considered by lawmakers during the 1999 legislative session.

Rep. Ann H. Rest (DFL-New Hope), House sponsor of the plan, said that while the state encourages the use of solar energy with one hand, it taxes those who purchase solar energy equipment with the other. And although the state and federal government mandate that industries purchase pollution control devices, the state punishes businesses for complying by charging sales tax.

The bill would have added pollution control equipment to the definition of capital

equipment in state statute, thus making purchasers eligible to deduct sales taxes paid at the end of the tax year. Solar energy systems used in commercial applications would have been exempted categorically, making the savings available at the time of purchase. Purchases by electric utilities would not have been included.

Sen. John Hottinger (DFL-Mankato) sponsored the bill (HF86/SF124) in the Senate.

Rep. Larry Howes (R-Hackensack) argued this year that the efforts of tailors and seamstresses in Minnesota should not be subject to sales tax. He sponsored a bill that would have exempted repair and alteration of clothes from taxation.

Howes said it is generally not the state's policy to tax for "necessities of life," such as food and clothing. Howes' bill received a hearing in the House Taxes Committee but advanced no further.

The Minnesota sales tax applies to most tangible personal products and a limited number of services. In 1987, as part of an effort to increase state revenues, a number of services were added to the sales tax base. The alteration business was among them, along with cleaning, pressing, and storing clothes.

Sen. Michelle Fischbach (R-Paynesville) sponsored the bill (HF396/SF1085) in the Senate, where the plan also stalled in committee.

Other failed proposals this year included an effort to help consumers who buy vitamins and some other healthy products. Such purchases are currently subject to sales tax.

A bill (HF422/SF474), sponsored by Rep. Karen Clark (DFL-Mpls) and Sen. Steve Murphy (DFL-Red Wing), would have exempted vitamins, minerals, and other dietary supplements from sales tax.

Proponents argued it is not fair to tax an item based on the "delivery method," or the goals of the consumer when buying it. For example, the herb rosemary when sold fresh or dried for cooking is not taxed. However, dried rosemary capsules, which deliver a rich source of antioxidants, are taxed. The same is true for ginger, garlic, and broccoli sprouts, among other things.

Lawmakers also did not embrace a bill that would have exempted from sales tax purchases of necessary machinery, equipment, and supplies for use when Minnesota's television stations begin broadcasting digital television.

In April 1997, the Federal Communications Commission issued orders requiring

affiliates of the top four television networks in the 30 largest markets in the country to begin broadcasting digital television signals by Nov. 1, 1999. The remaining stations must comply by 2007, when the commission plans to end analog television signals entirely.

That mandate has left owners of television stations scrambling to find and pay for new equipment. Owners of smaller stations in outlying areas of Minnesota said they fear the mandates may put them out of business.

Rep. Ron Abrams (R-Minnetonka) and Sen. Linda Scheid (DFL-Brooklyn Park) sponsored the bill (HF2007/SF1381), which did not make it into the final omnibus tax law in 1999.

Higher bar for tax hikes

A proposal to make it more difficult for the Legislature to raise taxes failed to clear the Senate.

A plan approved by the House would have given voters the chance to decide if the state should require a three-fifths vote, rather than a simple majority, to pass a tax hike.

The proposal, sponsored by Rep. Tim Wilkin (R-Eagan), called for a vote on a constitutional amendment to require a "super-majority" for the Legislature to increase state sales or income tax, impose a new tax, or raise any property tax levy set by state law.

Wilkin and his supporters said change is needed for legislators to keep faith with those who elected them. Citizens clearly want less tax burden, they argued, adding that such a constitutional amendment would not prohibit enacting new taxes or raising existing taxes, but would only require a greater consensus.

Opponents called the proposal a "Californiafication" of Minnesota politics. After the 1978 passage of Proposition 13 — a wide-reaching tax reform measure that included a super-majority requirement — and subsequent reforms, California has seen that giving power to "entrenched minorities" is not conducive to good government, they argued.

Sen. Gen Olson (R-Minnestrissa) sponsored the measure in the Senate.

HF5/SF729

Encouraging transit use

There are probably hundreds of ways to convince people to ride the bus to work, but giving employers tax breaks for providing transit passes won't be among them anytime soon.

A bill that would have provided a tax credit for employers who provide reduced-price transit passes for their employees was left out of the omnibus tax law passed by the Legislature.

Under the bill, employers would have received an income tax credit equal to 30 percent of the cost of transit passes provided to employees. The credit would have applied to both the corporate franchise tax and the income tax.

However, the credit would not have applied to any amount the employer recoups from employees by selling the passes at a "bargain" price.

Passes for both public and private transit systems would have qualified under the plan, as long as six or more passengers were carried on the vehicles.

The idea drew cheers from those who are attempting to find ways to provide less congested access to downtown Minneapolis and St. Paul and those hoping to avoid building more parking ramps.

Some lawmakers expressed concerns that the bill would have only benefited metropolitan areas, giving businesses there a competitive advantage by allowing them to save on taxes and parking costs and to attract employees.

If it had been adopted, the plan would have cost the state an estimated \$2 million per year in lost tax revenue.

Rep. Dan McElroy (R-Burnsville) and Sen. Carol Flynn (DFL-Minneapolis) sponsored the measure.

HF723/SF813



TRANSPORTATION

Sane lanes to stay

The campaign to put an end to controversial Twin Cities-area "sane" lanes was stopped short by lawmakers this session.

Sane lanes, otherwise known as high-occupancy vehicle (HOV) lanes, operate on two heavily traveled highways in the Twin Cities area.

One runs on Interstate 35W between Lakeville and Bloomington, and the other

runs on Interstate 394 between St. Louis Park and downtown Minneapolis.

A proposal touted by Rep. Doug Reuter (I-Owatonna) and Sen. Dick Day (R-Owatonna) would have eliminated those designated lanes, which are reserved for carpools and buses during peak traffic hours. (Reuter changed his party affiliation from Republican to Independent shortly after the conclusion of the 1999 session.)

Reuter said he thinks the lanes are not being used to their expected capacity. He said drivers of single-occupancy vehicles who see an empty lane while sitting in rush-hour traffic are motivated to break the law and use the HOV lane.

But with an estimated Twin Cities population growth of 650,000 by 2020, some lawmakers expressed concern that shutting down HOV lanes would give people the wrong message about promoting mass transit.

Lawmakers on the House Transportation Policy Committee rejected the plan, and their colleagues on the Senate Transportation Committee never took action on the measure.

HF367/SF13

Ramp meters remain

A much talked-about plan to turn off Twin Cities-area freeway ramp meters did not win the support of lawmakers during the 1999 session.

Rep. Doug Reuter (I-Owatonna) and Sen. Dick Day (R-Owatonna) sponsored the measure, which would have shut down ramp

meters for one month to study how they affect traffic flow. (Reuter changed his party affiliation from Republican to Independent shortly after the conclusion of the 1999 session.)

There are nearly 400 metered ramps in the Twin Cities area.

Lawmakers on the House Transportation Policy Committee discussed the plan and voted against it, saying the meters are safety devices that help moderate heavy freeway traffic.

"I have difficulty even thinking of turning these off," said Rep. Carol Molnau (R-Chaska), who objected to the study because of safety concerns.

Reuter said too many people abuse the meter system and that the money spent to install and operate the meters would be better spent on road or bridge repair.

But other lawmakers on the committee disagreed and said they have not heard from many constituents requesting the meter study.

In the Senate, the bill was rolled into an early version of the omnibus transportation finance legislation. However, the plan did not make the final cut in conference committee negotiations.

HF442/SF14

Transit minus the masses

Another shot at introducing personal rapid transit (PRT) as a transportation alternative in the Twin Cities didn't make it past a House committee in 1999.

Rep. Bill Kuisle (R-Rochester) sponsored a



A plan to temporarily turn off freeway ramp meters in the Twin Cities stalled at the Capitol in 1999.



Lawmakers considered a plan to study the viability of personal rapid transit, which would use small cars and run on an elevated rail line. This idea has been debated at the Capitol before. The photomontage above shows what such a system might look like in downtown Minneapolis. The image comes from a 1973 report called "Minneapolis People Mover" and produced by the city.

plan that would have funded a \$600,000 study of PRT, a proposed system of small, individual cars that run on an elevated rail line.

The system would be designed to run 24 hours a day and the cars could fit one person or a group of passengers. Traveling at 30 mph, a PRT car would not stop until reaching its passenger's customized destination. Advocates say it would be a low-cost, energy-efficient system compared with other mass transit options.

The idea has been a recurring one before Minnesota lawmakers, competing with light rail and commuter rail to become a force in metropolitan-area mass transit. It was most heavily studied in the 1970s, but garnered only short-lived support.

Lawmakers on the House Transportation Finance Committee discussed the bill, but did not include it in the 1999 omnibus transportation spending plan.

Sen. Dean Johnson (R-Willmar) sponsored the plan in the Senate. It was referred to the Senate Transportation Committee, but did not receive a hearing.

HF2041/SF1991

Local speed limits

A plan that would have let cities set their own speed limits met opposition again in the 1999 Legislature.

Rep. Henry Todd Van Dellen (R-Plymouth) and Sen. Gen Olson (R-Minnetrista) backed the proposal, which would have allowed all cities and towns to set their own speed limits on residential streets and other local roads. It would have applied only to roads over which cities have jurisdiction. The proposal is similar to one that stalled on the House floor in 1998.

Under current law, city streets have a speed limit of 30 mph, and cities can apply to the Minnesota Department of Transportation to have the limits lowered.

Lawmakers on the House Transportation Policy Committee approved the bill, but the measure never came up on the House floor. The Senate version did not receive a committee hearing.

HF1196/SF1653

No cut in tab fees

While Gov. Jesse Ventura succeeded in his push to secure funding for light-rail transit, his proposal to cut license tab fees did not fare as well before the 1999 Legislature.

In his biennial budget recommendations, Ventura urged lawmakers to institute a cap of \$75 for the annual motor-vehicle registration tax — commonly known as the license tab fee. The cap would have applied for each year after the initial registration at the purchase of a new vehicle.

The initial motor-vehicle registration tax would have been figured as it is currently — based on a percentage of the new car's suggested retail price.

Some lawmakers were concerned that Ventura's plan would take too much money away from highway and road repair funds, and that concern prompted various proposals to restructure transportation funding.

Several lawmakers, including Rep. Bill Kuisle (R-Rochester), introduced bills that would have changed the rate and schedule of the motor-vehicle registration tax and constitutionally guaranteed enough money for transportation needs.

Kuisle's bill was approved by the House Transportation Finance Committee, but stalled in the House Taxes Committee. The Senate version, sponsored by Sen. Keith Langseth (DFL-Glyndon), was eventually included in the Senate's omnibus tax bill. But those provisions were removed from the final measure (HF2420*/SF1276/CH243) by the House-Senate conference committee.

In the end, a reduction in the state income tax won out over lowering the motor vehicle registration tax. Minnesotans hoping for a cut in tab fees will have to stay tuned until next year.

HF446/SF362

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Summary

Technical summaries of bills sent to the governor

Editor's Note: The Summary section of *New Laws 1999* includes information about all 250 bills and three resolutions the Legislature (House and Senate) approved during the 1999 session.

Of the bills the Legislature approved, Gov. Jesse Ventura vetoed six and line-item vetoed portions of 12. The Legislature successfully overrode one of the vetoes.

Most of the bills in this section are categorized numerically by chapter number under the House committee of origin (the committee to which the speaker of the House first referred them). Each entry includes: a brief title; House file, Senate file, and chapter numbers; chief authors; the official technical title as it appeared on the version of the bill the governor considered; the enactment date; and the effective date(s).

The following term definitions will be helpful in reading this section:

- **Enactment date** — The date the governor signed the bill into law.
- † — The bill was filed or became law without the governor's signature.
- **Vetoed** — The governor did not approve the bill.
- **Line-item veto** — The governor signed the appropriations bill, but vetoed individual item(s) to which he objected.
- ♦ — The governor's veto was overridden by the Legislature. An override requires a two-thirds vote in each house (90 votes in the House and 45 votes in the Senate).
- * — An asterisk marks the version of the bill the House and Senate approved and passed on to the governor.
- **Effective date** — Each act takes effect at 12:01 a.m. on the day it becomes effective, unless the act specifies a different time.
- **Aug. 1, 1999** — Each act the governor signs into law, except for those that make appropriations, takes effect on Aug. 1 following its final enactment, unless the act specifies a different date.
- **July 1, 1999** — An appropriations act, or an act having appropriations items, takes effect at the beginning of the first day of July following its final enactment, unless the act specifies a different date.
- **Upon local approval** — A special law requiring approval from the local government unit it affects becomes effective the day after the local governing body files a certificate with the secretary of state, unless the act specifies a later date.
- **Various dates** — Different articles or sections of the act have different effective dates which are cited at the end of each article.
- **With exceptions** — An act is effective, for the most part, on one particular date, but there are some minor exceptions.
- **With qualifications** — The act adds conditions to the effective date.
- **Retroactive** — The act or parts of the act go into effect as of a specified date in the past.

If you would like a copy of a bill, call the House Chief Clerk's Office, (651) 296-2314 or the Senate Information Office, (651) 296-2343. Ask for the bill by chapter number or by the House or Senate file number if no chapter number appears.

Bills also are available on the Legislature's World Wide Web site (<http://www.leg.state.mn.us>).



RESOLUTIONS

Resolution for Minnesota/Ontario border lakes trade agreements violation resolution.

HF544* (Anderson, I.)

SF638 (Stumpf)

Resolution 1: a resolution urging the Office of the U. S. Trade Representative to forcefully and promptly address and resolve violations of international trade agreements and discriminatory practices by the province of Ontario and Canadian officials that are injuring Minnesota border lakes tourism businesses.

Filed: 3/26/99

Resolution to prohibit federal recoupment of state tobacco settlement recoveries.

HF719 (Seifert, J.)

SF757* (Junge)

Resolution 2: a resolution memorializing Congress to enact legislation to prohibit federal recoupment of the state tobacco settlement recoveries.

Filed: 3/29/99

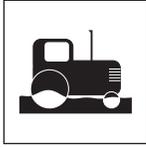
Resolution for Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness management facilitation.

HF426* (Rukavina)

SF534 (Johnson, D.J.)

Resolution 3: a resolution memorializing the president and Congress to enact laws that will expedite the exchange of intermingled state and federal lands located within the exterior boundaries of the Superior National Forest to consolidate land ownership for the purpose of enabling each government to properly discharge its respective management duties.

Filed: 4/23/99



AGRICULTURE POLICY

Nonregistered pesticide distribution permitted for certain uses outside the state.

HF370 (Harder)

SF424* (Vickerman)

Chapter 6: relating to agriculture; authorizing the commissioner of agriculture to allow the distribution of nonregistered pesticides for certain uses outside the state; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, section 18B.26, subdivision 1.

Enactment: 3/8/99

Effective: 1/1/99 (retroactive)

Pseudorabies control program continuation appropriation and vaccine reimbursement requirement.

HF414* (Gunther)

SF428 (Hanson)

Chapter 45: relating to agriculture; extending the program for control of pseudorabies in swine; providing reimbursement for veterinarians who used pseudorabies vaccine after Jan. 1, 1999; providing financial management assistance to farmers; appropriating money.

Enactment: 4/12/99

Line-item vetoes:

Page 2, Sec. 2, Lines 8-23

Effective: 4/13/99

Food handlers licensing period and fee modifications for state operators.

HF384 (Anderson, B.)

SF836* (Ourada)

Chapter 59: relating to agriculture; changing food handlers license provisions for food processors or manufacturers operating only at the state fair; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, sections 28A.04, subdivision 1; and 28A.08, subdivision 3.

Enactment: 4/15/99

Effective: 4/16/99

Uniform Commercial Code agricultural crops financing modifications.

HF1052 (Molnau)

SF451* (Vickerman)

Chapter 105: relating to agriculture; regulating security interests in agricultural crops; modifying the treatment of certain collateral; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, sections 336.9-203; 336.9-401; and 336.9-402.

Enactment: 4/27/99

Effective: 8/1/99

Warehouse operators regulations modified.

HF893 (Dorman)

SF1041* (Hanson)

Chapter 110: relating to agriculture; changing and clarifying provisions of the warehouse law; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, sections 231.01; 231.04; 231.08; 231.09; 231.11; 231.12; 231.13; 231.14; 231.15; 231.16; 231.17; 231.18, subdivisions 1 and 6; 231.24; 231.28; 231.34; 231.36; 231.37; 231.38; and 231.39; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 231; repealing Minnesota Statutes 1998, sections 231.02; 231.03; 231.05; 231.06; 231.07; 231.10; 231.15; and 231.35.

Enactment: 4/27/99

Effective: 8/1/99

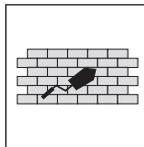
Animal feedlots ambient air quality standard exemption provided.

HF1235* (Swenson)

SF692 (Dille)

Chapter 204: relating to agriculture; exempting livestock production facilities from the ambient hydrogen sulfide standards on days manure is being removed from barns or manure storage facilities; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, section 116.0713.

Vetoed: 5/25/99



CAPITAL INVESTMENT

Mississippi education center previous grantee changed to city of Grand Rapids.

HF26* (Solberg)

SF29 (Lessard)

Chapter 2: relating to appropriations;

changing a grantee for the Mississippi education center grant; imposing a condition; amending Laws 1998, chapter 404, section 5, subdivision 9.

Enactment: 2/17/99

Effective: 8/1/99 (with qualifications)

St. Cloud Paramount Arts District regional arts center grant recipient change.

HF434 (Opatz)

SF593* (Kleis)

Chapter 20: relating to capital improvements; correcting the name of a grant recipient to that of the project owner; amending Laws 1998, chapter 404, section 23, subdivision 17.

Enactment: 3/25/99

Effective: 3/26/99

McLeod West School District No. 2887; secondary educational facility grant.

HF438 (Swenson)

SF407* (Johnson, D.E.)

Chapter 26: relating to capital investment; amending a grant to the McLeod West School District No. 2887; amending Laws 1998, chapter 404, section 5, subdivision 11.

Enactment: 3/29/99

Effective: 3/30/99

Local government units capital improvement projects state assistance standards.

HF726* (Knoblach)

SF157 (Cohen)

Chapter 192: relating to capital improvements; providing standards for state assistance to capital improvement projects of political subdivisions; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 16A.

Enactment: 5/21/99

Effective: 8/1/99

Omnibus bonding bill.

HF2205* (Knoblach)

SF1058 (Langseth)

Chapter 240: relating to capital improvements; authorizing spending for public purposes; authorizing spending to acquire and to better public land and buildings and other public improvements of a capital nature; authorizing certain improvements and transfers between accounts; making technical corrections; amending earlier authorizations; reauthorizing certain projects; authorizing and reauthorizing sale of state bonds; providing for storage and retention of certain documents; authorizing certain easements;

providing for certain port authority leases or management contracts; requesting an investigation and report; converting certain capital project financing from general fund cash to general obligation bonding; canceling certain money to the general fund; appropriating money for the Minnesota minerals 21st century fund; appropriating money with certain conditions and directions; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, sections 16A.69, subdivision 2; 16B.30; 136F.36, by adding a subdivision; and 136F.60, by adding a subdivision; Laws 1998, chapter 404, sections 3, subdivision 17; 7, subdivisions 23 and 26; 13, subdivision 12; 27, subdivision 1.

Enactment: 5/25/99

Line-item vetoes:

Page 2, Art. 1, Sec. 2, Lines 20-41;
Page 4, Art. 1, Sec. 7, Lines 5-24;
Page 5, Art. 1, Sec. 8, Subd. 4, Lines 1-15;
Page 5, Art. 1, Sec. 9, Subd. 2, Lines 20-48;
Page 6, Art. 1, Sec. 9, Subd. 4, Lines 6-14;
Page 8, Art. 1, Sec. 14, Lines 19-26; and
Page 20, Art. 3, Sec. 1, Lines 1-25

Effective: 5/26/99



CIVIL LAW

Real estate provisions modifications.

HF382 (Seifert, J.)

SF343* (Knutson)

Chapter 11: relating to real property; making changes in provisions about certificates of title and the Common Interest Ownership Act; making miscellaneous changes to alter real property provisions; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, sections 40A.10, subdivisions 1 and 3; 40A.11, subdivision 4; 47.20, subdivision 2; 51A.02, subdivision 29; 60C.09, subdivision 1; 83.20, subdivisions 11 and 14; 103F.612, subdivisions 2 and 4; 103F.613, subdivision 3; 103I.235, subdivision 1; 238.22, subdivision 3; 273.124, subdivision 2; 297H.01, subdivision 8; 327C.095, subdivision 5; 357.18, subdivision 1; 359.02; 386.31; 389.09; 428A.11, subdivisions 4 and 6; 462C.02, subdivisions 4 and 5; 462C.05, subdivision 1; 473H.02, subdivision 6; 473H.05, subdivision 1; 473H.06, subdivisions 1 and 2;

473H.08, subdivision 4; 500.20, subdivision 2a; 505.08, subdivision 3; 507.421; 508.14; 508.24, subdivision 2; 508.25; 508.35; 508.36; 508.38; 508.40; 508.421, subdivision 2; 508.47, subdivision 4; 508.49; 508.51, subdivision 1; 508.52; 508.55; 508.56; 508.57; 508.58; 508.59; 508.61, subdivisions 2 and 3; 508.67; 508.68; 508.71, subdivisions 2, 4, 5, 6, and by adding a subdivision; 508.76; 508.82, subdivision 1; 508A.10; 508A.11, subdivision 3; 508A.22, subdivisions 2 and 3; 508A.25; 508A.35; 508A.38; 508A.40; 508A.421, subdivision 2; 508A.47, subdivision 4; 508A.49; 508A.51, subdivision 1; 508A.52; 508A.55; 508A.56; 508A.57; 508A.58; 508A.59; 508A.61, subdivisions 2 and 3; 508A.71, subdivisions 2, 3, 5, 6, and by adding a subdivision; 508A.72; 508A.76; 508A.82, subdivision 1; 508A.85, subdivisions 3 and 4; 515B.1-102; 515B.1-103; 515B.1-116; 515B.2-101; 515B.2-104; 515B.2-105; 515B.2-108; 515B.2-109; 515B.2-110; 515B.2-113; 515B.2-118; 515B.2-119; 515B.2-121; 515B.2-122; 515B.3-103; 515B.3-105; 515B.3-106; 515B.3-110; 515B.3-113; 515B.3-115; 515B.3-116; 515B.3-121; 515B.4-101; 515B.4-102; 515B.4-106; 515B.4-107; 515B.4-108; 515B.4-111; 515B.4-115; 524.2-201; 559.21, subdivision 2a; and 582.32, subdivision 5; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapters 386; and 515B; repealing Minnesota Statutes 1998, sections 473H.02, subdivision 11; 473H.05, subdivision 3; 508.405; 508.421, subdivision 1; 508.44; 508.45; 508.51, subdivision 2; 508.835; 508A.421, subdivision 1; 508A.44; 508A.45; 508A.51, subdivision 2; and 508A.835.

Enactment: 3/15/99

Effective: various dates

Minors voluntary admission and treatment parental consent modified.

HF183* (Buesgens)

SF144 (Robling)

Chapter 32: relating to civil commitment; modifying provisions governing parental consent to chemical dependency treatment for minors; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, section 253B.04, subdivision 1.

Enactment: 4/12/99

Effective: 8/1/99

Marriage dissolution summary process revival.

HF1258* (Entenza)

SF487 (Foley)

Chapter 37: relating to family law; reviving the summary dissolution process; repealing Laws 1991, chapter 271, section 9, as amended.

Enactment: 4/12/99

Effective: 7/1/97 (retroactive and by statute)

Delinquent real estate taxes duplicate publication copies filing requirement.

HF1132* (Broecker)

SF1116 (Ranum)

Chapter 60: relating to courts; eliminating filing of duplicate documents; updating the law governing court administrators; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, sections 279.13; 485.018, subdivision 2; repealing Minnesota Statutes 1998, sections 357.07; and 485.018, subdivisions 1 and 4.

Enactment: 4/16/99

Effective: 8/1/99

All persons under civil commitment status provided the same legal rights.

HF643* (Bishop)

SF676 (Betzold)

Chapter 61: relating to civil commitment; providing the same legal rights for all persons under commitment status; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, section 253B.23, subdivision 2; repealing Minnesota Statutes 1998, section 609.165, subdivision 1c.

Enactment: 4/16/99

Effective: 4/17/99

Juror compensation system study.

HF1153 (Paymar)

SF973* (Kelly, R.C.)

Chapter 71: relating to courts; requesting the supreme court to study and make recommendations regarding juror compensation.

Enactment: 4/20/99

Effective: 8/1/99

Uniform Child Custody Jurisdiction and Enforcement Act modifications.

HF53 (Biernat)

SF129* (Knutson)

Chapter 74: relating to family law; enacting the Uniform Child Custody Jurisdiction and Enforcement Act; proposing coding for new law as chapter 518D; repealing Minnesota Statutes 1998, sections 518A.01; 518A.02; 518A.03; 518A.04; 518A.05; 518A.06; 518A.07; 518A.08; 518A.09; 518A.10; 518A.11; 518A.12; 518A.13; 518A.14; 518A.15; 518A.16; 518A.17; 518A.18; 518A.19; 518A.20; 518A.21; 518A.22; 518A.23; 518A.24; and 518A.25.

Enactment: 4/20/99

Effective: 1/1/00

Business corporations regulation provisions modifications.

HF836* (Goodno)

SF833 (Junge)

Chapter 85: relating to business organizations; regulating business corporations; defining terms; modifying the authority to grant restricted stock; regulating take-over offers; providing for name changes in certain circumstances; regulating mergers and exchanges; making clarifying and technical changes; removing ambiguities; regulating limited liability companies; eliminating unnecessary provisions; correcting terminology; regulating member control agreements and dissolutions; providing for the duration of certain companies; making conforming changes required by the enactment of the revised Uniform Partnership Act; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, sections 302A.011, subdivisions 7 and 56; 302A.111, subdivision 5; 302A.181, subdivision 1; 302A.223, subdivision 3; 302A.402, subdivision 3; 302A.405, subdivision 1; 302A.417, subdivision 7; 302A.457, subdivisions 1 and 2; 302A.471, subdivision 1; 302A.613, subdivision 1; 302A.621, subdivisions 1 and 6; 302A.671, subdivision 1; 302A.675, subdivision 2; 319B.02, subdivisions 10, 12, 21, and 22; 319B.04, subdivisions 2 and 3; 319B.08, subdivision 1; 319B.10, subdivision 2; 319B.11, subdivisions 3, 4, and 8; 322A.02; 322A.87; 322A.88; 322B.03, subdivisions 12, 30, 44, and 45; 322B.115, subdivisions 1, 2, and 3; 322B.155; 322B.20, subdivisions 1 and 2; 322B.30, subdivision 2; 322B.306; 322B.31, subdivision 3; 322B.313, subdivisions 2, 3, and 7; 322B.323, subdivision 2; 322B.326; 322B.33, subdivisions 1 and 4; 322B.333, subdivisions 1 and 3; 322B.336, subdivisions 1 and 3; 322B.34, subdivisions 2 and 3; 322B.343, subdivisions 1 and 2; 322B.346; 322B.35, subdivision 1; 322B.353; 322B.356, subdivisions 1, 2, and 3; 322B.363, subdivisions 2 and 3; 322B.366, subdivision 1; 322B.37; 322B.383, subdivision 1; 322B.386, subdivisions 1, 2, 4, and 5; 322B.40, subdivisions 1, 5, and 6; 322B.41, subdivisions 3 and 4; 322B.42, subdivision 5; 322B.43, subdivisions 1 and 3; 322B.50; 322B.51; 322B.52; 322B.54, subdivision 1; 322B.56, subdivision 1; 322B.603; 322B.606, subdivision 1; 322B.61; 322B.613; 322B.616; 322B.623; 322B.626; 322B.63, subdivision 1; 322B.636, subdivisions 1 and 3; 322B.64; 322B.643, subdivisions 1, 3, and 4; 322B.646; 322B.65; 322B.653; 322B.656, subdivision 1; 322B.66, subdivision 2; 322B.663, subdivision 4; 322B.666, subdivision 1; 322B.673, subdivi-

sions 1 and 2; 322B.676; 322B.686, subdivision 3; 322B.689; 322B.699, subdivision 4; 322B.72, subdivisions 1 and 2; 322B.80, subdivision 1; 322B.813, subdivision 3; 322B.816, subdivision 4; 322B.833, subdivisions 2, 5, and 6; 322B.843, subdivision 2; 322B.873, subdivisions 1 and 4; 323A.10-01; and 323A.11-02; repealing Minnesota Statutes 1998, sections 322B.03, subdivisions 4, 5, 9, and 16; 322B.363, subdivision 8; 322B.366, subdivision 2; 322B.816, subdivision 3; and 322B.873, subdivisions 2 and 3.

Enactment: 4/22/99**Effective:** various dates**Revisor's bill.**

HF1037* (Holberg)

SF950 (Betzold)

Chapter 86: relating to Minnesota Statutes; correcting erroneous, ambiguous, and omitted text and obsolete references; eliminating certain redundant, conflicting, and superseded provisions; making miscellaneous technical corrections to statutes and other laws; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, sections 2.724, subdivision 1; 10A.01, subdivision 18; 11A.16, subdivision 6; 12.21, subdivision 3; 12.33, subdivision 4; 15.059, subdivision 5a; 16B.171; 16B.335, subdivision 4; 16B.465, subdivision 1; 16C.05, subdivision 2; 17.114, subdivisions 3 and 4; 17.117, subdivision 15; 17.452, subdivision 1; 17.498; 18B.045, subdivision 1; 18E.06; 19.52, subdivision 2; 48A.12, subdivision 1; 58.02, subdivision 22; 60L.08, subdivision 1; 62E.15, subdivision 2; 79A.06, subdivision 5; 103A.43; 103B.321, subdivision 1; 103B.351; 103B.581, subdivision 2; 103F.461; 103G.221, subdivision 1; 103H.175, subdivision 3; 103H.275; 115A.175, subdivision 2; 115A.33; 115B.20, subdivisions 1 and 6; 115C.021, subdivision 1; 116.182, subdivision 3a; 116J.70, subdivision 2a; 117.47; 119A.03, subdivision 2; 119A.26, subdivision 2; 119A.45; 119A.46, subdivision 4; 119A.51, subdivision 1; 119B.05, subdivision 1; 123B.57, subdivision 6; 124D.17, subdivision 7; 126C.21, subdivision 4; 126C.48, subdivision 8; 136F.47; 156.11; 168.022, subdivision 4; 169.1217, subdivision 7a; 169.129, subdivision 2; 171.061, subdivision 1; 171.07, subdivision 10; 174.06, subdivision 1; 179.12; 181.58; 205A.01, subdivision 2; 219.074, subdivision 2; 219.39; 221.034, subdivision 5; 221.036, subdivisions 1 and 3; 239.761, subdivisions 13 and 14; 245.462, subdivisions 4 and 7; 245.466, subdivision 4; 245.4871, subdivision 9; 245.4875, subdivision 4; 245.825, subdivision 1b; 256B.0625, subdivision 32;

256B.0928; 256J.45, subdivision 2; 257.45; 257.74, subdivision 2; 268.9165; 287.09; 307.08, subdivisions 2, 8, 9, and 10; 340A.3021, subdivision 2; 446A.01; 446A.04, subdivision 7; 462A.21, subdivision 19; 480.054; 480.09, subdivision 1; 481.02, subdivision 2; 500.245, subdivision 1; 518.5511, subdivision 1; 518.6111, subdivision 5; and 609.26, by adding a subdivision; Laws 1994, chapter 560, article 2, section 15; and Laws 1997, chapter 207, section 12; repealing Minnesota Statutes 1998, sections 3.873; 16B.88, subdivision 5; 62J.47; 79.51, subdivision 4; 115A.159; 119A.28, subdivision 4; 119A.31, subdivision 3; 119A.54; 124D.17, subdivision 8; 144.121, subdivision 7; 144.664, subdivision 4; 197.236, subdivisions 1 and 2; 218.011, subdivision 7; 245.825, subdivision 1a; 256.995, subdivision 7; 323.02, subdivisions 10 and 11; 383.01; 383.02; 383.03; 383.04; 383.05; 383.06; 383.07; 383.08; 383.09; 383.10; 383.11; 383.12; 509.01; 509.02; 509.03; 509.04; 509.05; 509.06; and 526.20; Laws 1996, chapter 426, sections 1 and 2; Laws 1998, chapters 388, section 16; 404, section 49; and 407, article 2, section 97; and Laws 1998, First Special Session chapter 1, article 3, section 15.

Enactment: 4/22/99**Effective:** 4/23/99**Marriage dissolution summonses alternative dispute resolution requirements.**

HF1035 (Larsen, P.)

SF1017* (Kiscaden)

Chapter 104: relating to civil actions; requiring the summons to include notice of the alternative dispute resolution process; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, section 518.091; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 543.

Enactment: 4/27/99**Effective:** 8/1/99**Seat belt use evidence admissibility clarification.**

HF462 (McGuire)

SF303* (Foley)

Chapter 106: relating to civil actions; clarifying admissibility of evidence regarding seat belts and child passenger restraint systems in certain actions; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, section 169.685, subdivision 4.

Vetoed: 4/27/99 ♦**Effective:** 5/18/99

Emergency telephone service (911) dispatchers liability immunity.

HF541 (Stanek)

SF436* (Foley)

Chapter 108: relating to municipal tort liability; limiting liability for 911 dispatchers providing prearrival medical instruction; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, section 466.03, by adding a subdivision.

Enactment: 4/27/99**Effective:** 4/28/99**Civil commitment procedures modified.**

HF489 (Carruthers)

SF283* (Betzold)

Chapter 118: relating to civil commitment; clarifying standards and procedures; modifying procedures governing persons committed as mentally ill and dangerous to the public; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, sections 253B.065, subdivision 5; 253B.17, subdivision 1; 253B.18, subdivisions 1, 2, and 4c; 253B.185, subdivision 1; and 256G.08, subdivision 1.

Enactment: 5/4/99**Effective:** 8/1/99**Putative fathers adoption registry modified.**

HF863 (Tingelstad)

SF834* (Knutson)

Chapter 122: relating to adoption; changing requirements and procedures for the putative fathers' adoption registry, communication or contact agreements, and postadoption reports; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, sections 259.52, subdivisions 1, 4, 7, 9, 10, and 11; 259.58; and 259.60, by adding a subdivision.

Enactment: 5/4/99**Effective:** 8/1/99**DWI implied consent law modified.**

HF92* (Carruthers)

SF397 (Betzold)

Chapter 124: relating to drivers' licenses; modifying required content of petition for seeking judicial review of driver's license revocation for violating implied consent law; allowing judges to order additional discovery in that proceeding; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, section 169.123, subdivision 5c.

Enactment: 5/6/99**Effective:** 5/7/99**Delinquent taxes collection legal actions process modified.**

HF1131 (Broecker)

SF1115* (Ranum)

Chapter 143: relating to courts; revising the process for action for payment or collection of taxes; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, section 270.68, subdivision 1.

Enactment: 5/11/99**Effective:** 5/12/99**Nonconsensual common law liens regulation for public officials and employees protection purposes.**

HF578 (Skoglund)

SF84* (Cohen)

Chapter 170: relating to government; providing for protection of public officials and employees; prohibiting the filing of fraudulent liens; providing civil remedies; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 514.

Enactment: 5/17/99**Effective:** 8/1/99**Uniform probate code and guardian and conservator nomination provisions modifications.**

HF989 (Mullery)

SF1094* (Betzold)

Chapter 171: relating to probate; changing provisions of the Uniform Probate Code; changing nomination provisions for conservators and guardians; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, sections 524.2-101; 524.2-702; 524.3-916; and 525.544, subdivision 1.

Enactment: 5/17/99**Effective:** 8/1/99**Public service corporations private property easements description requirements.**

HF160 (Bishop)

SF233* (Ten Eyck)

Chapter 184: relating to real property; providing for definite and specific descriptions for certain easements; applying the requirement retroactively to all easements whenever created; providing that certain deficiency judgment requirements do not apply to property that is not used for agricultural production by the mortgagor; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, sections 300.045; and 582.30, subdivision 1.

Enactment: 5/21/99**Effective:** 5/22/99; retroactive with exceptions (Sec. 1)**Civil mediation proceedings settlement agreements effect modification.**

HF1122 (Leighton)

SF1093* (Hottinger)

Chapter 190: relating to civil mediation; providing for the effect of a mediated settlement agreement; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, section 572.35, subdivision 1.

Enactment: 5/21/99**Effective:** 8/1/99**Child and medical support order administrative process repealed.**

HF510 (Biernat)

SF23* (Foley)

Chapter 196: relating to family law; repealing the administrative process for support orders; establishing a child support magistrate system; authorizing child support and visitation review hearings; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, sections 13B.06, subdivision 1; 168A.20, subdivision 4; 171.186, subdivisions 1 and 3; 214.101, subdivisions 1 and 4; 357.021, subdivision 1a; 484.70, subdivision 1; 484.72, by adding a subdivision; 518.171, subdivision 4; 518.54, by adding a subdivision; 518.551, subdivisions 9, 12, 13, and 14; 518.553; 518.575, subdivision 1; 518.5853, subdivision 6; 518.6111, subdivisions 2, 7, 8, and 14; 518.616, subdivision 1; 518.617, subdivision 1; 518.641, subdivision 2; and 552.05, subdivisions 4, 5, and 10; Laws 1998, chapter 338, section 8; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapters 484; and 518; repealing Minnesota Statutes 1998, sections 518.5511; and 518.5512.

Enactment: 5/24/99**Effective:** 7/1/99**Firefighter previous employment background investigations authorized.**

HF963 (Knoblach)

SF486* (Junge)

Chapter 197: relating to firefighters; authorizing certain background investigations; requiring disclosures of certain employment information; providing civil and criminal penalties; providing employers immunity for certain disclosures; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, section 604A.31, by adding a subdivision; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 299F.

Enactment: 5/24/99**Effective:** 8/1/99

Landlord and tenant law recodified.

HF2425* (Smith)

SF2232 (Higgins)

Chapter 199: relating to landlord and tenant; recodifying the landlord and tenant law; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, sections 72A.20, subdivision 23; 82.24, subdivision 7; 144.9504, subdivision 7; 144A.13, subdivision 2; 144D.06; 216C.30, subdivision 5; 299C.67, subdivisions 5 and 7; 299C.69; 327C.02, subdivision 2a; 327C.03, subdivision 4; 327C.10, subdivision 1; 327C.11, subdivision 1; 363.033; 462A.05, subdivision 15; 462C.05, subdivision 8; 469.156; 471A.03, subdivision 6; 481.02, subdivision 3; 484.013, subdivision 2; 487.17; 487.24; 488A.01, subdivisions 4a and 5; 488A.11; 488A.18, subdivisions 4 and 6; 491A.01, subdivision 9; 514.977; 515B.3-116; 515B.4-111; 576.01, subdivision 2; 609.33, subdivision 6; and 609.5317, subdivision 1; proposing coding for new law as Minnesota Statutes, chapter 504B; repealing Laws 1998, chapter 253, sections 1 to 79.

Enactment: 5/24/99

Effective: 7/1/99

Prohibited inmate actions to include challenging employee assignments.

HF1494* (Olson)

SFnone

Chapter 208: relating to corrections; modifying the law prohibiting inmates from bringing actions to challenge the level of expenditures for rehabilitation programs and the law related to sanctions for frivolous or malicious claims; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, sections 244.03; and 244.035.

Enactment: 5/24/99

Effective: 8/1/99

Court reporting freelance services regulated.

HF346* (Smith)

SF278 (Hottinger)

Chapter 215: relating to courts; requiring disclosure of contracting arrangements for freelance court reporting services; regulating certain services; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 486.

Enactment: 5/24/99

Effective: 8/1/99

Relative ex parte temporary child custody provisions expanded.

HF817 (Wagenius)

SF346* (Ranum)

Chapter 219: relating to child custody; expanding provisions for relative ex parte

temporary custody; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, section 518.158, subdivisions 1 and 2.

Enactment: 5/24/99

Effective: 8/1/99

Government data classification and dissemination provisions clarified.

HF2058 (Carruthers)

SF653* (Betzold)

Chapter 227: relating to government data practices; clarifying electronic access to data; classifying data; clarifying the status of data on parents held by educational entities; eliminating inconsistent language; authorizing dissemination of personnel data; authorizing sharing of certain data for tax administration purposes; changing deadlines for providing data; clarifying and modifying access to data on employees reporting violations of law; making certain rideshare program data on individuals private; providing for a recodification of data practices laws; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, sections 13.03, subdivision 3; 13.04, subdivision 3; 13.32, subdivisions 2 and 3; 13.43, by adding a subdivision; 13.47; 15.17, subdivisions 1 and 2; 141.30; 181.932, subdivision 2; 270B.03, subdivisions 1 and 5; 270B.14, subdivision 1, and by adding a subdivision; and 273.124, subdivision 13; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapters 13; and 518; repealing Minnesota Statutes 1998, sections 13.72, subdivision 2; and 504A.595.

Enactment: 5/25/99

Effective: various dates

Tenant screening report requirements modified.

HF1195* (Van Dellen)

SF2029 (Kelly, R.C.)

Chapter 229: relating to landlords and tenants; providing for certain eviction records to be sealed; modifying requirements for tenant screening reports in the second and fourth judicial districts; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, section 504.30, subdivision 4; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 484.

Enactment: 5/25/99

Effective: 5/26/99

Year 2000 consumer protection act.

HF2337 (Larsen, P.)

SF1262* (Limmer)

Chapter 234: relating to civil actions; limiting liability from year 2000 failures; proposing coding for new law as Minnesota Statutes, chapter 604B.

Enactment: 5/25/99

Effective: 5/26/99



COMMERCE

Crooked Lake detached banking facility.

HF248* (Hasskamp)

SF324 (Ten Eyck)

Chapter 7: relating to financial institutions; permitting location of a branch bank in the town of Crooked Lake under certain conditions.

Enactment: 3/15/99

Effective: upon local approval

Legislative Electric Energy Task Force membership modification.

HF812 (Wolf)

SF914* (Novak)

Chapter 19: relating to electric utilities; revising the house chairs appointed to the Legislative Electric Energy Task Force; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, section 216C.051, subdivision 2.

Enactment: 3/25/99

Effective: 3/26/99

Public utilities performance based natural gas purchasing plans sunset repeal.

HF48 (Wolf)

SF50* (Novak)

Chapter 21: relating to utilities; abolishing sunset provision repealing performance-based gas purchasing plans; repealing Minnesota Statutes 1998, section 216B.167, subdivisions 7 and 8.

Enactment: 3/25/99

Effective: 8/1/99

Contracts continuity under European currency.

HF1336 (Seifert, J.)
SF727* (Kelley, S.P.)

Chapter 40: relating to commerce; providing for continuity of contracts affected by the European currency; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 334.

Enactment: 4/12/99

Effective: 4/13/99

One call excavation notice system requirements modifications.

HF1184 (Knoblach)
SF794* (Kleis)

Chapter 43: relating to utilities; modifying provisions of the one call excavation notice system; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, section 216D.06, subdivision 1.

Enactment: 4/12/99

Effective: 8/1/99

Township mutual insurance companies authorized investments expansion.

HF583* (Gunther)
SF735 (Hottinger)

Chapter 52: relating to insurance; regulating investments by township mutual insurance companies; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, section 67A.231.

Enactment: 4/15/99

Effective: 8/1/99

Township mutual insurance companies territories of operation regulation modifications.

HF1066* (Seifert, M.)
SF1190 (Hottinger)

Chapter 53: relating to insurance; township mutual insurance companies; regulating the territories of operation; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, section 67A.01.

Enactment: 4/15/99

Effective: 8/1/99

Rental motor vehicle lien and right of detainer.

HF793* (Seifert, J.)
SF1497 (Kleis)

Chapter 78: relating to liens; creating a lien and right of detainer; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, section 514.19.

Enactment: 4/20/99

Effective: 8/1/99

Medicare supplemental insurance regulation provisions modifications.

HF1968* (Davids)
SF1827 (Oliver)

Chapter 90: relating to insurance; making changes in Medicare supplemental insurance required by federal law; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, sections 62A.31, subdivisions 1, 3, and by adding a subdivision; and 62A.43, subdivision 4.

Enactment: 4/23/99

Effective: 4/24/99

Funeral or burial insurance sales restrictions eliminated.

HF1150 (Davids)
SF1182* (Lesewski)

Chapter 100: relating to commerce; regulating insurance for funeral or burial expenses; allowing funeral establishments to sell funeral insurance and receive commissions for these sales; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, section 72A.325.

Enactment: 4/26/99

Effective: 8/1/99

Small company securities offering registration modifications.

HF661 (Haas)
SF832* (Betzold)

Chapter 103: relating to securities regulation; making changes applicable to securities registered under the small company offering registration; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, section 80A.115, subdivisions 4 and 9.

Enactment: 4/27/99

Effective: 4/28/99

Certain professions payment requirements exemption.

HF1622 (Gerlach)
SF1368* (Knutson)

Chapter 116: relating to commerce; regulating contracts for architects, engineers, surveyors, landscape architects, geoscientists, and interior designers; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, sections 16C.08, subdivision 5; and 337.10, subdivision 4.

Enactment: 5/3/99

Effective: 8/1/99

FAIR plan modifications.

HF1708* (Seifert, J.)
SF1675 (Scheid)

Chapter 120: relating to insurance; property and liability; regulating FAIR plan coverage; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, sections 65A.32; 65A.33, subdivision 3, and by adding

a subdivision; 65A.34, subdivisions 1, 4, and 5; 65A.36, subdivisions 1 and 5; 65A.37; 65A.38, subdivision 1; and 65A.42.

Enactment: 5/4/99

Effective: 8/1/99

Insurers restricted from using HIV vaccine information.

HF1106* (Larsen, P.)
SF1075 (Hottinger)

Chapter 121: relating to health; limiting use of health information secured as part of HIV vaccine research for insurance underwriting; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, section 72A.20, by adding a subdivision.

Enactment: 5/4/99

Effective: 8/1/99

Public Utilities Commission powers expansion.

HF359* (Wolf)
SF684 (Novak)

Chapter 125: relating to utilities; authorizing public utilities commission to establish and delegate powers to subcommittees and to designate lead commissioners; allowing petitions to be deemed approved unless set aside for affirmative action by the commission; authorizing a quorum of the commission to discuss a docket without complying with certain statutory law when acting as an administrative court; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, section 216A.03, by adding subdivisions.

Enactment: 5/6/99†

Effective: 5/7/99

Increasing maximum benefits for Minnesota Comprehensive Health Association.

HF270* (Osskopp)
SF470 (Murphy)

Chapter 130: relating to insurance; increasing the maximum lifetime benefit limit on certain policies of the Minnesota comprehensive health insurance plan; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, section 62E.12.

Enactment: 5/7/99†

Effective: 5/8/99

Certain no-fault insurance benefits to cover translation services.

HF684 (Dawkins)
SF521* (Pappas)

Chapter 134: relating to insurance; requiring no-fault automobile insurance medical benefits to include sign interpreting and language translation; making technical changes;

amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, section 65B.44, subdivision 2.

Enactment: 5/7/99

Effective: 8/1/99

Department of Commerce enforcement bill.

HF1564 (Entenza)

SF1715* (Oliver)

Chapter 137: relating to commerce; providing enforcement authority for the commissioner; regulating service of process; regulating residential building contractors and remodelers; providing criminal penalties; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, sections 45.027, subdivisions 6 and 7; 45.028, subdivision 2; 80A.15, subdivision 2; 326.83, subdivision 18; 326.89, subdivision 3; 326.92, by adding a subdivision; 326.94, subdivision 2; and 332.37; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 82B; repealing Minnesota Statutes 1998, section 326.89, subdivision 3a.

Enactment: 5/10/99

Effective: various dates

Public utilities energy conservation improvement program modified.

HF1384 (Wolf)

SF1357* (Novak)

Chapter 140: relating to utilities; modifying conservation improvement provisions; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, sections 216B.16, subdivision 6b; and 216B.241, subdivisions 1, 1a, 1b, 2, 2a, and 2b.

Enactment: 5/11/99

Effective: 5/12 /99 (Secs. 2, 3); 8/1/99 (Secs. 1, 4-8)

Department of Commerce banking bill.

HF1175 (Haas)

SF1330* (Solon)

Chapter 151: relating to financial institutions; regulating fees, charges, investments, and time periods; authorizing certain part-time banking locations; authorizing reverse stock splits; regulating mortgage insurance and loans; modifying the application requirements for credit unions; making corrections and conforming changes; regulating deposit and investment of local public funds; modifying a definition; authorizing a detached facility in Chisago Lakes Township; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, sections 46.041, subdivisions 1 and 3; 46.048, subdivisions 1 and 2b; 46.131, subdivision 10; 47.0156; 47.101, subdivision 3; 47.20, subdivision 6b; 47.203; 47.204, subdivision 1; 47.27, subdivi-

sion 3; 47.52; 47.54, subdivisions 2 and 3; 47.59, subdivision 12; 47.60, subdivision 3; 48.15, subdivisions 2a and 3; 48.24, subdivision 7, and by adding a subdivision; 48A.15, subdivision 1; 49.36, subdivision 1; 52.01; 52.05, subdivision 2; 53.03, subdivisions 1, 6, and 7; 55.04, subdivision 2; 56.02; 56.131, subdivision 1; 58.04, subdivision 1; 58.06, subdivision 2; 58.08, subdivision 1; 59A.03, subdivision 2; 60K.11, subdivision 1; 118A.01, subdivision 2; 168.67; 168.71; 303.25, subdivision 5; 332.15, subdivisions 2 and 3; 332.17; and 332.30; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapters 47; 48; 52; and 334; repealing Minnesota Statutes 1998, sections 47.20, subdivision 14; and 58.07.

Enactment: 5/13/99

Effective: various dates

Garnishment, attachment, or levy of execution exemption for Roth IRAs.

HF1008 (Huntley)

SF1047* (Solon)

Chapter 160: relating to creditors' remedies; providing that Roth IRAs will be treated identically to other retirement accounts; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, section 550.37, subdivision 24.

Enactment: 5/13/99

Effective: 5/14/99

Workers' compensation commercial self insurance group provisions modifications.

HF2010 (Paulsen)

SF2038* (Runbeck)

Chapter 168: relating to insurance; regulating workers' compensation self insurance; providing reporting and financial requirements; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, sections 79A.21, subdivisions 2 and 3; 79A.22, subdivision 2; 79A.23; and 79A.24, subdivision 2.

Enactment: 5/17/99

Effective: 5/18/99

Various technical and policy changes relating to insurance.

HF837* (Davids)

SF1205 (Wiener)

Chapter 177: relating to insurance; regulating insurers, agents, and coverages; modifying reporting requirements; regulating the rehabilitation and liquidation of insurers; modifying certain notice and disclosure provisions; modifying certain definitions; making technical changes; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, sections 60A.02, subdivision

1a, and by adding a subdivision; 60A.052, subdivision 2, and by adding a subdivision; 60A.06, subdivisions 1 and 2; 60A.075, by adding a subdivision; 60A.092, subdivisions 6 and 11; 60A.10, subdivision 1; 60A.111, subdivision 1; 60A.13, subdivision 1; 60A.16, subdivisions 2, 3, and 4; 60A.19, subdivision 1; 60A.32; 60B.21, subdivision 2; 60B.25; 60B.26, subdivision 1; 60B.39, subdivision 2; 60B.44, subdivisions 4, 6, and by adding subdivisions; 60D.20, subdivision 2; 60K.02, subdivision 1; 60K.03, subdivisions 2 and 3; 60K.19, subdivisions 7 and 8; 61A.276, subdivision 2; 61A.60, subdivision 1; 61B.19, subdivision 3; 62A.04, subdivision 3; 62A.135, subdivision 5; 62A.50, subdivision 3; 62A.61; 62A.65, subdivision 5; 62B.04, subdivision 2; 62D.12, subdivision 2; 62E.02, subdivision 1; 62E.05, subdivision 1; 62E.09; 62E.13, subdivisions 6 and 8; 62E.14, subdivision 2; 62E.15, subdivision 2; 62L.07, subdivision 1; 62L.02, subdivision 24; 62L.03, subdivision 5; 62L.05, subdivision 5; 62L.14, subdivision 7; 62Q.105, subdivision 1; 62Q.185; 62Q.30; 62S.01, subdivision 14; 62S.05, subdivision 2; 65A.01, subdivisions 1, 3, and by adding a subdivision; 65A.27, subdivision 4; 65A.29, subdivision 4; 65B.02, subdivision 2; 65B.44, subdivision 1; 65B.48, subdivision 5; 72A.125, subdivision 3; 72A.20, subdivision 29; 72B.04, subdivision 10; 79A.01, subdivision 10, and by adding a subdivision; 79A.02, subdivisions 1, 3, and 4; 79A.03, subdivisions 6, 7, 9, 10, and by adding a subdivision; 79A.06, subdivision 5, and by adding a subdivision; 79A.21, subdivision 2; 79A.23, subdivisions 1 and 2; and 256B.0644; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 60B; repealing Minnesota Statutes 1998, sections 60A.11, subdivision 24a; 60B.36; 60B.44, subdivisions 3 and 5; 60K.08; 65A.29, subdivision 12; 62Q.30; and 79A.04, subdivision 8; Minnesota Rules, part 2780.0500, item C.

Enactment: 5/18/99

Effective: various dates

Small employers alternative health benefit plans.

HF870 (Haas)

SF841* (Scheid)

Chapter 181: relating to insurance; providing an alternative benefit plan for small employers; authorizing a small employer alternative benefit plan pilot project; modifying certain health plan company requirements; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, sections 62L.02, subdivision 16; 62L.05, subdivision 5, and by adding a subdivision; 62Q.095,

subdivision 1; and 62Q.51, subdivision 4; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 62L.

Enactment: 5/19/99

Effective: 8/1/99

Renewable energy development funding requirements modified.

HF1940* (Jennings)

SF1792 (Novak)

Chapter 200: relating to utilities; modifying requirements for renewable energy development funding; specifying that certain required expenditures are recoverable; providing a siting preference for certain wind energy facilities; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, sections 116C.779; 216B.1645; and 216B.2423, by adding a subdivision.

Enactment: 5/24/99

Effective: 5/25/99

Omnibus liquor bill.

HF1079* (Paulsen)

SF1331 (Solon)

Chapter 202: relating to liquor; authorizing the city of Minneapolis to issue on-sale licenses; authorizing the city of St. Paul to issue an on-sale license; authorizing the commissioner of public safety to issue an additional on-sale license; extending the tour boat liquor license season; authorizing St. Paul to issue a temporary license for the sale of beer on the grounds of the State Capitol in connection with the Twin Cities Marathon; modifying wine shipment requirements; allowing use of passports for proof of age; authorizing the city of International Falls to issue a temporary on-sale liquor license; authorizing the city of St. Paul to issue temporary intoxicating liquor licenses to Macalester College; authorizing the cities of Proctor, Marshall, Detroit Lakes, Eden Prairie, Bemidji, and Stillwater to issue additional on-sale licenses; exempting temporary on-sale intoxicating liquor licenses at the Minneapolis Convention Center from certain restrictions; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, sections 340A.404, subdivisions 2, 4a, 8, and by adding a subdivision; 340A.412, subdivision 4; 340A.417; and 340A.503, subdivision 6; repealing Laws 1998, chapter 364, section 13.

Enactment: 5/24/99

Effective: various dates

Providing alcohol to underage persons provided increased penalties.

HF1289* (Entenza)

SF1109 (Junge)

Chapter 207: relating to crime prevention;

increasing the criminal penalty for providing alcoholic beverages to underage persons under certain circumstances; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, section 340A.701, subdivision 1.

Enactment: 5/24/99

Effective: 8/1/99

Mortgage flipping educational campaign provided money.

HF743 (Gray)

SF171* (Higgins)

Chapter 209: relating to commerce; providing an appropriation for an education campaign on mortgage flipping; establishing penalties; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 82B.

Enactment: 5/24/99

Effective: 5/25/99 (Sec. 2); 8/1/99 (Sec. 1)

Structured insurance settlement payment rights and agreements protected.

HF478 (Haas)

SF148* (Oliver)

Chapter 212: relating to commerce; providing for the protection of structured settlements; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, section 176.175, subdivision 2; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 549.

Enactment: 5/24/99

Effective: 8/1/99

Architecture, engineering, and other professional design board provisions modified.

HF1728 (Seifert, J.)

SF1485* (Scheid)

Chapter 213: relating to professions; modifying provisions of the board of architecture, engineering, land surveying, landscape architecture, geoscience, and interior design relating to fees and continuing education; increasing penalties; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, section 326.111, subdivision 6; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 326; repealing Minnesota Rules, part 1800.0500, subpart 3.

Enactment: 5/24/99

Effective: 8/1/99

Coin-operated telephones deregulated.

HF358 (Wolf)

SF685* (Kelley, S.P.)

Chapter 224: relating to telecommunications; deregulating coin-operated or public pay telephones under state law; authorizing the public utilities commission to assess

administrative penalties for anti-competitive activities by telecommunication providers; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, sections 237.461, subdivision 2, and by adding subdivisions; and 237.5799; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 237.

Enactment: 5/25/99

Effective: 5/26/99

State government telecommunications pricing plan provided.

HF1778* (Gunther)

SF1785 (Ourada)

Chapter 228: relating to telecommunications; providing for telecommunications pricing plans for state government under oversight of public utilities commission; correcting a repealer; amending Laws 1997, chapter 123, section 11; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 237.

Enactment: 5/25/99

Effective: 5/26/99

Rental vehicle insurance coverage regulated.

HF1932* (Jennings)

SF1607 (Scheid)

Chapter 236: relating to insurance; regulating rental vehicle coverages; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, sections 60K.03, subdivision 7; and 72A.125, subdivisions 1 and 2.

Enactment: 5/25/99

Effective: 8/1/99

Health plan companies uniform complaint resolution processes modified.

HF1303 (Goodno)

SF1219* (Berglin)

Chapter 239: relating to health; establishing a uniform complaint resolution process for health plan companies; establishing an external review process; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, sections 62D.11, subdivision 1; 62M.01; 62M.02, subdivisions 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9, 10, 11, 12, 17, 20, 21, and by adding a subdivision; 62M.03, subdivisions 1 and 3; 62M.04, subdivisions 1, 2, 3, and 4; 62M.05; 62M.06; 62M.07; 62M.09, subdivision 3; 62M.10, subdivisions 2, 5, and 7; 62M.12; 62M.15; 62Q.106; 62Q.19, subdivision 5a; 62T.04; 72A.201, subdivision 4a; and 256B.692, subdivision 2; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapters 62D; and 62Q; repealing Minnesota Statutes 1998, sections 62D.11, subdivisions 1b and 2; 62Q.105;

62Q.11; and 62Q.30; Minnesota Rules, parts 4685.0100, subparts 4 and 4a; 4685.1010, subpart 3; and 4685.1700.

Enactment: 5/25/99

Effective: various dates



CRIME PREVENTION

Carisoprodol classification as controlled substance effective date delay.

HF536 (Broecker)

SF464* (Kelly, R.C.)

Chapter 9: relating to controlled substances; delaying the effective date for classifying Carisoprodol as a schedule IV controlled substance; amending Laws 1997, chapter 239, article 4, section 15, as amended.

Enactment: 3/15/99

Effective: 8/1/99

Emergency telephone (911) calls interference crime expansion.

HF193 (Paymar)

SF255* (Ranum)

Chapter 24: relating to crime; providing that interference with an emergency call is a crime; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, section 609.78.

Enactment: 3/29/99

Effective: 3/30/99

Criminal offenders costs payment for failure to appear after release.

HF732 (Osskopp)

SF99* (Knutson)

Chapter 28: relating to crime; requiring offenders convicted for failure to appear after release to pay costs incurred by the prosecuting authority or governmental agency due to the failure to appear; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, section 609.49, subdivisions 1, 2, and by adding a subdivision.

Enactment: 4/1/99

Effective: 8/1/99

Criminal offenders restitution challenge hearing requests time limit.

HF733 (Osskopp)

SF117* (Knutson)

Chapter 38: relating to crime; limiting the time period during which a defendant may challenge a restitution request; amending

Minnesota Statutes 1998, section 611A.045, subdivision 3.

Enactment: 4/12/99

Effective: 8/1/99

DWI investigations county sheriff contingent funds use.

HF240* (Smith)

SF236 (Johnson, D.H.)

Chapter 49: relating to sheriffs; authorizing sheriffs to expend money from the sheriff's contingent fund for investigating DWI-related violations; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, section 387.213.

Enactment: 4/15/99

Effective: 8/1/99

County prisoners transfer authority clarification.

HF216* (Stanek)

SF237 (Johnson, D.H.)

Chapter 50: relating to corrections; clarifying the law authorizing transfer of prisoners between jails and workhouses; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, section 643.01.

Enactment: 4/15/99

Effective: 8/1/99

Crime of adultery scope expansion and penalty increases.

HF735* (Osskopp)

SF495 (Knutson)

Chapter 64: relating to crime; expanding the scope of the crime of adultery to include adulterations capable of causing death or bodily harm; increasing penalties for certain acts of adultery; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, section 609.687, subdivisions 2 and 3.

Enactment: 4/16/99

Effective: 8/1/99

Criminal trials closing arguments rebuttal limits elimination.

HF197 (Pawlenty)

SF198* (Kelly, R.C.)

Chapter 72: relating to criminal procedure; specifying that the prosecution has the right to reply in rebuttal to the closing argument of the defense; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, section 631.07.

Enactment: 4/20/99

Effective: 8/1/99

Crime of theft expansion to personal property rental.

HF868* (Hackbarth)

SF866 (Hanson)

Chapter 76: relating to crime prevention;

amending the theft law to specifically apply to certain situations involving the rental of personal property or equipment; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, section 609.52, subdivisions 1 and 2.

Enactment: 4/20/99

Effective: 8/1/99

Killing or injuring a search and rescue dog provided felony penalties.

HF67* (Luther)

SF32 (Johnson, D.H.)

Chapter 77: relating to crime; imposing penalties for killing or injuring a search and rescue dog; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, section 609.596.

Enactment: 4/20/99

Effective: 8/1/99

Crime victims' and witnesses' birth dates confidentiality.

HF1171 (Holberg)

SF98* (Knutson)

Chapter 79: relating to crime victims; granting prosecutors discretion not to disclose a victim's or witness's date of birth; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, section 611A.035.

Enactment: 4/20/99

Effective: 8/1/99

Subsequent controlled substance conviction definition expanded.

HF142* (Pawlenty)

SF1634 (Knutson)

Chapter 98: relating to crime; expanding the definition of "subsequent controlled substance conviction" to include convictions subsequent to a stay of adjudication for a controlled substance crime; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, section 152.01, subdivision 16a.

Enactment: 4/26/99

Effective: 8/1/99

Local correctional fees imposition responsibility transferred.

HF1125* (McGuire)

SF1087 (Spear)

Chapter 111: relating to crime prevention; authorizing local correctional agencies rather than courts to impose local correctional fees for offenders under the supervision and control of the local agency; requiring a report; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, sections 244.18, subdivisions 3, 4, and 5; and 609.102, subdivision 2; repealing Minnesota Statutes 1998, section 609.102, subdivisions 3 and 4.

Enactment: 4/27/99

Effective: 8/1/99

Financial institution search warrants extension.

HF1169 (Holberg)
SF496* (Knutson)

Chapter 117: relating to crime; allowing courts to extend the time period for search warrants for financial records; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, section 626.15.

Enactment: 5/3/99

Effective: 8/1/99

Department of Corrections conditional release and other provisions modified.

HF1553* (McGuire)
SF2078 (Kleis)

Chapter 126: relating to corrections; authorizing offenders conditionally released to perform community work service to file claims for injuries sustained during compensated service; repealing a requirement for a report on training funds; authorizing expenditure of funds for staff working in licensed juvenile facilities; authorizing deduction from an inmate's account of restitution ordered for damage to staff property and personal injuries to another; authorizing the commissioner to require any inmate to participate in rehabilitative programs and impose disciplinary sanctions for refusal to participate; clarifying that sentence for imprisonment is only for felonies; making certain criminal justice agency records available to commissioner of corrections and probation officers; specifying criteria for commitment of juvenile male offenders at the Minnesota Correctional Facility-Red Wing; repealing the law authorizing the mutual agreement rehabilitative program; prohibiting use of state funds to acquire art for state correctional facilities; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, sections 3.739, subdivision 1; 16B.35, by adding a subdivision; 241.01, subdivision 5; 241.0221, subdivisions 1 and 2; 241.26, subdivision 5; 243.23, subdivision 3; 244.03; 244.05, subdivision 1b; 609.105, subdivision 1; and 609.115, subdivision 3; Laws 1997, chapter 239, article 9, section 45; repealing Minnesota Statutes 1998, section 244.02.

Enactment: 5/6/99

Effective: 8/1/99

Sex offender registration plea negotiation modified.

HF1707* (Haake)
SF1602 (Limmer)

Chapter 127: relating to public safety; prohibiting courts from modifying statutory sex offender registration requirements in crimi-

nal sentences and juvenile disposition orders; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, section 243.166, subdivision 2.

Enactment: 5/6/99

Effective: 7/1/99

Crime victims unclaimed restitution payments requirements.

HF1359* (Mahoney)
SF1023 (Cohen)

Chapter 136: relating to crime victims; clarifying the procedure for the deposit of unclaimed restitution funds; expanding coverage for crime victims reparations to include moving expense for victims of crime; extending the time limit for filing of claims to three years and allowing an exception to the time limit for all child abuse cases; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, sections 611A.04, by adding a subdivision; 611A.52, subdivision 8; 611A.53, subdivision 2; and 611A.612.

Enactment: 5/10/99

Effective: 8/1/99

Juvenile delinquency and child protection provisions recodified.

HF1310 (Goodno)
SF184* (Ranum)

Chapter 139: relating to juvenile justice; recodifying, clarifying, and relocating provisions relating to juvenile delinquency and child protection; providing separate areas of law dealing with child protection and delinquency; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, section 260.011, subdivision 1; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 260; proposing coding for new law as Minnesota Statutes, chapters 260B; and 260C; repealing Minnesota Statutes 1998, sections 257.069; 257.071; 257.0711; 257.072; 257.35; 257.351; 257.352; 257.353; 257.354; 257.355; 257.356; 257.3571; 257.3572; 257.3573; 257.3574; 257.3575; 257.3576; 257.3577; 257.3578; 257.3579; 257.40; 257.41; 257.42; 257.43; 257.44; 257.45; 257.46; 257.47; 257.48; 260.011, subdivision 2; 260.013; 260.015; 260.092; 260.094; 260.096; 260.101; 260.111; 260.115; 260.121; 260.125; 260.126; 260.131; 260.132; 260.133; 260.135; 260.141; 260.145; 260.151; 260.155; 260.157; 260.161; 260.162; 260.165; 260.171; 260.172; 260.173; 260.1735; 260.174; 260.181; 260.185; 260.191; 260.192; 260.193; 260.195; 260.211; 260.215; 260.221; 260.241; 260.242; 260.245; 260.251; 260.255; 260.261; 260.271; 260.281; 260.291; 260.301; 260.315; 260.35; 260.36; 260.39; and 260.40.

Enactment: 5/11/99

Effective: 8/1/99

Crime of counterfeited intellectual property.

HF263 (Gerlach)
SF411* (Johnson, D.H.)

Chapter 142: relating to crime; imposing criminal penalties for manufacturing, distributing, selling, or possessing with intent to sell or distribute counterfeited intellectual property; providing for forfeiture of these items; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, sections 609.531, subdivision 1; and 609.902, subdivision 4; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 609.

Enactment: 5/11/99

Effective: 8/1/99

Law enforcement agencies forfeited firearms sale and use authority.

HF70* (Daggett)
SF197 (Pariseau)

Chapter 148: relating to public safety; authorizing law enforcement agencies to sell forfeited firearms, ammunition, and firearm accessories to firearms dealers; allowing certain agencies to retain forfeited money for crime prevention use; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, section 609.5315, subdivisions 1 and 2.

Enactment: 5/11/99

Effective: 8/1/99

Gamma hydroxybutyrate as controlled substance.

HF1255 (Skoglund)
SF2120* (Johnson, D.H.)

Chapter 163: relating to crime prevention; classifying gamma hydroxybutyrate as a controlled substance; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, section 152.02, subdivision 4.

Enactment: 5/13/99

Effective: 8/1/99

Juvenile court habitual truants jurisdiction extension.

HF1112 (Biernat)
SF1180* (Pappas)

Chapter 164: relating to juveniles; extending juvenile court jurisdiction over children who are habitual truants; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, section 260.181, subdivision 4.

Enactment: 5/13/99

Effective: 5/14/99

Tribal peace officers law enforcement authority.

HF1607* (Smith)

SF1674 (Moe)

Chapter 175: relating to peace officers; authorizing federally recognized tribes to exercise concurrent criminal jurisdictional authority with the local sheriff within the geographical boundaries of the tribe's reservation; establishing requirements for the exercise of such authority; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, section 626.84, subdivision 1; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 626.

Enactment: 5/18/99**Effective:** 5/19/99**Arson provisions expansion.**

HF621* (Fuller)

SF584 (Novak)

Chapter 176: relating to public safety; adding various arson definitions relating to flammability; imposing penalties on students who use ignition devices inside educational buildings; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, sections 609.561, subdivision 3; and 609.5631, subdivision 2; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 609.

Enactment: 5/18/99**Effective:** 8/1/99**Criminal offenders rehabilitation law exemption for taxicab drivers.**

HF1890 (Mahoney)

SF1639* (Kelly, R.C.)

Chapter 191: relating to offender rehabilitation; exempting the licensing of certain taxicab drivers from the requirements of chapter 364; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, section 364.09.

Enactment: 5/21/99**Effective:** 5/22/99**DWI enhanced gross misdemeanor provisions repealed.**

HF1848 (Goodno)

SF1382* (Spear)

Chapter 194: relating to crime prevention; repealing provisions and striking language related to the enhanced gross misdemeanor DWI crime; expanding the gross misdemeanor DWI crime, probationary period, and mandatory sentencing provisions; requiring mandatory consecutive sentences for certain DWI-related offenses; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, sections 169.121, subdivisions 1c, 3, and 3d; 169.129, subdivision 1; 609.02, subdivision 2; 609.035, subdivision 2; 609.105, subdivisions 1 and 3; 609.135, subdivision 2; and 609.15,

subdivision 2; repealing Minnesota Statutes 1998, sections 169.121, subdivision 3e; 169.129, subdivision 2; and 609.02, subdivision 2a.

Enactment: 5/24/99**Effective:** 5/25/99**Omnibus crime prevention and judiciary finance bill.**

HF2404 (Broecker)

SF2221* (Kelly, R.C.)

Chapter 216: relating to the operation of state government; crime prevention and judiciary finance; appropriating money for the judicial branch, public safety, public defense, crime victims, corrections, human rights, and related purposes; establishing and expanding grant programs, task forces, and pilot projects; requiring reports and studies; increasing the number of judges; transferring, modifying, and expanding responsibility for various governmental responsibilities; providing procedures for integrated criminal justice information systems; adopting various provisions relating to corrections; expanding the categories of offenders that must provide a biological specimen for DNA testing; expanding postconviction relief for certain offenders; establishing the Rush City correctional facility; authorizing a lease-purchase agreement for a northern satellite laboratory facility and additional work related to a new facility in St. Paul for the Bureau of Criminal Apprehension; imposing, clarifying, and expanding certain criminal and civil provisions and penalties; closing a work program for nonviolent offenders; making certain changes related to sex offenders; expanding the housing and court calendar program; creating a program to license qualified court interpreters; increasing the state's fiscal responsibility for certain persons prior to civil commitment; establishing requirements relating to out-of-home placements of juveniles; providing for state funding of certain programs and personnel; providing for state funding of court administration costs in specified judicial districts; establishing collective bargaining provisions for court employees and public defenders; extending the sunset date for a juvenile records provision; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, sections 2.722, subdivision 1; 16B.35, by adding a subdivision; 43A.02, subdivision 25; 43A.24, subdivision 2; 119A.26; 119A.28, subdivisions 2 and 3; 119A.29, subdivision 1; 119A.31, subdivision 3; 119A.32; 119A.33; 119A.34, subdivisions 3 and 4; 168A.40, subdivision 2; 179A.03, subdivisions 7, 14, 15, and by adding a subdivision; 179A.06, subdivision 2;

179A.10, subdivision 4; 179A.12, subdivision 4; 179A.22, subdivisions 2 and 3; 241.016; 241.0221, subdivision 4; 241.275, subdivisions 1 and 2; 242.192; 243.50; 244.052, subdivisions 1, 3, 4, and by adding a subdivision; 244.18, subdivision 3; 253B.185, by adding a subdivision; 253B.23, subdivisions 1 and 8; 256.01, subdivision 2; 256.486, subdivisions 1 and 2; 257.69, subdivision 2; 260.151, subdivision 3; 260.161, subdivision 1; 260.181, by adding a subdivision; 260.185, by adding a subdivision; 260.251, subdivisions 2 and 5; 260.56; 299A.62, subdivision 1; 299A.64, subdivision 10; 299C.65, subdivisions 2, 5, and by adding subdivisions; 340A.703; 346.56; 466.01, subdivision 6; 480.181, subdivision 1; 484.013, subdivisions 1 and 2; 484.64, subdivision 3; 484.65, subdivision 3; 485.018, subdivisions 2 and 6; 485.03; 485.27; 487.10, subdivision 4; 518.165, subdivision 3; 546.13; 546.44, subdivision 3; 563.01, subdivisions 2, 9, and 10; 590.01, subdivision 1, and by adding a subdivision; 609.035, subdivisions 1, 2, and by adding a subdivision; 609.102, by adding a subdivision; 609.3461, subdivisions 1 and 2; 611.33, subdivision 3; 611A.77; 626.843, subdivision 4; 626.845, subdivision 1; 626.8462; 626.8463, subdivision 1; and 626.8465, subdivision 2; Laws 1997, chapter 85, article 3, section 53; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapters 179A; 241; 243; 260; 299A; 480; and 626; repealing Minnesota Statutes 1998, sections 119A.04, subdivision 5; 241.275, subdivision 5; 241.277; 256D.05, subdivisions 3 and 3a; 357.021, subdivision 2a; 563.01, subdivision 1; 609.113; 626.5532, subdivision 2; and 626.8463, subdivision 2.

Enactment: 5/25/99**Line-item vetoes:**

Page 10, Art. 1, Sec. 7,
Subd. 6, Lines 55-60

Effective: various dates**Pornographic work depicting minors provided criminal penalties.**

HF1081 (Skoglund)

SF1404* (Johnson, D.H.)

Chapter 217: relating to crime; providing criminal penalties for possessing and disseminating pornographic work depicting a minor; including computer-generated or computer-altered images within the definition of pornographic work; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, sections 617.246, subdivisions 1, 2, 3, 4, and by adding a subdivision; and 617.247, subdivisions 1, 2, 3, 4,

and by adding a subdivision.

Enactment: 5/24/99

Effective: 8/1/99

Dishonored check pretrial diversion program authorized.

HF624 (Stanek)

SF441* (Spear)

Chapter 218: relating to crime prevention; modifying the criminal penalties for certain crimes to provide more uniformity; creating a pretrial diversion program for writers of dishonored checks; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, sections 332.50, subdivision 2; 609.52, subdivision 3; 609.535, subdivision 2a; 609.631, subdivision 4; and 609.821, subdivision 3; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 628.

Enactment: 5/24/99

Effective: 8/1/99

Criminal forfeiture provisions modified.

HF2016 (Dawkins)

SF1831* (Anderson)

Chapter 225: relating to crime prevention; making miscellaneous changes to certain forfeiture provisions; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, sections 169.1217, subdivisions 7 and 7a; and 609.5314, subdivisions 2 and 3.

Enactment: 5/25/99

Effective: 8/1/99

Sex offender registration and community notification laws expanded.

HF228 (Bishop)

SF174* (Ranum)

Chapter 233: relating to crime prevention; requiring certain persons committed as mentally ill and dangerous to the public to register as predatory sex offenders and to be subject to the community notification law; imposing mandatory disclosure requirements under the community notification law; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, sections 243.166, subdivisions 1, 2, and 6; and 244.052, subdivisions 1 and 4.

Enactment: 5/25/99

Effective: 5/26/99 (Sec. 5); 8/1/99 (Sec. 1-4)

Fraudulent use of another's identity provided felony penalties.

HF112 (Bishop)

SF333* (Kelly, R.C.)

Chapter 244: relating to crime prevention; entitling consumers to free copies of consumer reports; providing criminal penalties and forfeiture sanctions for persons who

transfer, possess, or use the identity of another with intent to commit or aid in the commission of certain unlawful activity; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, sections 13C.01, subdivision 1; 609.531, subdivision 1; and 609.902, subdivision 4; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 609.

Enactment: 5/25/99

Effective: 8/1/99



EDUCATION POLICY

Convicted sexual offenders prohibited from school board candidacy.

HF1845 (Seifert, M.)

SF1527* (Frederickson)

Chapter 101: relating to school boards; a person convicted of a sex offense who is required to be registered under the predatory offender law is not eligible to be a candidate for the office of school board member; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, sections 123B.09, by adding a subdivision; and 205A.06, by adding a subdivision.

Enactment: 4/26/99

Effective: 8/1/99

Special education provisions modified.

HF483 (Tuma)

SF296* (Robertson)

Chapter 123: relating to education; modifying special education provisions; providing for rulemaking; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, sections 121A.41, subdivision 10; 121A.43; 125A.023; 125A.027; 125A.03; 125A.07; 125A.08; 125A.09, subdivisions 1 and 6; 125A.10; 125A.18; 125A.21, subdivision 2; 125A.24; 125A.30; 125A.33; 125A.44; 125A.52, subdivision 1; and 125A.75, subdivision 8; repealing Laws 1998, chapter 398, article 2, section 53; Minnesota Rules, part 3525.2470.

Enactment: 5/4/99

Effective: various dates

Persons convicted of criminal sexual conduct ineligible to become teachers.

HF14* (Fuller)

SF574 (Neuville)

Chapter 201: relating to education; providing that a person convicted of child abuse or sexual abuse is ineligible to be licensed as a teacher; providing for reconsideration in cases of reversal by a court or issuance of a pardon; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, sections 122A.20, subdivision 1; 122A.40, subdivisions 5 and 13; 122A.41, subdivision 6; and 631.40, by adding a subdivision.

Enactment: 5/24/99

Effective: 5/25/99



ENVIRONMENT & NATURAL RESOURCES FINANCE

Omnibus environment, natural resources, and agriculture appropriations bill.

HF2388 (Holsten)

SF2226* (Krentz)

Chapter 231: relating to state government; appropriating money for environmental, natural resources, and agricultural purposes; establishing and modifying certain programs; providing for regulation of certain activities and practices; providing for accounts, assessments, and fees; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, sections 14.386; 16A.531, by adding a subdivision; 16B.171, as amended; 17.03, by adding a subdivision; 17.038; 17.102, subdivision 4; 17.109, subdivision 1; 17.115, subdivision 3; 17.116, subdivision 3; 17.117, subdivision 3; 17.136; 17.457, subdivision 10; 17.59, subdivision 5; 17.85; 17.982, subdivision 1; 17.983, subdivision 1; 17A.11; 17B.15, subdivision 1; 18B.05, subdivision 1; 18B.26, subdivision 5; 18C.131; 18E.02, subdivision 5; 18E.03, subdivision 1; 21.115; 21.116; 21.90, subdivision 3; 21.92; 25.39, subdivision 4; 27.07, subdivision 6; 28A.075; 28A.08, subdivision 3, as amended; 29.22, subdivision 5; 31.101, subdivision 10; 31.94; 31.95, subdivision 3a; 31A.01; 31A.02, subdivision 4, and by adding subdivisions; 31A.15, subdivision 1; 31A.21, subdivisions 1 and 3; 31A.31; 32.21, subdivision 4; 32.394, subdivision 9; 35.02, subdivision 1; 35.04; 35.05; 35.08; 35.09, sub-

divisions 2 and 2a; 35.67; 35.68; 35.82, subdivisions 1b, 2, and 3; 35.92, subdivision 5; 35.93, subdivision 1; 41B.044, subdivision 2; 84.027, subdivision 15; 84.0855, subdivision 2, and by adding a subdivision; 84.81, by adding a subdivision; 84.8205, by adding a subdivision; 84.83, subdivisions 3 and 4; 84.86, subdivision 1; 84.862, subdivisions 1 and 2; 84.872, subdivision 1; 84.91, subdivision 1; 84.98, subdivision 6; 85.015, subdivision 4, and by adding a subdivision; 85.019, subdivision 2, and by adding subdivisions; 85.40, subdivision 5; 85.41, subdivisions 1, 4, and 5; 85.42; 85.44; 85.45, subdivision 1; 86B.415; 88.067; 89A.01, by adding a subdivision; 89A.02; 89A.03; 89A.04; 89A.05; 89A.06; 89A.07, subdivisions 3 and 5; 89A.10; 92.45; 92.46, subdivision 1; 97B.020; 103B.227, subdivision 2; 103F.515, subdivision 2; 103G.271, subdivision 6; 115.55, subdivision 5a; 115A.02; 115A.908, subdivision 2; 115B.39, subdivision 2; 115B.40, subdivisions 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8; 115B.405, subdivision 1; 115B.42; 115B.43, subdivision 1; 115B.442, by adding a subdivision; 116.07, subdivision 7; 116.072, by adding a subdivision; 116.073, subdivisions 1 and 2; 156.001, subdivisions 2, 3, and by adding a subdivision; 156.01, subdivision 3; 156.02, subdivisions 1 and 2; 156.03; 156.072; 156.10; 156.11; 156.12, subdivisions 2 and 4; 169.121, subdivision 3; 169.1217, subdivision 9; 169.123, subdivision 1; 171.07, subdivisions 12 and 13; 223.17, subdivision 3; 231.16; 232.22, subdivision 3; 233.08; 236.02, subdivision 4; 239.791, subdivisions 1, 12, and by adding subdivisions; 290.431; 290.432; 296A.18, subdivision 3; 297H.13, subdivision 5; 325E.11; 325E.112, subdivisions 1, 3, and 4; 325E.113; 500.24, subdivisions 2 and 3; 574.263; and 574.264, subdivision 1; Laws 1995, chapter 220, section 142, as amended; Laws 1996, chapter 351, section 2, as amended; Laws 1998, chapters 401, section 53; 404, section 7, subdivisions 23 and 26; and Laws 1999, chapters 4, section 2; and 161, section 44; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapters 17; 18E; 28A; 31B; 84; 103G; 115B; 116; and 156; repealing Minnesota Statutes 1998, sections 31A.28; 35.245; 35.96, subdivision 4; 42.01; 42.02; 42.03; 42.04; 42.05; 42.06; 42.07; 42.08; 42.09; 42.10; 42.11; 42.12; 42.13; 42.14; 86B.415, subdivision 7a; 446A.21; and 473.845, subdivision 2.

Enactment: 5/25/99

Line-item vetoes:

Page 6, Sec. 2, Subd. 2, Lines 3-29;
Page 10, Sec. 5, Subd. 3, Lines 54-58;
Page 17, Sec. 5; Subd. 7, Lines 23-24, 35-36;
Page 20, Sec. 8, Lines 55-56;
Page 43, Sec. 16, Subd. 10 (d), Lines 22-31;
Page 47, Sec. 16, Subd. 11 (n),
Lines 3-13; and
Page 52, Sec. 16, Subd. 13 (n), Lines 38-42

Effective: various dates



**ENVIRONMENT & NATURAL
RESOURCES POLICY**

Snowmobile metal traction device use restrictions modified.

HF6* (Hackbarth)
SF40 (Stumpf)
Chapter 4: relating to recreational vehicles; modifying rulemaking authority; modifying certain restrictions on the use of snowmobile metal traction devices; establishing fines for operation of snowmobiles with metal traction devices on paved public trails; modifying certain definitions; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, sections 84.86, subdivision 1; and 169.1217, subdivision 1; Laws 1998, chapter 401, section 61; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 84; repealing Minnesota Statutes 1998, sections 84.871, subdivision 2; 84.8715; and 85.015, subdivision 1c.
Enactment: 3/4/99
Effective: 3/5/99

Collector watercraft license numbers and display requirements exemption.

HF137* (Rostberg)
SF463 (Johnson, J.B.)
Chapter 22: relating to watercraft; exempting collector watercraft from certain watercraft license display requirements; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, section 86B.401, by adding a subdivision.
Enactment: 3/26/99
Effective: 8/1/99

Landscape irrigation systems rain check installation requirement.

HF564 (Ozment)
SF609* (Price)
Chapter 27: relating to water; requiring new landscape irrigation systems to have rain checks; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 103G.
Vetoed: 4/1/99

Scott County Blue Lake wastewater treatment plant water use permit approval.

HF1403 (Buesgens)
SF1173* (Robling)
Chapter 56: relating to water; approving the granting of a permit for the consumptive use of groundwater pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, section 103G.265, subdivision 3.
Enactment: 4/15/99
Effective: 4/16/99

St. Louis River estuary fishing guide license requirement.

HF1109 (Munger)
SF803* (Solon)
Chapter 57: relating to game and fish; requiring a fishing guide license on the St. Louis river estuary; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, sections 97A.475, subdivision 15; and 97C.311, subdivision 1.
Enactment: 4/15/99
Effective: 8/1/99

Stearns, Benton, and Sherburne counties regional parks and trails plan.

HF841 (Opatz)
SF881* (Kleis)
Chapter 65: relating to recreation; creating a parks and trails plan of regional significance in certain counties in central Minnesota; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 85.
Enactment: 4/16/99
Effective: 8/1/99

Water and wastewater treatment system modifications.

HF645* (Tingelstad)
SF651 (Robertson)
Chapter 66: relating to the environment; conforming state requirements for water supply and wastewater treatment operator certification to federal requirements; removing the expiration date of an advisory council; removing obsolete references; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, sections 115.71,

subdivisions 9a and 10; and 115.741, subdivisions 1, 2, and 3.

Enactment: 4/20/99

Effective: 8/1/99

Waste Management Act technical modification.

HF1151 (Howes)

SF1176* (Johnson, J. B.)

Chapter 73: relating to the environment; making technical changes to the Waste Management Act; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, sections 115A.15, subdivision 5; 115A.411, subdivision 1; 115A.52; and 115A.551, subdivision 2a; repealing Minnesota Rules, parts 9200.0100; 9200.0200; 9200.0300; 9200.0400; 9200.0500; 9200.0600; 9200.0700; 9200.0800; 9200.0900; 9200.1000; 9200.1100; 9200.1200; 9200.1300; 9200.1400; 9200.1500; 9200.1600; 9200.1700; 9200.1800; 9200.1900; 9200.2000; 9200.2100; 9200.2200; 9200.2210; 9200.2220; 9205.0600; 9205.0601; 9205.0602; 9205.0603; 9205.0604; 9205.0605; 9205.0606; 9205.0607; and 9205.0608.

Enactment: 4/20/99

Effective: 8/1/99

Migratory waterfowl refuge designation.

HF1404 (Swenson)

SF972* (Frederickson)

Chapter 81: relating to game and fish; modifying migratory waterfowl refuge provisions; designating a migratory waterfowl refuge; repealing a commissioner's order; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, section 97A.095, subdivision 1.

Enactment: 4/20/99

Effective: 8/1/99

Harmful exotic species provisions modifications.

HF1248 (Howes)

SF1528* (Price)

Chapter 92: relating to natural resources; modifying harmful exotic species provisions; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, sections 84.027, subdivision 13; 84D.01, subdivision 2; 84D.02, subdivision 4; 84D.03, subdivision 1, and by adding a subdivision; 84D.09, subdivision 2; 84D.10; 84D.11, by adding a subdivision; and 84D.12, subdivisions 1 and 3; repealing Minnesota Statutes 1998, sections 84D.01, subdivision 10; and 84D.03, subdivision 2.

Enactment: 4/23/99

Effective: 4/25/99

Paul Bunyan State Trail route modification.

HF1944 (Wenzel)

SF1470* (Samuelson)

Chapter 95: relating to natural resources; modifying the route of Paul Bunyan State Trail; permitting operation of motorized devices by physically disabled on certain state trails; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, sections 85.015, subdivision 15; and 85.018, subdivision 4.

Enactment: 4/23/99

Effective: 8/1/99

Vertical heat exchanger contractors licensing and regulation.

HF2021 (Bishop)

SF1539* (Stumpf)

Chapter 153: relating to the environment; regulating limited well/boring contractors and the installation of vertical heat exchangers; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, sections 103I.005, subdivisions 12, 13, and 20; 103I.101, subdivisions 2 and 5; 103I.105; 103I.205, subdivisions 2 and 4; 103I.301, subdivisions 2 and 3; 103I.501; 103I.531; and 103I.641, subdivisions 1 and 3.

Enactment: 5/13/99

Effective: various dates

State park additions, deletions, and name changes provided.

HF1301 (Vandever)

SF1449* (Price)

Chapter 157: relating to natural resources; renaming a state park; adding to and deleting from state parks; authorizing a land exchange in a state park; transferring land from a state wayside to a state park and abolishing a state wayside; authorizing a private sale of surplus land in Rock County; renaming the visitors' center at Gooseberry Falls State Park; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, section 85.012, subdivision 19; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 85; repealing Minnesota Statutes 1998, section 85.013, subdivision 8.

Enactment: 5/13/99

Effective: 8/1/99

Environmental improvement pilot program modified and made permanent.

HF1477 (Rostberg)

SF1541* (Price)

Chapter 158: relating to the environment; modifying and making permanent the environmental improvement pilot program;

amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, sections 114C.20; 114C.21, subdivisions 1, 4, and by adding subdivisions; 114C.22; 114C.24, subdivisions 2, 3, 4, and 5; 114C.25; 114C.26; 114C.27; and 114C.28; repealing Minnesota Statutes 1998, sections 114C.21, subdivisions 9 and 11; 114C.29; 114C.30; and 114C.31.

Enactment: 5/13/99

Effective: 8/1/99

Wabasha County tax-forfeited land sale.

HF502 (Osskopp)

SF626* (Murphy)

Chapter 161: relating to public lands; providing that participation in certain tax programs will not reduce damage awards granted in an eminent domain proceeding; modifying prior private sale of tax-forfeited land in Carlton County; authorizing public and private sales, conveyances, and exchanges of certain tax-forfeited lands that border public water or wetland in Anoka, Cass, Chisago, Cook, Douglas, Hennepin, Hubbard, Itasca, Kandiyohi, Le Sueur, Mower, Olmsted, Red Lake, Roseau, Sherburne, Stearns, Todd, Wabasha, Wadena, and Washington counties; authorizing private sales and conveyances of certain tax-forfeited land in Koochiching, Ramsey, and St. Louis counties; authorizing private sale and conveyances of certain surplus land in Aitkin, Anoka, Houston, Otter Tail, St. Louis, and Wright counties and to the Bloomington Housing and Redevelopment Authority; authorizing certain land conveyances in connection with the transfer of state land in Steele County; authorizing private sales and conveyances of certain county land in Goodhue and Itasca counties; authorizing Koochiching County to exercise the power of eminent domain for acquisition of certain trust fund land; authorizing the city of Bemidji to exercise the power of eminent domain for acquisition of certain trust fund land that borders public waters and wetlands; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, section 117.085; Laws 1997, chapter 207, section 7, as amended.

Enactment: 5/13/99

Effective: various dates

Leased lakeshore lot exchange or sale provisions modified.

HF1430 (Tuma)

SF1572* (Frederickson)

Chapter 180: relating to natural resources; modifying provisions for the exchange or sale of leased lakeshore lots; amending Laws

1998, chapter 389, article 16, section 31, subdivisions 2, 3, and 4.

Enactment: 5/19/99

Effective: 7/1/99 (Sec. 1); 8/1/99 (Sec. 2, 3)

Minnesota Pollution Control Agency judicial review provisions modified.

HF1621* (Osskopp)

SF1734 (Higgins)

Chapter 235: relating to the environment; modifying provisions relating to judicial review of agency decisions; modifying requirements for incinerator monitors; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, sections 115.05, subdivision 11; and 116.85, subdivision 3.

Enactment: 5/25/99

Effective: 8/1/99



FAMILY & EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION FINANCE

Omnibus family and early childhood education bill.

HF1467* (Sykora)

SF2222 (Piper)

Chapter 205: relating to education; family and early childhood education; providing for children and family support programs, community and systems change, prevention and intervention, self-sufficiency and lifelong learning, and resources and referral programs; appropriating money; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, sections 13.46, subdivision 2; 16B.405, subdivision 2; 119A.45; 119B.01, subdivisions 1, 2, 10, 12, 12a, 13, 16, 17, and by adding subdivisions; 119B.02, subdivision 1, and by adding subdivisions; 119B.03, subdivisions 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, and 9; 119B.04, subdivision 1; 119B.05, subdivision 1; 119B.06, subdivision 1; 119B.061; 119B.07; 119B.08, subdivision 3; 119B.09, subdivisions 1, 3, and 7; 119B.10, subdivision 1; 119B.11, subdivision 2a; 119B.12, subdivision 2; 119B.13; 119B.14; 119B.15; 119B.18, subdivision 3; 119B.19, subdivision 1, and by adding subdivisions; 119B.20, subdivisions 7, 8, 12, and by adding a subdivision; 119B.21, subdivisions 1, 2, 3, 5, 8, 9, 10, and 11; 119B.23, subdivision 1; 119B.24; 119B.25, subdivision 3; 121A.19; 122A.26, by adding a subdivision; 124D.13, subdivision 6; 124D.135,

subdivisions 1 and 3; 124D.19, subdivision 11; 124D.20, subdivision 5; 124D.22; 124D.23, by adding a subdivision; 124D.33, subdivisions 3 and 4; 124D.52, by adding subdivisions; 124D.53, subdivision 3, and by adding a subdivision; 124D.54, subdivision 1; 125A.35, subdivision 5; 171.29, subdivision 2; 256.01, subdivision 4; 256.045, subdivisions 6, 7, and by adding a subdivision; 256.046, subdivision 1; 256.741, subdivision 4; 256.98, subdivisions 1, 7, and 8; 256.983, subdivisions 3 and 4; and 466.01, subdivision 1; Laws 1997, chapter 162, article 2, section 28, subdivision 6; Laws 1997, First Special Session chapter 4, article 1, section 61, subdivisions 2 and 3, as amended; Laws 1998, First Special Session chapter 1, article 1, sections 10, 11, and 12; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapters 119B; and 124D; repealing Minnesota Statutes 1998, sections 119B.01, subdivision 15; 119B.03, subdivision 7; 119B.05, subdivisions 6 and 7; 119B.075; 119B.17; 119B.18, subdivisions 1 and 2; 119B.19, subdivisions 3, 4, and 5; 119B.20, subdivisions 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 9, 10, and 11; 119B.21, subdivisions 4, 6, and 12; 119B.22; 124D.14; and 124D.53, subdivision 6.

Enactment: 5/25/99

Line-item vetoes:
 Page 67, Art. 4, Sec. 12, Subd. 3, Lines 30-32, 33-36;
 Page 68, Art. 4, Sec. 12, Subd. 3, Lines 1-6;
 Page 69, Art. 4, Sec. 12, Subd. 11, Lines 30-36; and
 Page 70, Art. 4, Sec. 12, Subd. 11, Line 1

Effective: 7/1/99



GOVERNMENTAL OPERATIONS & VETERANS AFFAIRS POLICY

Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board member qualifications specified.

HF139* (Rhodes)

SF88 (Marty)

Chapter 1: relating to the Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board; specifying member qualifications; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, section 10A.02, subdivision 1.

Enactment: 2/17/99

Effective: 2/18/99

Government Innovation and Cooperation Board rules exemptions.

HF2024 (Seifert, J.)

SF1660* (Wiger)

Chapter 41: relating to the Board of Government Innovation and Cooperation; extending exemptions from enforcement of law granted by the board during calendar years 1996 and 1998; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, section 465.797, subdivision 5a.

Enactment: 4/12/99

Effective: 8/1/99

Eligibility expanded for certain state military service.

HF1565* (Anderson, B.)

SF1677 (Wiener)

Chapter 46: relating to the military; expanding eligibility for certain state service; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, sections 190.08, subdivision 3; 192.19; and 193.29, subdivisions 1, 2, and 3.

Enactment: 4/15/99

Effective: 8/1/99

Extending the civil service pilot project in the Housing Finance Agency.

HF1556* (Clark, K.)

SF2043 (Wiger)

Chapter 47: relating to state government; extending the civil service pilot project in the Housing Finance Agency; amending Laws 1993, chapter 301, section 1, subdivision 4; and Laws 1995, chapter 248, article 12, section 2.

Enactment: 4/15/99

Effective: 8/1/99

Bloomington Housing and Redevelopment Authority surplus state land purchase.

HF960 (Seagren)

SF829* (Belanger)

Chapter 80: relating to state lands; authorizing commissioner of human services to sell certain surplus state land to the Bloomington Housing and Redevelopment Authority; appropriating money.

Enactment: 4/20/99

Effective: 4/21/99

State archaeologist position appointment process modification.

HF1975 (Wolf)

SF1920* (Price)

Chapter 91: relating to state government; modifying the appointment process and position classifications for the state archaeologist; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, section 138.35, subdivisions 1 and 1a.

Enactment: 4/23/99**Effective:** 4/24 (Sec. 3); 8/1 (Sec. 1, 2)**Legislative Audit Commission modifications.**

HF1003* (McElroy)

SF840 (Wiener)

Chapter 99: relating to the legislature; prescribing the powers and duties of the Legislative Audit Commission and the legislative auditor; making various technical changes; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, sections 3.97; 3.971; 3.974; 3.975; 6.74; 10.48; 13.46, subdivision 8; 16A.27, subdivision 2; 37.06; 37.07; 85A.02, subdivision 5c; 89.05; 161.08; 192.551; 352.03, subdivision 6; 353.03, subdivision 3a; 353A.05, subdivision 1; 354.06, subdivision 2a; 360.015, subdivision 19; 574.20; and 609.456; Laws 1990, chapter 535, section 5; repealing Minnesota Statutes 1998, sections 3.973; 116.072, subdivision 12; 469.207, subdivision 1; and 574.02.

Enactment: 4/26/99**Effective:** 4/27/99**Governor veto authority over state agency rules.**

HF1905* (Seifert, M.)

SF1993 (Hottinger)

Chapter 129: relating to state government; rulemaking; authorizing the governor to veto certain rules; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, sections 14.05, by adding a subdivision; 14.16, subdivision 3; 14.26, subdivision 3; 14.386; and 14.389, subdivision 3.

Enactment: 5/6/99**Effective:** 7/1/99**Elections provisions modified.**

HF1168 (Gerlach)

SF1144* (Scheid)

Chapter 132: relating to elections; simplifying language on certificates of election; clarifying and simplifying the Minnesota Election Law; making technical and procedural changes; changing certain duties of election officials; listing additional violations; changing certain deadlines; providing for submission of proposed chapter amendments; re-

quiring adoption of certain rules; imposing criminal penalties; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, sections 3.02; 200.031; 201.016, subdivision 1, and by adding a subdivision; 201.054, subdivision 2; 201.12, subdivision 2; 201.13, by adding a subdivision; 203B.03, subdivision 1; 203B.04, subdivision 1; 203B.07, subdivision 2; 203B.08, subdivision 1; 203B.081; 203B.085; 203B.11, subdivisions 2 and 4; 204B.08, subdivision 3; 204B.146, subdivision 2; 204B.21, subdivision 2; 204B.27, subdivision 8; 204C.10; 204C.24, subdivision 1; 204C.26, subdivision 1; 204C.40, subdivision 1; 204D.08, subdivisions 3 and 5; 204D.11, subdivision 4; 204D.13, subdivisions 2 and 3; 205.075, subdivision 2; 205.10, subdivisions 3 and 4; 205.16, subdivision 4; 205.185, subdivision 3; 205A.05, subdivision 1; 205A.07, subdivision 3; 205A.13; 206.86, subdivision 1; 208.04, subdivision 1; 351.055; 367.03, subdivision 4; 410.12, subdivision 1; 412.02, subdivision 2; and 447.32, subdivision 4; Laws 1997, chapter 173, section 6; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 204B; repealing Minnesota Statutes 1998, sections 203B.08, subdivisions 1a and 3a; 203B.12, subdivision 5; 204D.14, subdivision 2; 204D.19, subdivision 5; and 365.10, subdivision 2.

Enactment: 5/7/99**Effective:** 8/1/99**Secretary of state records provisions modified.**

HF1183 (Seifert, J.)

SF1060* (Knutson)

Chapter 133: relating to state government; secretary of state; regulating service of process and certain notice requirements; regulating the names of certain business organizations; providing certain technical and conforming changes; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, sections 5.23, subdivision 1; 5.25, subdivisions 3, 4, and 6; 281.23, subdivision 6; 323A.10-02; 333.01, subdivision 1; 333.19, subdivision 1; and 336.9-411.

Enactment: 5/7/99**Effective:** 8/1/99**State building and energy code provisions modified.**

HF1568* (Boudreau)

SF1209 (Wiener)

Chapter 135: relating to the state building code; transferring authority to adopt energy portions of the building code from the commissioner of public service to the commissioner of administration; setting an effective

date for the energy code; requiring implementation of locally adopted optional code provisions; requiring a report; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, sections 16B.61, subdivisions 1 and 1a; 16B.62, subdivision 2; 16B.64, subdivision 4; 216C.19, subdivision 8; and 216C.195, subdivision 1; repealing Minnesota Statutes 1998, section 16B.165.

Enactment: 5/10/99**Effective:** 7/1/99**Occupational regulation legislation supporting documentation requirement.**

HF2023 (Krinkie)

SF1746* (Wiener)

Chapter 144: relating to occupational regulation; requiring proponents of new or expanded regulation to provide certain information in writing to the chairs of the standing committees; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 214.

Enactment: 5/11/99**Effective:** 8/1/99**Firefighters arbitration procedure.**

HF1173 (Pelowski)

SF1605* (Kelley, S.P.)

Chapter 166: relating to labor relations; providing arbitration procedures for firefighters; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, section 179A.16, by adding a subdivision.

Enactment: 5/17/99**Effective:** 8/1/99**Public employment provisions modifications.**

HF1693 (Mares)

SF2017* (Runbeck)

Chapter 182: relating to public employment; making technical and administrative changes; modifying definitions; redesigning administrative procedures for certain pilot projects; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, sections 13.43, subdivision 2; 43A.02, subdivisions 11 and 33; 43A.04, subdivision 4; 43A.06, subdivision 8; 43A.07, subdivisions 4 and 6; 43A.13, subdivision 3; 43A.15, subdivision 6, and by adding a subdivision; 43A.17, subdivision 8; 43A.18, subdivision 1; 43A.19, subdivision 3; 43A.20; 43A.317, subdivisions 3 and 4; and 43A.421; Laws 1995, chapter 248, article 13, section 2, subdivisions 5, as amended, and 6, as amended; repealing Minnesota Statutes 1998, sections 43A.13, subdivision 9; 43A.40; 43A.41; 43A.42; 43A.43, subdivision 2; 43A.44; 43A.45; 43A.46; and 43A.465; Laws 1995, chapter 248, article 13, section 2, subdivision 8; Minnesota Rules, parts 3910.0100;

3910.0200; 3910.0300; 3910.0400; 3910.0500; 3910.0600; 3910.0700; 3910.0800; 3910.0900; 3910.1000; 3910.1100; 3910.1200; 3910.1300; 3910.1400; 3910.1500; 3910.1600; and 3910.1700.

Enactment: 5/19/99

Effective: 5/20/99

State building code fire safety enforcement authority.

HF853 (Rostberg)

SF1204* (Johnson, D.H.)

Chapter 185: relating to the state building code; clarifying the supervision of the state fire marshal; modifying elevator installation provisions; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, sections 16B.61, subdivision 2; and 16B.745, subdivision 3.

Enactment: 5/21/99

Effective: 5/22/99 (Sec. 2); 8/1/99 (Sec. 1)

Dice games in licensed liquor establishments.

HF686 (Dehler)

SF2044* (Vickerman)

Chapter 187: relating to gambling; authorizing dice games in retail establishments licensed to sell alcoholic beverages under certain circumstances; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, sections 340A.410, subdivision 5; and 609.761, by adding a subdivision.

Enactment: 5/21/99

Effective: 5/22/99

Omnibus gambling bill.

HF1825* (Osskopp)

SF1619 (Vickerman)

Chapter 206: relating to gambling; allowing a class B licensee of a class A racetrack to conduct card club activities; expanding the use of pull-tab dispensing machines; making technical changes; setting forth conduct of raffles; modifying progressive bingo prizes; specifying maximum tipboard prizes; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, sections 240.01, by adding subdivisions; 240.07, subdivision 3; 240.10; 240.25, subdivision 8; 349.151, subdivision 4b; 349.1711, by adding a subdivision; and 349.211, subdivision 2, and by adding a subdivision; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapters 240; and 349.

Enactment: 5/24/99

Effective: 5/25/99 with exceptions

Election campaign finance and ethics provisions modified.

HF861 (Rhodes)

SF145* (Marty)

Chapter 220: relating to ethics in government; clarifying and simplifying the law related to lobbyist registration, conflicts of interest, and campaign finance; eliminating invalid provisions; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, sections 10A.01; 10A.02, as amended; 10A.03; 10A.04; 10A.05; 10A.06; 10A.065, subdivisions 1, 1a, and 3; 10A.08; 10A.09; 10A.10; 10A.11; 10A.12; 10A.13; 10A.14; 10A.15; 10A.16; 10A.17; 10A.18; 10A.19; 10A.20; 10A.22, subdivisions 6 and 7; 10A.23; 10A.24; 10A.241; 10A.242; 10A.25; 10A.255, subdivisions 1 and 3; 10A.265; 10A.27; 10A.275, subdivision 1; 10A.28; 10A.29; 10A.30, subdivision 1; 10A.31; 10A.315; 10A.321; 10A.322; 10A.323; 10A.324, subdivisions 1 and 3; 10A.34; 200.02, by adding a subdivision; and 290.06, subdivision 23; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 10A; repealing Minnesota Statutes 1998, sections 10A.065, subdivision 5; 10A.22, subdivisions 1, 4, and 5; 10A.255, subdivision 2; 10A.275, subdivisions 2 and 3; 10A.324, subdivisions 2 and 4; 10A.325; 10A.335; 10A.40; 10A.41; 10A.42; 10A.43; 10A.44; 10A.45; 10A.46; 10A.47; 10A.48; 10A.49; 10A.50; and 10A.51.

Enactment: 5/24/99

Effective: 8/1/99

Public employees labor agreements and compensation plans ratified.

HF1877 (Molnau)

SF1721* (Flynn)

Chapter 221: relating to public employees; ratifying certain labor agreements and compensation plans; providing for transfer of vacation and sick leave for certain employees; modifying per diem provision for special mediators; modifying procedures for the listing of arbitrators; exempting epidemiologists from a salary cap; making technical changes; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, sections 3.096; 43A.17, subdivision 4; 179.02, subdivision 2; 179A.03, subdivision 14; 179A.04, subdivision 3; 179A.10, subdivision 1; and 179A.16, subdivision 2; repealing Minnesota Statutes 1998, section 43A.17, subdivision 12.

Enactment: 5/24/99

Effective: 5/25/99 (Secs. 1, 3, 9); 8/1/99 (Secs. 2, 4-8)

Statewide and local pension plans modified.

HF1077 (Mares)

SF319* (Pogemiller)

Chapter 222: relating to retirement; various pension plans; providing special benefit coverage for privatized employees of the Luverne Public Hospital, the Waconia Ridgeview Medical Center, and the Glencoe Area Health Center; creating a local government correctional service retirement plan; modifying actuarial cost provision; providing a special property tax levy for certain county retirement contributions; providing an ad hoc postretirement adjustment to Eveleth Police and Fire Trust Fund benefit recipients; establishing an additional postretirement adjustment for the Fairmont Police Relief Association; extending survivor benefit provisions to include certain Fairmont Police Relief Association survivors; providing a special ad hoc postretirement adjustment to certain retired St. Cloud police officers; merging the pre-March 1, 1999, local police and paid fire consolidation accounts into the public employees police and fire plan; extending the minimum volunteer firefighter fire state aid amount to post-1993 relief association members; modifying governance provisions for the Minneapolis Fire Department Relief Association and the Minneapolis Police Relief Association; providing a targeted early retirement incentive program for certain employees of the Metropolitan Council; permitting the purchase of service credit by various public employees; mandating certain school district service credit purchase payments; making miscellaneous changes in the legislators retirement plan, the Minnesota State Colleges and University System individual retirement account plan, the Minnesota State Retirement System, and the Teachers Retirement Association; including supplemental needs trusts as recipients of optional annuity forms; eliminating the service credit maximum for monthly benefit volunteer fire relief associations; mandating school district repayment of certain omitted deduction interest charges; expanding the membership of the state correctional employees retirement plan to include certain Minnesota extended treatment options program employees; downsizing the early retirement reduction rates for various public safety plans; grandparenting public employee police and fire plan coverage for certain Rice County correctional employees; requiring Rice County to repay certain police state aid

amounts; providing employer penalties for pension plan membership certification failures or errors; providing special retirement coverage for certain state fire marshal employees; authorizing the purchase of credit for certain periods of prior military service, out-of state public teaching service, maternity leaves, maternity breaks-in employment, parochial or private school teaching service, Peace Corps service or VISTA service; clarifying various Minneapolis employees retirement plan survivor benefit provisions; increasing the number of vendors for certain tax-sheltered annuities for educational employees; modifying various benefit provisions for certain Minnesota State Colleges and Universities employees; reducing the membership of the Legislative Commission on Pensions and Retirement; requiring a study; authorizing the purchase or construction of an administration building for the Minnesota State Retirement System, the Public Employees Retirement Association, and the Teachers Retirement Association; authorizing the issuance of certain revenue bonds; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, sections 3.751, subdivision 1; 3.85, subdivisions 3, 11, and 12; 3A.02, subdivision 1b; 43A.27, subdivision 3; 69.021, subdivisions 7 and 10; 69.031, subdivision 5; 122A.46, subdivision 2; 136F.48; 273.1385, subdivision 2; 275.70, subdivision 5; 352.03, subdivision 1; 352.90; 352.91, by adding a subdivision; 352.92, subdivisions 1 and 2; 352.93, subdivision 2a; 352B.08, subdivision 2a; 353.01, subdivisions 2b, 10, and 16; 353.03, subdivision 4; 353.27, subdivisions 2 and 3; 353.64, subdivision 1; 353.65, subdivisions 2 and 3; 353.651, subdivision 4; 353A.083, by adding a subdivision; 353A.09, subdivisions 4, 5, and by adding a subdivision; 353D.01, subdivision 2; 353D.02, by adding a subdivision; 353D.03, subdivision 3; 354.05, subdivision 40; 354.06, subdivision 1; 354.10, subdivision 4; 354.445; 354.66, subdivisions 1b, 1c, 3, and 5; 354B.24, subdivision 3; 354B.25, subdivisions 2, 3, and 5; 354C.11; 354C.12, subdivision 4; 356.19, by adding subdivisions; 356.20, subdivision 2; 356.215, subdivision 4g; 356.24, subdivision 1; 356.30, subdivision 3; 356.302, subdivision 7; and 356.303, subdivision 4; 356.55, subdivisions 1 and 6; 356.61; 422A.06, subdivisions 3 and 6; 422A.101, subdivision 4; 422A.18, subdivision 2; 422A.22, subdivisions 4 and 5; and 422A.23; 423A.02, subdivisions 1b, 2, and by adding subdivisions; and 423B.07; Laws 1977, chapter 61, section 6, as amended; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapters 352; 353;

354; 354A; 354B; 356; and 422A; proposing coding for new law as Minnesota Statutes, chapters 353E; and 353F; repealing Minnesota Statutes 1998, sections 353.33, subdivision 3a; 353.65, subdivision 3a; 422A.16, subdivision 3a; and 424A.02, subdivision 5; Laws 1998, chapter 390, article 1, section 1.

Enactment: 5/25/99

Effective: various dates

State economically disadvantaged area business preferences award increase.

HF937 (Tunheim)

SF709* (Stumpf)

Chapter 232: relating to state procurement; authorizing the commissioner of administration to award a preference of as much as 6 percent in the amount bid for specified goods or services to small businesses; providing an exception; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, section 16C.16, subdivision 7; repealing Minnesota Rules, part 1230.1860, item A.

Enactment: 5/25/99

Effective: 8/1/99

Nursing home bingo game regulation modified.

HF132* (Ness)

SF1138 (Dille)

Chapter 128: relating to lawful gambling; exempting certain bingo games from regulation; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, section 349.166, subdivision 1.

Enactment: 5/6/99

Effective: 8/1/99



HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES FINANCE

Omnibus health and human services appropriations bill.

HF2412 (Goodno)

SF2225* (Samuelson)

Chapter 245: relating to the operation of state government; modifying provisions relating to health; health department; human services; human services department; long-term care; medical assistance; general assis-

tance medical care; MinnesotaCare; senior drug program; home and community-based waivers; services for persons with disabilities; medical assistance reimbursement for special education and other services; county-based purchasing; group residential housing; state-operated services; chemical dependency; mental health; Minnesota Family Investment Program; general assistance program; child support enforcement; adoption; recreational licenses; paternity; children in need of protection or services; termination of parental rights; child protection; veterans nursing homes board; health-related licensing boards; emergency medical services regulatory board; Minnesota State Council on Disability; Ombudsman for Mental Health and Mental Retardation; Ombudsman for Families; creating a medical education endowment fund and a tobacco use prevention and local public health endowment fund; establishing the state board of physical therapy; modifying fees; providing penalties; requiring reports; appropriating money; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, sections 13.46, subdivision 2; 13.99, subdivision 38a, and by adding a subdivision; 15.059, subdivision 5a; 16C.10, subdivision 5; 62A.045; 62E.11, by adding a subdivision; 62J.04, subdivision 3; 62J.06; 62J.07, subdivisions 1 and 3; 62J.09, subdivision 8; 62J.2930, subdivision 3; 62Q.03, subdivision 5a; 62Q.075; 62R.06, subdivision 1; 116L.02; 122A.09, subdivision 4; 125A.08; 125A.744, subdivision 3; 125A.76, subdivision 2; 144.05, by adding a subdivision; 144.065; 144.121, by adding a subdivision; 144.148; 144.1483; 144.1492, subdivision 3; 144.1761, subdivision 1; 144.413, subdivision 2; 144.414, subdivision 1; 144.4165; 144.56, subdivision 2b; 144.99, subdivision 1, and by adding a subdivision; 144A.073, subdivision 5; 144A.10, by adding subdivisions; 144A.46, subdivision 2; 144A.4605, subdivision 2; 144D.01, subdivision 4; 144E.001, by adding subdivisions; 144E.10, subdivision 1; 144E.11, by adding a subdivision; 144E.16, subdivision 4; 144E.18; 144E.27, by adding subdivisions; 144E.50, by adding a subdivision; 145.924; 145.9255, subdivisions 1 and 4; 145A.02, subdivision 10; 148.5194, subdivisions 2, 3, 4, and by adding a subdivision; 148.66; 148.67; 148.70; 148.705; 148.71; 148.72, subdivisions 1, 2, and 4; 148.73; 148.74; 148.75; 148.76; 148.78; 198.003, by adding a subdivision; 214.01, subdivision 2; 245.462, subdivisions 4 and 17; 245.4711, subdivision 1; 245.4712, subdivision 2; 245.4871, subdivisions 4 and 26; 245.4881, subdivision 1; 245A.04, subdivi-

sion 3a; 245A.08, subdivision 5; 245A.30; 245B.05, subdivision 7; 245B.07, subdivisions 5, 8, and 10; 246.18, subdivision 6; 252.28, subdivision 1; 252.291, by adding a subdivision; 252.32, subdivision 3a; 252.46, subdivision 6; 253B.045, by adding subdivisions; 253B.07, subdivision 1; 253B.185, by adding a subdivision; 254B.01, by adding a subdivision; 254B.03, subdivision 2; 254B.04, subdivision 1; 254B.05, subdivision 1; 256.01, subdivisions 2, 6, and by adding a subdivision; 256.014, by adding a subdivision; 256.015, subdivisions 1 and 3; 256.485; 256.87, subdivision 1a; 256.955, subdivisions 3, 4, 7, 8, and 9; 256.9685, subdivision 1a; 256.969, subdivision 1; 256.978, subdivision 1; 256B.04, subdivision 16, and by adding a subdivision; 256B.042, subdivisions 1, 2, and 3; 256B.055, subdivision 3a; 256B.056, subdivision 4; 256B.057, subdivision 3, and by adding a subdivision; 256B.0575; 256B.061; 256B.0625, subdivisions 6a, 8, 8a, 13, 19c, 20, 26, 28, 30, 32, 35, and by adding subdivisions; 256B.0627, subdivisions 1, 2, 4, 5, 8, and by adding subdivisions; 256B.0635, subdivision 3; 256B.0911, subdivision 6; 256B.0913, subdivisions 5, 10, 12, and 16; 256B.0916; 256B.0917, subdivision 8; 256B.094, subdivisions 3, 5, and 6; 256B.0951, subdivisions 1 and 3; 256B.0955; 256B.37, subdivision 2; 256B.431, subdivisions 2i, 17, 26, and by adding a subdivision; 256B.434, subdivisions 3, 4, 13, and by adding a subdivision; 256B.435; 256B.48, subdivisions 1, 1a, 1b, and 6; 256B.50, subdivision 1e; 256B.501, subdivision 8a; 256B.5011, subdivisions 1 and 2; 256B.69, subdivisions 3a, 5a, 5b, 5c, 6a, 6b, and by adding subdivisions; 256B.692, subdivision 2; 256B.75; 256B.76; 256B.77, subdivisions 7a, 8, 10, 14, and by adding subdivisions; 256D.03, subdivisions 3, 4, and 8; 256D.051, subdivision 2a, and by adding a subdivision; 256D.053, subdivision 1; 256D.06, subdivision 5; 256F.03, subdivision 5; 256F.05, subdivision 8; 256F.10, subdivisions 1, 4, 6, 7, 8, 9, and 10; 256I.04, subdivision 3; 256I.05, subdivisions 1, 1a, and by adding a subdivision; 256J.02, subdivision 2; 256J.08, subdivisions 11, 24, 65, 82, 83, 86a, and by adding subdivisions; 256J.11, subdivisions 2 and 3; 256J.12, subdivisions 1a and 2; 256J.14; 256J.20, subdivision 3; 256J.21, subdivisions 2, 3, and 4; 256J.24, subdivisions 2, 3, 7, 8, 9, and by adding a subdivision; 256J.26, subdivision 1; 256J.30, subdivisions 2, 7, 8, and 9; 256J.31, subdivisions 5 and 12; 256J.32, subdivisions 4 and 6; 256J.33; 256J.34, subdivisions 1, 3, and 4; 256J.35; 256J.36; 256J.37, subdivisions 1, 1a, 2, 9, and

10; 256J.38, subdivision 4; 256J.39, subdivision 1; 256J.42, subdivisions 1 and 5; 256J.43; 256J.45, subdivision 1, and by adding a subdivision; 256J.46, subdivisions 1, 2, and 2a; 256J.47, subdivision 4; 256J.48, subdivisions 2 and 3; 256J.50, subdivision 1; 256J.515; 256J.52, subdivisions 1, 3, 4, 5, and by adding a subdivision; 256J.54, subdivision 2; 256J.55, subdivision 4; 256J.56; 256J.57, subdivision 1; 256J.62, subdivisions 1, 6, 7, 8, 9, and by adding a subdivision; 256J.67, subdivision 4; 256J.74, subdivision 2; 256J.76, subdivisions 1, 2, and 4; 256L.03, subdivisions 5 and 6; 256L.04, subdivisions 2, 8, 11, and 13; 256L.05, subdivision 4, and by adding a subdivision; 256L.06, subdivision 3; 256L.07; 256L.15, subdivisions 1, 1b, and 2; 257.071, subdivisions 1, 1a, 1c, 1d, 1e, 3, and 4; 257.62, subdivision 5; 257.66, subdivision 3; 257.75, subdivision 2; 257.85, subdivisions 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9, and 11; 259.67, subdivisions 6 and 7; 259.73; 259.85, subdivisions 2, 3, and 5; 259.89, by adding a subdivision; 260.011, subdivision 2; 260.012; 260.015, subdivisions 2a, 13, and 29; 260.131, subdivision 1a; 260.133, subdivisions 1 and 2; 260.135, by adding a subdivision; 260.155, subdivisions 4 and 8; 260.172, subdivision 1, and by adding a subdivision; 260.191, subdivisions 1, 1a, 1b, and 3b; 260.192; 260.221, subdivisions 1, 1a, 1b, 1c, 3, and 5; 326.40, subdivisions 2, 4, and 5; 518.10; 518.551, by adding a subdivision; 518.5851, by adding a subdivision; 518.5853, by adding a subdivision; 518.64, subdivision 2; 548.09, subdivision 1; 548.091, subdivisions 1, 1a, 2a, 3a, 4, 10, 11, 12, and by adding a subdivision; 626.556, subdivisions 2, 3, 4, 7, 10, 10b, 10d, 10e, 10f, 10i, 10j, 11, 11b, 11c, and by adding a subdivision; 626.558, subdivision 1; Laws 1995, chapters 178, article 2, section 46, subdivision 10; 207, articles 3, section 21; 8, section 41, as amended; 257, article 1, section 35, subdivision 1; Laws 1997, chapters 203, article 9, section 19; 225, article 4, section 4; and Laws 1998 chapter 407, article 7, section 2, subdivision 3; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapters 16A; 62J; 116L; 127A; 137; 144; 144A; 144E; 148; 214; 245; 246; 252; 254A; 256; 256B; 256J; and 626; repealing Minnesota Statutes 1998, sections 13.99, subdivision 19m; 62J.69; 62J.77; 62J.78; 62J.79; 144.0723; 144.9507, subdivision 4; 144.9511; 144E.16, subdivisions 1, 2, 3, and 6; 144E.17; 144E.25; 144E.30, subdivisions 1, 2, and 6; 145.46; 254A.145; 256.973; 256B.434, subdivision 17; 256B.501, subdivision 3g; 256B.5011, subdivision 3; 256B.74, subdivisions 2 and 5; 256D.051, subdivisions 6 and 19; 256D.053,

subdivision 4; 256J.03; 256J.30, subdivision 6; 256J.62, subdivisions 2, 3, and 5; 257.071, subdivisions 8 and 10; 462A.208; 548.091, subdivisions 3, 5, and 6; Laws 1997, chapters 85, article 1, section 63; 203, article 4, section 55; 225, article 6, section 8; and Laws 1998, chapter 407, article 2, section 104; Minnesota Rules, parts 4690.0100, subparts 4, 13, 15, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 26, 27, and 29; 4690.0300; 4690.0400; 4690.0500; 4690.0600; 4690.0700; 4690.0800, subparts 1 and 2; 4690.0900; 4690.1000; 4690.1100; 4690.1200; 4690.1300; 4690.1600; 4690.1700; 4690.2100; 4690.2200, subparts 1, 3, 4, and 5; 4690.2300; 4690.2400, subparts 1, 2, and 3; 4690.2500; 4690.2900; 4690.3000; 4690.3700; 4690.3900; 4690.4000; 4690.4100; 4690.4200; 4690.4300; 4690.4400; 4690.4500; 4690.4600; 4690.4700; 4690.4800; 4690.4900; 4690.5000; 4690.5100; 4690.5200; 4690.5300; 4690.5400; 4690.5500; 4690.5700; 4690.5800; 4690.5900; 4690.6000; 4690.6100; 4690.6200; 4690.6300; 4690.6400; 4690.6500; 4690.6600; 4690.6700; 4690.6800; 4690.7000; 4690.7100; 4690.7200; 4690.7300; 4690.7400; 4690.7500; 4690.7600; 4690.7700; 4690.7800; 4690.8300, subparts 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5; and 4735.5000.

Enactment: 5/25/99

Line-item vetoes:

Page 18, Art. 1, Sec. 2, Lines 21-37; and Page 17, Art. 1, Sec. 2, Subd. 8 (h), Lines 8-16

Effective: various dates



**HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES
POLICY**

**Health-related licensing board
licensees infection control.**

HF171 (Mulder)
SF121* (Ten Eyck)

Chapter 5: relating to health; repealing the requirement that licensees of health-related boards receive continuing education in infection control; repealing Minnesota Statutes 1998, section 214.12, subdivision 2.

Enactment: 3/8/99

Effective: 3/9/99

Emergency medical services volunteer ambulance attendant definition.

HF214* (Goodno)

SF241 (Sams)

Chapter 8: relating to health; modifying volunteer ambulance attendant provisions; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, sections 144E.001, by adding a subdivision; 144E.35, subdivision 2; 144E.41; 168.12, subdivision 2e; and 295.52, subdivision 5.

Enactment: 3/15/99

Effective: 3/16/99

Program for persons with functional limitations eligibility criteria modification.

HF356 (Dempsey)

SF73* (Murphy)

Chapter 10: relating to human services; modifying financial eligibility criteria for the consumer support program; requiring maximum use of federal funds for the program; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, section 256.476, subdivisions 3, 7, and 8.

Enactment: 3/15/99

Effective: 3/16/99

Ambulance services shared service purchasing.

HF302* (Davids)

SF579 (Vickerman)

Chapter 13: relating to municipal contracting; authorizing ambulance services to participate in shared service purchasing; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, section 471.345, subdivision 10.

Enactment: 3/16/99

Effective: 8/1/99

Health care directive form modification.

HF74 (Luther)

SF301* (Lourey)

Chapter 14: relating to health; modifying the suggested health care directive form, amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, section 145C.16.

Enactment: 3/16/99

Effective: 8/1/99

Nursing home administrators sharing authority expansion.

HF454* (Seifert, M.)

SF564 (Lesewski)

Chapter 17: relating to health; modifying requirements for nursing home administrators; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, sec-

tion 144A.04, subdivisions 5 and 7a.

Enactment: 3/18/99

Effective: 3/19/99

Safe drinking water act public water supply definition modification.

HF610 (Tingelstad)

SF649* (Robertson)

Chapter 18: relating to health; modifying the definition of public water supply; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, section 144.382, subdivision 4.

Enactment: 3/25/99

Effective: 8/1/99

Health care provider actions statute of limitations modification.

HF56* (Van Dellen)

SF90 (Betzold)

Chapter 23: relating to civil actions; modifying the limitations provision governing health provider actions; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, section 541.07; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 541.

Enactment: 3/26/99

Effective: 8/1/99

Physicians, acupuncturists, and athletic trainers licensing and registration requirements modifications.

HF413* (Mulder)

SF418 (Hottinger)

Chapter 33: relating to professions; modifying certain licensing and registration requirements for physicians, acupuncturists, and athletic trainers; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, sections 147.02, subdivision 1; 147.03, subdivision 1; 147.037, subdivision 1; 147B.02, subdivisions 4 and 9; 147B.05, subdivision 2; 148.7808, subdivisions 4 and 5; and 148.7815, subdivisions 1 and 2.

Enactment: 4/12/99

Effective: 8/1/99

Family day care licensure child age groupings definitions.

HF1126* (Abeler)

SF862 (Robling)

Chapter 36: relating to human services; licensed family day care; modifying child age classification definitions; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, section 245A.02, by adding a subdivision.

Enactment: 4/12/99

Effective: 4/13/99

State Advisory Council on Mental Health membership requirements modification.

HF640* (Bradley)

SF488 (Kiscaden)

Chapter 39: relating to mental health; modifying membership, duties, and reporting requirements for the State Advisory Council on Mental Health; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, section 245.697.

Enactment: 4/12/99

Effective: 8/1/99

Community integrated service networks net worth reserve corridor increase and utilization review.

HF614* (Davids)

SF913 (Hottinger)

Chapter 51: relating to health; expanding the reserve corridor for community integrated service networks; modifying the definition of review organization; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, sections 62N.28, subdivision 5; and 145.61, subdivision 5.

Enactment: 4/15/99

Effective: 8/1/99

Nonprofit organizations human diseases research personnel unlawful practice of medicine exemption.

HF1660* (Bradley)

SF1650 (Hottinger)

Chapter 54: relating to health occupations; exempting persons employed by a nonprofit organization performing duties that are incidental to research from the unlawful practice of medicine; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, section 147.09.

Enactment: 4/15/99

Effective: 8/1/99

Chiropractors licensed in other states practical examination requirement modification.

HF1216* (Abeler)

SF1391 (Piper)

Chapter 55: relating to occupations and professions; modifying practical examination requirements for chiropractors licensed in other states; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, section 148.06, subdivision 1.

Enactment: 4/15/99

Effective: 8/1/99

Psychological test results release regulation.

HF982 (Mulder)
SF984* (Kelley, S.P.)

Chapter 58: relating to professions; modifying enforcement provisions for the board of psychology; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 148.

Enactment: 4/15/99

Effective: 8/1/99

Pharmacy practice definition modification.

HF408* (Goodno)
SF170 (Hottinger)

Chapter 62: relating to health; modifying the definition of practice of pharmacy; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, section 151.01, subdivision 27.

Enactment: 4/16/99

Effective: 8/1/99

Pharmacists to pharmacy technicians ratio requirements waiver.

HF1714* (Goodno)
SF1693 (Ten Eyck)

Chapter 63: relating to occupations and professions; allowing the board of pharmacy to grant waivers to pharmacists regarding the ratio of pharmacists to pharmacy technicians; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, section 151.102.

Enactment: 4/16/99

Effective: 8/1/99

Podiatry temporary permits extension.

HF1421* (Wilkin)
SF1239 (Terwilliger)

Chapter 67: relating to professions; modifying temporary permit requirements for podiatrists; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, sections 153.16, subdivision 3; and 153.17, subdivision 2.

Enactment: 4/20/99

Effective: 4/21/99

Nursing home residents allowed to request the use of restraints.

HF40* (Bradley)
SF25 (Samuelson)

Chapter 83: relating to health; allowing a nursing home resident to request and consent to the use of a physical restraint; requiring certain actions by the commissioner of health with respect to immediate jeopardy citations; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, sections 144.651, by adding a subdivision; and 144A.10, by adding a subdivision.

Enactment: 4/22/99

Effective: 4/23/99

Ambulance services and first responders health care review.

HF463* (Davids)
SF578 (Lourey)

Chapter 84: relating to health; providing for review of ambulance services and first responders; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, section 145.61, subdivision 5; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 144E.

Enactment: 4/22/99

Effective: 4/23/99

Health plans network shadow contracting restriction.

HF566 (Reuter)
SF673* (Ten Eyck)

Chapter 94: relating to health plans; regulating contract stacking; providing a remedy; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 62Q.

Enactment: 4/23/99

Effective: 8/1/99

Nursing home administrators licensing and examiners board modifications.

HF1309 (Bradley)
SF1273* (Sams)

Chapter 102: relating to professions; modifying provisions relating to nursing home administrator licensing, the board of examiners for nursing home administrators, immunity for board members and staff, and acting administrator permits; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, sections 144A.19, subdivision 1; 144A.20, subdivision 1; 144A.22; 144A.24; and 144A.27; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 144A; repealing Minnesota Statutes 1998, sections 144A.19, subdivision 3; 144A.20, subdivision 2; and 144A.29.

Enactment: 4/26/99

Effective: 4/27/99

Psychologists licensing and regulation provisions.

HF984 (Mulder)
SF983* (Kelley, S.P.)

Chapter 109: relating to professions; modifying provisions relating to psychologists' licensing; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, sections 148.89, subdivisions 2a, 4, 5, and by adding a subdivision; 148.915; 148.925, subdivision 7; 148.941, subdivisions 2 and 6; and 148.96, subdivision 3; proposing coding for

new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 148.

Enactment: 4/27/99

Effective: 8/1/99

Health maintenance organizations home care providers prompt payment.

HF1658 (Goodno)
SF1268* (Kiscaden)

Chapter 146: relating to health; requiring prompt payments by health maintenance organizations of certain claims made by home care providers; requiring health maintenance organizations to pay interest on late payments; establishing penalties; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 62D.

Enactment: 5/11/99

Effective: 7/1/99

Deaf and hard-of-hearing services division provisions modified.

HF1414* (Boudreau)
SF1584 (Wiger)

Chapter 149: relating to human services; making changes to deaf and hard of-hearing services division; modifying interpreter services; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, sections 237.51, subdivision 5a; 256C.233, subdivisions 1 and 2; and 256C.25.

Enactment: 5/13/99

Effective: 8/1/99

Mental retardation day training payment rate structure task force.

HF1933 (Boudreau)
SF1615* (Sams)

Chapter 152: relating to human services; establishing a task force to develop a new day training and habilitation payment rate structure with technical assistance from the commissioner of human services.

Enactment: 5/13/99

Effective: 5/14/99

Medical assistance reimbursement for spousal private duty nursing.

HF60* (Haas)
SF591 (Betzold)

Chapter 156: relating to health; allowing reimbursement for supplemental private duty nursing services provided by spouses of recipients under the community alternative care home and community-based waived services program; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, section 256B.49, by adding a subdivision.

Enactment: 5/13/99

Effective: 8/1/99

Human services technical changes.

HF1393 (Jennings)

SF1585* (Stevens)

Chapter 159: An act relating to human services; making technical changes to cross-references in statutes; clarifying certain requirements; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, sections 13.46, subdivisions 1 and 2; 16D.02, subdivision 3; 16D.13, subdivision 3; 84.98, subdivision 3; 119A.54; 119B.01, subdivisions 2, 10, 12, 13, 15, and 16; 119B.02, subdivision 1; 119B.03, subdivisions 3 and 4; 119B.05, subdivision 1; 119B.07; 119B.075; 119B.08, subdivision 3; 119B.09, subdivisions 1, 3, and 7; 119B.14; 119B.15; 136A.125, subdivision 2; 145.415, subdivision 3; 145.93, subdivision 3; 196.27; 237.70, subdivision 4a; 245.4871, subdivision 25; 252.28, subdivision 3a; 254B.02, subdivision 1; 256.01, subdivisions 2 and 4; 256.017, subdivisions 1, 2, and 4; 256.019; 256.025, subdivision 2; 256.046, subdivision 1; 256.0471, subdivision 1; 256.741, subdivisions 1 and 2; 256.82, subdivision 2; 256.935, subdivision 1; 256.98, subdivisions 1 and 8; 256.981; 256.983, subdivision 4; 256.9861, subdivision 5; 256B.031, subdivisions 4 and 5; 256B.69, subdivision 5a; 256C.21; 256C.23, subdivision 1; 256D.01, subdivisions 1a and 1e; 256D.05, subdivisions 1, 3, and 5; 256D.051, subdivision 3a; 256D.055; 256D.23, subdivision 1; 256D.435, subdivision 3; 256D.44, subdivision 5; 256E.03, subdivision 2; 256E.06, subdivisions 1 and 3; 256E.07, subdivision 1; 256E.08, subdivision 3; 256F.05, subdivisions 3 and 8; 256F.10, subdivision 6; 256F.13, subdivision 3; 256G.01, subdivision 4; 256G.03, subdivision 2; 256J.01, subdivision 1; 256J.11, subdivisions 1 and 2; 256J.12, subdivision 1; 256J.21, subdivision 3; 256J.26, subdivisions 1, 2, 3, and 4; 256J.42, subdivisions 1 and 5; 256J.43, subdivision 1; 256J.50, subdivision 3a; 256J.62, subdivisions 3, 6, and 7; 256J.76, subdivision 1; 256K.01, subdivisions 2, 3, and 8; 256K.015; 256K.02; 256K.03, subdivisions 1 and 12; 256K.04, subdivision 2; 256K.05, subdivision 2; 256K.06; 256K.07; 256K.08, subdivision 1; 256L.11, subdivision 4; 257.33, subdivision 2; 257.3573, subdivision 2; 257.60; 257.85, subdivisions 3, 5, 7, and 11; 259.67, subdivision 4; 260.38; 261.063; 268.0111, subdivisions 5 and 7; 268.0122, subdivision 3; 268.552, subdivision 5; 268.672, subdivision 6; 268.86, subdivision 2; 268.871, subdivision 1; 268.90, subdivision 2; 268.95, subdivision 4; 275.065, subdivision 5a; 290.067, subdivision 1; 290A.03, subdivision 7; 393.07, subdivision 6; 462A.205, subdivision 2; 462A.222, subdivision 1a; 473.129,

subdivision 8; 477A.0122, subdivision 2; 501B.89, subdivision 2; 518.171, subdivision 1; 518.551, subdivision 5; 518.57, subdivision 3; 518.614, subdivision 3; 518.64, subdivision 2; 548.13; 550.136, subdivision 6; 550.143, subdivision 3; 550.37, subdivision 14; 551.05, subdivision 1a; 551.06, subdivision 6; 570.025, subdivision 6; 570.026, subdivision 2; 571.72, subdivision 8; 571.912; 571.925; 571.931, subdivision 6; 571.932, subdivision 2; and 583.22, subdivision 7b; repealing Minnesota Statutes 1998, sections 119B.01, subdivision 12a; 119B.05, subdivision 6; 126C.05, subdivision 4; 126C.06; 256.031, subdivision 1a; 256.736; 256.74, subdivision 1c; 256.9850; 256J.62, subdivision 5; 268.871, subdivision 5; and 290A.22; Minnesota Rules, parts 9500.2000; 9500.2020; 9500.2060; 9500.2100; 9500.2140; 9500.2180; 9500.2220; 9500.2260; 9500.2300; 9500.2340; 9500.2380; 9500.2420; 9500.2440; 9500.2480; 9500.2500; 9500.2520; 9500.2560; 9500.2580; 9500.2600; 9500.2620; 9500.2640; 9500.2680; 9500.2700; 9500.2720; 9500.2722; 9500.2724; 9500.2726; 9500.2728; 9500.2730; 9500.2740; 9500.2760; 9500.2780; 9500.2800; 9500.2820; 9500.2860; and 9500.2880.

Enactment: 5/13/99**Effective:** 8/1/99**Midwifery practice regulation.**

HF949 (Abeler)

SF383* (Pappas)

Chapter 162: relating to health occupations; clarifying licensure requirements for the practice of midwifery; appropriating money; proposing coding for new law as Minnesota Statutes, chapter 147D; repealing Minnesota Statutes 1998, sections 148.30; 148.31; and 148.32; Minnesota Rules, parts 5600.2000; and 5600.2100.

Enactment: 5/13/99†**Effective:** 7/1/99**Advanced practice registered nursing regulation.**

HF718* (Ozment)

SF225 (Moe)

Chapter 172: relating to professions; regulating advanced practice registered nursing; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, sections 62A.15, subdivision 3a; 148.171; 148.191, subdivision 2; 148.235; 148.261, subdivisions 1 and 5; 148.262, subdivision 1; 148.263, subdivisions 3 and 4; 148.271; 148.281, subdivision 1; 148.283; 245.462, subdivision 18; and 245.4871, subdivision 27; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 148; repealing Minnesota Rules, chapter 6340.

Enactment: 5/17/99**Effective:** 7/1/99 (Sec. 1-17); 8/1/99 (Sec. 18, 19)**Nursing assistants educational requirements modified.**

HF1119 (Osskopp)

SF1099* (Kiscaden)

Chapter 210: relating to health; modifying training requirements for nursing assistants; requiring an evaluation; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, section 144A.61, subdivisions 2 and 3a.

Enactment: 5/24/99**Effective:** 8/1/99**Physician assistants disaster care authority.**

HF598 (McCollum)

SF369* (Piper)

Chapter 226: relating to health occupations; permitting physician assistants to render care in disasters without physician and physician assistant agreements; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 147A.

Enactment: 5/25/99**Effective:** 8/1/99**Health department provisions modified.**

HF1426* (Tingelstad)

SF1651 (Kiscaden)

Chapter 247: relating to health; modifying well notification fees; modifying provisions for grants to rural hospitals and community health centers; modifying student loan repayment provisions for health professionals; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, sections 103I.208, subdivision 1; 144.147, subdivisions 2, 3, 4, and 5; 144.1484, subdivision 1; 144.1486, subdivisions 3, 4, and 8; 144.1488, subdivisions 1, 3, and 4; 144.1489, subdivisions 2 and 4; 144.1490, subdivision 2; 144.1494, subdivisions 2, 3, and 5; 144.1495, subdivisions 3 and 4; and 144.1496, subdivisions 2 and 5.

Enactment: 5/25/99**Effective:** 8/1/99



HIGHER EDUCATION FINANCE

Minnesota State University, Mankato authorized to construct the Taylor Center multipurpose facility.

HF492* (Dorn)

SF518 (Hottinger)

Chapter 34: relating to education; authorizing building on a state university campus.

Enactment: 4/12/99

Effective: 4/13/99

Omnibus higher education finance bill.

HF2380* (Leppik)

SF2235 (Stumpf)

Chapter 214: relating to education; appropriating money for higher education and related purposes to the Higher Education Services Office, Board of Trustees of the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities, Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota, and the Mayo Medical Foundation, with certain conditions; requiring post-secondary institutions to provide certain information; modifying financial aid provisions; making technical changes to membership and terms of certain advisory councils, boards, and student associations; modifying curriculum provisions for Minnesota State Colleges and Universities; extending and transferring the Farmer-Lender Mediation Program to the Minnesota Extension Service; requiring certain reports to the Legislature; clarifying and changing requirements of private career schools; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, sections 16B.465, subdivision 4; 135A.14, by adding a subdivision; 135A.155; 136A.031, subdivision 3; 136A.121, subdivision 5; 136A.125, subdivision 4; 136A.243, subdivision 7; 136A.244, subdivision 2; 136A.245, subdivision 6; 136F.02, subdivision 2; 136F.04, subdivision 1; 136F.22, subdivision 1; 136F.32, subdivision 2, and by adding a subdivision; 141.21, subdivisions 3, 5, 6, and by adding subdivisions; 141.25, subdivisions 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, and 12; 141.26, subdivision 2; 141.271, subdivisions 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, and 12; 141.28, subdivisions 3 and 5; 141.29, subdivision 1; 141.31; 141.32; 141.35; 471.59, subdivision 1; and 583.22, subdivision 5; Laws 1986, chapter 398, article 1, section 18, as amended; proposing coding

for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapters 136A; 137; and 141; repealing Minnesota Statutes 1998, sections 136A.1359; 136A.136; 141.22; 141.25, subdivisions 9a, 9b, and 11; and 141.36.

Enactment: 5/25/99

Line-item vetoes:

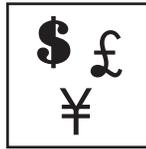
Page 7, Art. 1, Sec. 3,

Subd. 3, Lines 33-50; and

Page 9, Art. 1, Sec. 4,

Subd. 4, Lines 44-52

Effective: various dates



JOBS & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FINANCE

Omnibus economic development appropriations bill.

HF2390* (McElroy)

SF2227 (Janezich)

Chapter 223: relating to state government; appropriating money for economic development and certain agencies of state government; establishing and modifying programs; regulating activities and practices; modifying fees; making conforming changes; requiring reports; providing criminal penalties; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, sections 45.0295; 53A.03; 53A.05, subdivision 1; 60A.14, subdivision 1; 60A.23, subdivision 8; 60A.71, subdivision 7; 60K.06; 65B.48, subdivision 3; 70A.14, subdivision 4; 72B.04, subdivision 10; 79.255, subdivision 10; 82A.08, subdivision 2; 82A.16, subdivisions 2 and 6; 116J.415, subdivision 5; 116J.421, subdivisions 2, 3, and by adding subdivisions; 116J.63, subdivision 4; 116J.8745, subdivisions 1 and 2; 116L.03, subdivisions 1, 2, and 5; 116L.04, subdivision 1a; 116L.06, subdivision 4; 175.17; 176.181, subdivision 2a; 216C.41, subdivisions 1 and 2; 268.022; 268.666, by adding a subdivision; 268.98, subdivision 3; 268A.13; 268A.14; 298.22, subdivisions 2 and 6; 298.2213, subdivision 4; 298.223, subdivision 2; 326.105, if enacted; 326.86, subdivision 1; 383B.79, subdivision 4; 446A.072, subdivision 4; 462A.20, subdivision 2, and by adding a subdivision; 462A.204, by adding a subdivision; 462A.205,

subdivision 3; 462A.209; 462A.21, by adding a subdivision; and 473.251; Laws 1998, chapter 404, section 13, subdivision 5; Laws 1998, First Special Session chapter 1, article 3, section 8; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapters 82B; 116J; 245; 268; 462A; and 473; repealing Minnesota Statutes 1998, sections 44A.001; 44A.01; 44A.02; 44A.023; 44A.025; 44A.031; 44A.0311; 44A.06; 44A.08; 44A.11; 341.01; 341.02; 341.04; 341.045; 341.05; 341.06; 341.07; 341.08; 341.09; 341.10; 341.11; 341.115; 341.12; 341.13; 341.15; 462A.28; 469.305; 469.306; 469.307; 469.308; and 469.31; Laws 1999, chapter 137, section 5.

Enactment: 5/25/99

Line-item vetoes:

Page 6, Art. 1, Sec. 2, Subd. 2, Lines 54-56;

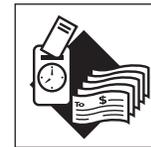
Page 11, Art. 1, Sec. 4, Subd. 2, Lines 2-18;

Page 12, Art. 1, Sec. 4, Subd. 4,

Lines 4-7; and

Page 22, Art. 1, Sec. 14, Lines 11-15

Effective: various dates



JOBS & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT POLICY

Duluth Seaway Port Authority new name.

HF1809 (Jaros)

SF1554* (Solon)

Chapter 68: relating to port authorities; allowing an alternative name for the seaway port authority of Duluth; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, section 469.049, subdivision 1.

Enactment: 4/20/99

Effective: 8/1/99

Construction contracts environmental liability modifications.

HF872* (Holsten)

SF682 (Novak)

Chapter 87: relating to contracts; regulating building and construction contracts; providing for the enforceability of certain agreements indemnifying against environmental liability; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, section 337.02.

Enactment: 4/23/99

Effective: 4/24/99

Landlord prelease deposits acceptance regulation.

HF1178* (McElroy)

SF1253 (Novak)

Chapter 97: relating to landlords and tenants; regulating the taking of prelease deposits; providing for a civil penalty; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 504.

Enactment: 4/26/99

Effective: 8/1/99

Re-employment insurance housekeeping changes.

HF877 (Wolf)

SF1218* (Scheevel)

Chapter 107: relating to re-employment insurance; making technical changes; modifying procedures; complying with federal requirements; modifying definitions; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, sections 268.035, subdivisions 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 12, 14, 15, 18, 20, 24, 30, 32, and by adding a subdivision; 268.042, subdivision 3; 268.045; 268.047, subdivisions 1, 2, 3, and 4; 268.048; 268.051, subdivisions 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 8; 268.052; 268.053; 268.057, subdivisions 4 and 10; 268.058; 268.0625; 268.064; 268.065; 268.067; 268.068; 268.069; 268.07; 268.085; 268.095; 268.101; 268.103, by adding a subdivision; 268.105; 268.115; 268.125, subdivisions 1, 4, and 5; 268.135; 268.145; 268.155; 268.18; 268.182; 268.186; 268.188; 268.192, subdivision 2; 268.194; 268.196; 268.198; 268.21; 268.23; and 268.30, subdivision 2; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 268; repealing Minnesota Statutes 1998, sections 268.021; and 268.057, subdivisions 8 and 9; Minnesota Rules, parts 3305.0100; 3305.0200; 3305.0300; 3305.0400; 3305.0500; 3305.0600; 3305.0700; 3305.0800; 3305.0900; 3305.1100; 3310.1500; 3310.1600; 3310.1700; 3310.1800; 3310.1900; 3310.2000; 3310.2100; 3310.2200; 3310.5100; and 3310.5800.

Enactment: 4/27/99

Effective: various dates

Isle School District grant modification.

HF585* (Erickson)

SF595 (Stevens)

Chapter 119: relating to capital investment; reducing an appropriation; making a conforming change; excluding an authorization for certain kitchen facilities; amending a

match requirement for the Isle Community Center grant; amending Laws 1998, chapter 404, section 5, subdivision 4.

Enactment: 5/4/99

Effective: 5/5/99

Employment and training programs information collection and report.

HF1051* (Gunther)

SF971 (Kelly, R.C.)

Chapter 138: relating to employment; requiring the commissioner of economic security to collect certain information about employment and training programs.

Enactment: 5/10/99

Effective: 8/1/99

Tenant screening fee limits.

HF1613 (Storm)

SF1471* (Murphy)

Chapter 150: relating to landlords and tenants; requiring certain limitations on tenant screening fees; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 504; repealing Minnesota Statutes 1998, section 504.30, subdivision 5.

Enactment: 5/13/99

Effective: 8/1/99

Above-ground storage tank reimbursements authorized.

HF595* (Holsten)

SF365 (Novak)

Chapter 203: relating to storage tanks; imposing a specific standard of proof for certain petrofund reimbursement reductions; providing reimbursement for certain bulk petroleum plants upgrading or closing above-ground storage tanks; modifying application requirements for contamination; cleanup grants; regulating the cleanup of contaminated land; specifying the marking required on petroleum product storage tanks; modifying the application of the Fire Code to tanks; providing an exception; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, sections 115C.08, subdivision 4; 115C.09, subdivision 3, and by adding a subdivision; 116J.553, subdivision 2; 116J.562, subdivision 2; 116J.567; and 239.752; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 299F.

Enactment: 5/24/99

Effective: various dates

Housing program provisions modified.

HF1910 (Gunther)

SF1821* (Higgins)

Chapter 211: relating to housing; modifying provision for amending zoning ordinance by

cities of the first class; modifying Housing Finance Agency provisions; authorizing agency to make equity take-out loans to owners of federally subsidized housing under certain circumstances; allowing participants to receive rental assistance for family stabilization for up to 60 months; clarifying purposes for which community rehabilitation funds may be used; establishing account to provide homeownership opportunities for disabled; modifying low-income housing credits; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, sections 462.357, subdivision 5; 462A.05, subdivision 14; 462A.073, subdivisions 2 and 4; 462A.205, subdivisions 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, and 9; 462A.206, subdivision 2; 462A.21, by adding a subdivision; 462A.222, subdivision 3; and 462A.223, subdivision 2; repealing Minnesota Statutes 1998, section 462A.073, subdivision 3.

Enactment: 5/24/99

Effective: various dates

Brooklyn Park housing improvement area authority modified.

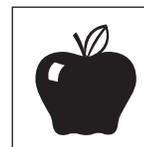
HF420* (Haas)

SF321 (Scheid)

Chapter 246: relating to the city of Brooklyn Park; authorizing its economic development authority to exercise housing improvement powers and issue bonds.

Enactment: 5/25/99

Effective: upon local approval



K-12 EDUCATION FINANCE

Omnibus K-12 education policy and appropriations bill.

HF2333* (Seagren)

SF2242 (Pogemiller)

Chapter 241: relating to education; pre-kindergarten through grade 12; providing for general education; special programs; lifework development; facilities and technology; education excellence; other programs; nutrition programs; libraries; education policy; and state agencies; appropriating money; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, sections 13.46, subdivision 2; 41D.02, subdivision 2; 120A.24, subdivision 1; 120A.40; 120B.30, subdivision 1; 120B.35; 121A.23; 121A.43, as amended;

121A.61, subdivision 1; 122A.09, subdivision 4; 122A.18, by adding subdivisions; 122A.19, subdivision 4; 122A.20, subdivisions 1 and 2; 122A.21; 122A.28; 122A.40, subdivisions 5, 7, and 16; 122A.41, subdivision 4; 122A.60, subdivisions 1 and 3; 122A.61, subdivision 1; 123A.05, subdivisions 2 and 3; 123A.06, subdivisions 1 and 2; 123A.48, subdivision 10; 123B.02, subdivision 3; 123B.195; 123B.36, subdivision 1; 123B.49, subdivision 4; 123B.53, subdivisions 2, 4, 5, 6, and 7; 123B.54; 123B.57, subdivision 4; 123B.59, subdivision 1; 123B.61; 123B.75, by adding a subdivision; 123B.77, subdivision 4; 123B.83, subdivision 4; 123B.90, subdivisions 2 and 3; 123B.91, subdivision 1; 123B.92, subdivision 9; 124D.03, by adding a subdivision; 124D.081, subdivision 3; 124D.10, subdivisions 3, 4, 5, 6, and 11; 124D.11, subdivisions 1, 4, 6, and by adding a subdivision; 124D.453, subdivision 3; 124D.454, subdivision 5; 124D.65, subdivisions 1, 4, and 5; 124D.68, subdivision 9; 124D.69, subdivision 1; 124D.86, subdivisions 1 and 3; 124D.87; 124D.88, subdivision 3; 124D.89, subdivision 1; 124D.94, subdivisions 3, 6, and 7; 125A.09, subdivisions 4 and 11; 125A.15; 125A.50, subdivisions 2 and 5; 125A.51; 125A.62; 125A.64; 125A.65, subdivisions 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, and 10; 125A.68, subdivision 1; 125A.69, subdivisions 1 and 3; 125A.70, subdivision 2; 125A.71, subdivision 3; 125A.72; 125A.73; 125A.75, subdivisions 3 and 8; 125A.76, subdivisions 1, 2, 4, and 5; 125A.79, subdivisions 1, 2, and by adding subdivisions; 125B.05, subdivision 3; 125B.20; 126C.05, subdivisions 1, 3, 5, 6, and 7; 126C.10, subdivisions 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 13, 14, 18, 19, 20, 21, and by adding subdivisions; 126C.12, subdivisions 1 and 4; 126C.13, subdivisions 1 and 2; 126C.15; 126C.17, subdivisions 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, and 9; 126C.40, subdivision 4; 126C.41, subdivision 2; 126C.42, subdivisions 1 and 2; 126C.44; 126C.46; 126C.55, by adding a subdivision; 126C.63, subdivisions 5 and 8; 126C.69, subdivisions 2 and 9; 127A.05, subdivision 1; 127A.41, subdivision 5; 127A.42, subdivisions 5 and 6; 127A.44, subdivision 2; 127A.45, subdivisions 2, 3, 4, 13, and by adding a subdivision; 127A.47, subdivisions 1, 2, 7, and 8; 127A.49, subdivisions 2 and 3; 127A.51; 127A.60, subdivision 1; 127A.66, subdivision 2; 128C.01, subdivision 4; 128C.02, by adding a subdivision; 128C.20, subdivision 1; 129C.10, by adding a subdivision; 169.01, subdivision 6; 169.03, subdivision 6; 171.3215, subdivisions 2 and 4; 181.101; 209.07, by adding a subdivision; 241.021, subdivision 1; 245A.04, by

adding a subdivision; and 626.556, subdivision 10b, and by adding a subdivision; Laws 1992, chapter 499, article 7, section 31, as amended; Laws 1993, chapter 224, article 3, section 32, as amended; Laws 1995 First Special Session chapter 3, article 12, section 7, as amended; Laws 1996, chapter 412, article 1, section 35; Laws 1997 First Special Session chapter 4, article 1, section 61, subdivisions 1, 2, 3, as amended, and 4; article 2, section 51, subdivision 29, as amended; article 3, section 25, subdivision 6; article 5, section 22; article 8, section 4; article 9, sections 6, 7, subdivision 2, and 13; Laws 1998, chapter 398, article 9, section 7; chapter 404, section 5, subdivision 5; and Laws 1999, chapter 123, section 22; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapters 121A; 123A; 124D; 125A; 127A; repealing Minnesota Statutes 1998, sections 119A.04, subdivision 5; 120B.05; 123A.44; 123A.441; 123A.442; 123A.443; 123A.444; 123A.445; 123A.446; 123B.57, subdivisions 4, 5, and 7; 123B.58; 123B.59, subdivision 7; 123B.63, subdivisions 1 and 2; 123B.64, subdivisions 1, 2, 3, and 4; 123B.66; 123B.67; 123B.68; 123B.69; 123B.89; 123B.92, subdivisions 2, 4, 6, 7, 8, and 10; 124D.081, subdivisions 7 and 8; 124D.112; 124D.113; 124D.116; 124D.453; 124D.65, subdivisions 1, 2, and 3; 124D.67; 124D.70; 125A.76, subdivision 6; 125A.77; 125A.79, subdivision 3; 126C.05, subdivision 4; 126C.06; 127A.42, subdivision 8; 127A.45, subdivision 5; 127A.60, subdivisions 2, 3, and 4; 127A.61; 127A.62, subdivision 2; 127A.64; 127A.66, subdivision 1; and 134.155; Minnesota Rules, parts 3500.3900; 3500.4000; 3500.4100; 3500.4200; and 3500.4300.

Enactment: 5/25/99

Line-item vetoes:

- Page 90, Art. 2, Sec. 60, Subd. 20, Lines 5-9;
- Page 135, Art. 5, Sec. 18, Subd. 10, Lines 12-23;
- Page 146, Art. 6, Sec. 14, Subd. 8, Lines 7-16; and
- Page 200, Art. 9, Sec. 53, Subd. 2, Lines 4-11

Effective: various dates



LOCAL GOVERNMENT & METROPOLITAN AFFAIRS

Minneapolis and St. Paul residency requirements repealed.

HF133* (Stanek)

SF107 (Novak)

Chapter 3: relating to local government; repealing authority for certain local residency requirements; repealing Laws 1993, chapter 260; and Laws 1994, chapter 570.

Enactment: 3/4/99

Effective: 3/5/99

Peace officers or firefighters killed in line of duty spouse health insurance coverage.

HF49* (Ozment)

SF162 (Kelly, R.C.)

Chapter 12: relating to public employees; making certain changes relating to health coverage for survivors of police officers and firefighters killed in the line of duty; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, section 299A.465, subdivision 2.

Enactment: 3/16/99

Effective: 3/17/99

Minneapolis skilled workers and apprentices deferred compensation plan participation.

HF453* (Haake)

SF416 (Higgins)

Chapter 15: relating to local government; directing the city of Minneapolis to authorize participation by certain workers and apprentices in deferred compensation plan; amending Laws 1988, chapter 471, section 1, subdivision 1, as amended.

Enactment: 3/18/99

Effective: 3/19/99

Town officers or employees criminal charges defense costs reimbursement.

HF475* (Stang)

SF517 (Vickerman)

Chapter 30: relating to local government; providing for reimbursement to officers and employees for costs and legal fees to defend criminal charges in certain cases; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, section 465.76.

Enactment: 4/1/99

Effective: 4/2/99

Anoka County dangerous dog registration system administration responsibility.

HF525* (Westerberg)

SF404 (Runbeck)

Chapter 48: relating to Anoka County; providing for city administration of the dangerous dog registration system.

Enactment: 4/15/99

Effective: upon local compliance

County recorders minimum security deposits requirement authority.

HF908 (Dawkins)

SF465* (Pappas)

Chapter 69: relating to counties; permitting county recorders to require minimum deposits in certain cases; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, section 386.78.

Enactment: 4/20/99

Effective: 8/1/99

Statutory cities special elections to fill office vacancies.

HF182 (Buesgens)

SF257* (Robling)

Chapter 75: relating to statutory cities; permitting special elections in cases of certain vacancies; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, sections 205.10, subdivision 2; and 412.02, subdivision 2a.

Enactment: 4/20/99

Effective: 8/1/99

Uniform municipal contracting law dollar limit increases.

HF1097 (Kuisle)

SF1188* (Kelley, S.P.)

Chapter 82: relating to municipalities; increasing certain dollar limits in the Uniform Municipal Contracting Law; providing an exemption for certain cooperative purchasing; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, section 471.345, subdivisions 3, 4, and by adding a subdivision.

Vetoed: 4/22/99

Washington County Housing and Redevelopment Authority commissioners term modification.

HF627* (Larsen, P.)

SF616 (Price)

Chapter 89: relating to Washington County; changing the length of the terms of housing and redevelopment authority commission-

ers; amending Laws 1974, chapter 475, section 2, by adding a subdivision.

Enactment: 4/23/99

Effective: upon local compliance

Counties, cities, or towns lawful land uses termination prohibition.

HF896 (Larsen, P.)

SF854* (Langseth)

Chapter 96: relating to land use; precluding the termination of lawful land uses by amortization; providing exceptions; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, sections 394.21, by adding subdivisions; and 462.357, by adding subdivisions.

Enactment: 4/23/99

Effective: 4/24/99

Towns capital reserve funds.

HF1538 (Vandever)

SF1463* (Krentz)

Chapter 113: relating to townships; authorizing creation of a capital reserve fund; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, section 365.10, by adding a subdivision.

Enactment: 5/3/99

Effective: 8/1/99

Itasca County road and bridge money authority.

HF673 (Solberg)

SF1012* (Lessard)

Chapter 115: relating to Itasca County; modifying certain accounting and expenditure requirements for road and bridge fund tax money derived from unorganized townships.

Enactment: 5/3/99

Effective: upon local approval

Certain sanitary districts' board members per diems increased.

HF258 (Munger)

SF376* (Solon)

Chapter 145: relating to the Western Lake Superior Sanitary District and the Moose Lake-Windemere Sanitary Sewer District; modifying board members' compensation; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, section 458D.03, subdivision 9; Laws 1974, chapter 400, section 4, subdivision 9, as amended.

Enactment: 5/11/99

Effective: 8/1/99

Paynesville area hospital district Richmond annexation authority.

HF174* (Stang)

SF156 (Fischbach)

Chapter 147: relating to the Paynesville area

hospital district; authorizing the district to annex the city of Richmond to the district.

Enactment: 5/11/99

Effective: 5/12/99

Senior center, youth center, and historical work appropriations approval requirements.

HF371* (Stang)

SF461 (Fischbach)

Chapter 155: relating to local government; removing the limit on the amount a local government may contribute for historical work; permitting local governments to make contributions to public or private, nonprofit senior citizen centers or youth centers; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, section 471.93; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 471.

Enactment: 5/13/99

Effective: 8/1/99

Police civil service commissions abolishment by city council vote.

HF66 (Johnson)

SF9* (Betzold)

Chapter 165: relating to civil service; providing for the abolition of a police civil service commission by a unanimous vote of the city council; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, sections 419.16 and 419.17.

Enactment: 5/13/99

Effective: 5/14/99

Local government units joint contracts joint powers agreement requirements exemption.

HF1544 (Hausman)

SF1609* (Wiger)

Chapter 167: relating to local government; providing exemption for governmental units to jointly or cooperatively contract in amounts estimated not to exceed \$25,000; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, sections 471.345, by adding a subdivision; and 471.59, subdivision 1.

Vetoed: 5/17/99

Ramsey County personnel process modification.

HF751 (Trimble)

SF768* (Pappas)

Chapter 173: relating to Ramsey County; making changes in the personnel process; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, section 383A.288, by adding a subdivision.

Enactment: 5/17/99

Effective: 8/1/99

Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board employees provisions modified.

HF526 (Mullery)
SF615* (Higgins)
Chapter 174: relating to local government; providing for the appointment of various employees of the Minneapolis Park and Recreation board; authorizing the city of Lakeville to change its general municipal elections to even-numbered years; providing for conveyance of certain tax-forfeited land by Hennepin County; amending Laws 1969, chapter 1024, section 1, as amended.

Enactment: 5/18/99
Effective: upon local compliance (Sec. 1); 5/19/99 (Sec. 2)

Cities amusement machines license fee limit; violent video games display restrictions.

HF1140 (Leighton)
SF1329* (Vickerman)
Chapter 179: relating to cities; limiting license fees on coin and currency activated amusement machines; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 449.

Enactment: 5/19/99
Effective: 8/1/99

Municipal power agencies liability provisions modifications.

HF805 (Leighton)
SF556* (Piper)
Chapter 183: relating to liability; limiting liability on certain municipal power agency land for certain purposes; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, sections 604A.20; 604A.21, subdivisions 3, 4, and by adding a subdivision; 604A.24; and 604A.25.

Enactment: 5/19/99
Effective: 8/1/99

Local government units corporations expiration date elimination.

HF777 (Rest)
SF851* (Vickerman)
Chapter 186: relating to local government; delaying the expiration of an applicability provision relating to restrictions on corporations created by political subdivisions; establishing a task force to make determinations and propose legislation relating to establishment of corporations by political subdivisions; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, section 465.715, subdivision 1a.

Enactment: 5/21/99
Effective: 5/22/99

Local government units snow and ice accumulations tort liability exemption clarification.

HF1348 (Holberg)
SF891* (Hottinger)
Chapter 188: relating to municipalities; clarifying an exception to tort liability; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, section 466.03, subdivision 4.

Enactment: 5/21/99
Effective: 8/1/99

Local units of government regulatory relief provided.

HF879 (Knoblach)
SF1636* (Stumpf)
Chapter 193: relating to governmental operations; providing for regulatory relief for local units of government; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 14.

Enactment: 5/24/99
Effective: 8/1/99

Grand Rapids Township authorized to hold November elections.

HF625 (Solberg)
SF746* (Lessard)
Chapter 195: relating to local government; permitting Grand Rapids Township to hold its general election in November; permitting the city of Grand Rapids to increase the membership of its public utilities commission to five members.

Enactment: 5/24/99†
Effective: 8/1/99

Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board authorized to distribute and sell electric power.

HF1286 (Kahn)
SF1976* (Higgins)
Chapter 198: relating to municipal electric power; defining city within the meaning of the act; authorizing the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board to engage in the local distribution and sale of hydroelectric power to protect the natural, historical, ecological, and aesthetic value of the Mississippi River at the Falls of St. Anthony; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, section 453.52, subdivision 3.

Enactment: 5/24/99
Effective: 5/25/99 (Sec. 1); upon local approval (Sec. 2)

Election redistricting provided.

HF1015* (Abrams)
SF1064 (Pogemiller)
Chapter 237: relating to elections; providing for redistricting; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, sections 204B.14, subdivision 4; 204B.146, by adding a subdivision; and 205.84.

Enactment: 5/25/99
Effective: 8/1/99



**RULES & LEGISLATIVE
ADMINISTRATION**

Revisor's bill.

HF2441 (Seifert, J.)
SF2224* (Ranum)
Chapter 249: relating to legislative enactments; correcting miscellaneous oversights, inconsistencies, ambiguities, unintended results, and technical errors; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, sections 97A.075, subdivision 1; 124D.135, subdivision 3, as amended; 124D.54, subdivision 1, as amended; 256.476, subdivision 8, as amended; 322B.115, subdivision 4; Senate file 626, section 44; Senate file 2221, article 1, section 2, subdivision 4; section 7, subdivision 6; section 8, subdivision 3; section 12, subdivision 1; section 13, subdivision 1; section 18; Senate file 2226, section 5, subdivision 4; section 6; House file 1825, section 12; House file 2390, article 1, section 2, subdivisions 2 and 4; section 4, subdivision 4; section 17, subdivision 1; article 2, section 81; House file 2420, article 5, section 18; article 6, section 2; proposing coding in Minnesota Statutes 1998, chapter 126C.

Enactment: 5/25/99
Effective: various dates



STATE GOVERNMENT FINANCE

Omnibus state departments appropriations bill.

HF2386 (Krinkie)
SF2223* (Price)

Chapter 242: relating to the organization and operation of state government; appropriating money for the general legislative and administrative expenses of state government with certain conditions; modifying provisions relating to state government operations; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, sections 3.17; 3C.12, subdivision 2; 8.15, subdivisions 1, 2, and 3; 12.31, subdivision 2; 12.37; 13.03, subdivision 2; 13.05, by adding a subdivision; 13.073, by adding a subdivision; 14.131; 14.23; 15.50, subdivision 2; 16A.102, subdivision 1; 16A.11, by adding a subdivision; 16A.129, subdivision 3; 16A.45, subdivision 1; 16A.85, subdivision 1; 16B.03; 16B.104; 16B.24, subdivision 5; 16B.31, subdivision 2; 16B.32, subdivision 2; 16B.415; 16B.42, subdivision 1; 16B.46; 16B.465; 16B.72; 16B.73; 16B.748; 16C.14, subdivision 1; 16D.04, subdivision 2; 16E.01, subdivision 1; 16E.02; 16E.08; 18.54; 21.92; 43A.047; 43A.22; 43A.23, subdivisions 1 and 2; 43A.30, by adding a subdivision; 43A.31, subdivision 2, and by adding a subdivision; 60A.964, subdivision 1; 60A.972, subdivision 3; 97B.025; 103G.301, subdivision 2; 103I.525, subdivision 9; 103I.531, subdivision 9; 103I.535, subdivision 9; 103I.541, subdivision 5; 115B.49, subdivisions 2 and 4; 115B.491, subdivisions 2 and 3; 116.07, subdivision 4d; 116.12; 116C.834, subdivision 1; 138.17, subdivisions 7 and 8; 144.98, subdivision 3; 176.102, subdivision 14; 183.375, subdivision 5; 192.49, subdivision 3; 197.79, subdivision 10; 202A.18, by adding a subdivision; 202A.20, subdivision 2; 204B.25, subdivision 2, and by adding a subdivision; 204B.27, by adding a subdivision; 204B.28, subdivision 1; 223.17, subdivision 3; 239.101, subdivision 4; 240A.09; 297F.08, by adding a subdivision; 299M.04; 325K.03, by adding a subdivision; 325K.04; 325K.05, subdivision 1; 325K.09, by adding a subdivision; 325K.10, subdivision 5; 325K.14, by adding a subdivision; 325K.15, by adding a subdivision;

326.50; 326.86, subdivision 1; and 349.163, subdivision 4; Laws 1993, chapter 192, section 16; Laws 1994, chapter 643, section 69, subdivision 1; Laws 1995, First Special Session chapter 3, article 12, section 7, subdivision 1, as amended; section 10; Laws 1997, chapter 202, article 2, section 61; and Laws 1998, chapter 366, section 2; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapters 16A; 16B; 16C; 43A; 240A; and 325F; proposing coding for new law as Minnesota Statutes, chapter 604B; repealing Minnesota Statutes 1998, sections 16A.103, subdivision 3; 16A.1285, subdivisions 4 and 5; 16E.11; 16E.12; 16E.13; 207A.01; 207A.02; 207A.03; 207A.04; 207A.06; 207A.07; 207A.08; 207A.09; and 207A.10; Laws 1991, chapter 235, article 5, section 3, as amended; Minnesota Rules, part 8275.0045, subpart 2. **Vetoed:** 5/25/99

Omnibus state departments appropriations bill.

HF878* (Bishop)
SF1464 (Cohen)

Chapter 250: relating to the organization and operation of state government; appropriating money for the general legislative and administrative expenses of state government with certain conditions; modifying provisions relating to state government operations; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, sections 3.3005, by adding a subdivision; 3.17; 3C.12, subdivision 2; 8.15, subdivisions 1, 2, and 3; 12.31, subdivision 2; 12.37; 13.03, subdivision 2; 13.05, by adding a subdivision; 13.073, by adding a subdivision; 14.131; 14.23; 15.50, subdivision 2; 16A.102, subdivision 1; 16A.103, subdivision 1; 16A.11, by adding a subdivision; 16A.126, subdivision 3; 16A.129, subdivision 3; 16A.45, subdivision 1; 16A.85, subdivision 1; 16B.03; 16B.104; 16B.24, subdivision 5; 16B.31, subdivision 2; 16B.32, subdivision 2; 16B.415; 16B.42, subdivision 1; 16B.46; 16B.465; 16B.72; 16B.73; 16B.748; 16C.14, subdivision 1; 16D.04, subdivision 2; 16E.01, subdivision 1; 16E.02; 16E.08; 18.54; 21.92; 43A.047; 43A.22; 43A.23, subdivisions 1 and 2; 43A.30, by adding a subdivision; 43A.31, subdivision 2, and by adding a subdivision; 60A.964, subdivision 1; 60A.972, subdivision 3; 97B.025; 103G.301, subdivision 2; 103I.525, subdivision 9; 103I.531, subdivision 9; 103I.535, subdivision 9; 103I.541, subdivision 5; 115B.49, subdivisions 2 and 4; 115B.491, subdivisions 2 and 3; 116.07, subdivision 4d; 116.12; 116C.834, subdivision 1; 128C.02, by adding a subdivision; 138.17,

subdivisions 7 and 8; 144.98, subdivision 3; 176.102, subdivision 14; 183.375, subdivision 5; 192.49, subdivision 3; 197.79, subdivision 10; 202A.18, by adding a subdivision; 202A.20, subdivision 2; 204B.25, subdivision 2, and by adding a subdivision; 204B.27, by adding a subdivision; 204B.28, subdivision 1; 223.17, subdivision 3; 239.101, subdivision 4; 240A.09; 297F.08, by adding a subdivision; 299M.04; 325K.03, by adding a subdivision; 325K.04; 325K.05, subdivision 1; 325K.09, by adding a subdivision; 325K.10, subdivision 5; 325K.14, by adding a subdivision; 325K.15, by adding a subdivision; 326.50; 326.86, subdivision 1; and 349.163, subdivision 4; Laws 1993, chapter 192, section 16; Laws 1994, chapter 643, section 69, subdivision 1; Laws 1995, First Special Session chapter 3, article 12, section 7, subdivision 1, as amended; section 10; Laws 1997, chapter 202, article 2, section 61; and Laws 1998, chapter 366, section 2; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapters 16A; 16B; 16C; 43A; 240A; and 325F; proposing coding for new law as Minnesota Statutes, chapter 604B; repealing Minnesota Statutes 1998, sections 4A.08; 4A.09; 4A.10; 15.90; 15.91; 15.92; 16A.103, subdivision 3; 16A.1285, subdivisions 4 and 5; 16E.11; 16E.12; 16E.13; 207A.01; 207A.02; 207A.03; 207A.04; 207A.06; 207A.07; 207A.08; 207A.09; and 207A.10; Laws 1991, chapter 235, article 5, section 3, as amended; Minnesota Rules, part 8275.0045, subpart 2; and 1999 S.F. No. 2223, if enacted.

Enactment: 5/25/99

Effective: various dates



TAXES

Mortgage registry and deed taxes technical corrections and administrative changes.

HF379* (Erhardt)
SF381 (Pappas)

Chapter 31: relating to mortgage registry and deed taxes; making technical and clarifying changes; defining terms; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, sections 287.01; 287.03; 287.04; 287.05; 287.08; 287.10; 287.11; 287.12; 287.13, subdivision 1; 287.21, subdi-

vision 1; 287.22; 287.23; 287.24; 287.241; 287.29, subdivision 1; 287.30; 287.31; and 287.33; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 287; repealing Minnesota Statutes 1998, sections 287.06; 287.07; 287.09; 287.21, subdivisions 2 and 4; 287.34; 287.35; and 287.36.

Enactment: 4/1/99

Effective: 7/1/99

Agricultural assistance and tax relief.

HF1* (Abrams)

SF106 (Johnson, D.J.)

Chapter 112: relating to agricultural relief; providing for a payment to farmers at risk based on the acreage of agricultural use land; providing for an agricultural property tax refund for certain livestock producers; appropriating money.

Enactment: 4/23/99†

Effective: 4/24/99

Bonding authority allocation provisions modifications.

HF1024* (Abrams)

SF1424 (Pogemiller)

Chapter 189: relating to tax-exempt bond allocations; providing for certain eligibility, scoring system, income and purchase price limits, and reservation of authority; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, sections 474A.02, subdivision 23a; 474A.045; 474A.061, subdivisions 2a, 2b, and 4; and 474A.091, subdivision 5.

Enactment: 5/21/99

Effective: 5/22/99 (Sec. 3); 8/1/99 (Secs. 1, 2, 4-7)

Omnibus tax bill.

HF2420* (Abrams)

SF1276 (Johnson, D.J.)

Chapter 243: relating to financing state and local government; providing a sales tax rebate; reducing individual income tax rates; making changes to income, sales and use, property, excise, mortgage registry and deed, health care provider, motor fuels, cigarette and tobacco, liquor, insurance premiums, aircraft registration, lawful gambling, taconite production, solid waste, estate, and special taxes; conforming with changes in federal income tax provisions; authorizing certain cities to impose sales taxes and issue bonds; establishing an agricultural homestead credit; changing and allowing tax credits, subtractions, and exemptions; changing property tax valuation, assessment, levy, classification, homestead, credit, aid, exemption, review, appeal, abatement, and distribution

provisions; extending levy limits and changing levy authority; authorizing property tax abatements; reducing the rate of health care provider taxes; reducing tax rates on lawful gambling; changing tax increment financing law and providing special authority for certain cities; authorizing water and sanitary sewer districts; providing for the funding of courts in certain judicial districts; changing tax forfeiture and delinquency provisions; changing and clarifying tax administration, collection, enforcement, and penalty provisions; freezing the taconite production tax and providing for its distribution; regulating state and local business subsidies; authorizing issuance of certain local obligations; requiring the Metropolitan Airports Commission to provide funding for airport noise mitigation projects; modifying payment of certain aids to local units of government; providing for funding for border cities; changing fiscal note requirements; providing for deposit of tobacco settlement funds; requiring tax rebates when there is a budget surplus; requiring a study; authorizing requirements to use alternative dispute resolution processes in annexation and similar proceedings; transferring funds; appropriating money; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, sections 3.986, subdivision 2; 3.987, subdivision 1; 16D.09; 60A.19, subdivision 6; 92.51; 97A.065, subdivision 2; 204B.135, by adding a subdivision; 270.07, subdivision 1; 270.65; 270.67, by adding a subdivision; 270.78; 270A.03, subdivision 2; 270A.07, subdivision 2; 270A.08, subdivision 2; 271.01, subdivision 5; 271.21, subdivision 2; 272.02, subdivision 1; 272.027; 272.03, subdivision 6; 273.11, subdivisions 1a and 16; 273.111, by adding a subdivision; 273.124, subdivisions 1, 7, 8, 13, 14, and by adding a subdivision; 273.13, subdivisions 22, 23, 24, 25, 31, and by adding a subdivision; 273.1382; 273.1398, subdivisions 1a, 2, 8, and by adding a subdivision; 273.1399, subdivision 6; 273.20; 274.01, subdivision 1; 275.70, subdivision 5; 275.71, subdivisions 2, 3, and 4; 276.131; 279.37, subdivisions 1, 1a, and 2; 281.23, subdivisions 2, 4, and 6; 282.01, subdivisions 1, 4, and 7; 282.04, subdivision 2; 282.05; 282.08; 282.09; 282.241; 282.261, subdivision 4, and by adding a subdivision; 283.10; 287.01, subdivision 3, as amended; 287.05, subdivisions 1, as amended, and 1a, as amended; 289A.02, subdivision 7; 289A.18, subdivision 4; 289A.20, subdivision 4; 289A.31, subdivision 2; 289A.40, subdivisions 1 and 1a; 289A.50, subdivision 7, and by adding a subdivision; 289A.55, subdivision

9; 289A.56, subdivision 4; 289A.60, subdivisions 3 and 21; 290.01, subdivisions 7, 19, 19a, 19b, 19f, 19g, 31, and by adding a subdivision; 290.06, subdivisions 2c, 2d, and by adding subdivisions; 290.0671, subdivision 1; 290.0674, subdivisions 1 and 2; 290.091, subdivisions 1, 2, and 6; 290.0921, subdivision 5; 290.095, subdivision 3; 290.17, subdivisions 3, 4, and 6; 290.191, subdivisions 2 and 3; 290.9725; 290.9726, by adding a subdivision; 290A.03, subdivisions 3, 6, and 15; 290B.03, subdivision 1; 290B.04, subdivisions 2, 3, and 4; 290B.05, subdivision 1; 291.005, subdivision 1; 295.50, subdivision 4; 295.52, subdivision 7; 295.53, subdivision 1; 295.55, subdivisions 2 and 3; 295.57, by adding a subdivision; 296A.16, by adding subdivisions; 297A.15, subdivision 5; 297A.25, subdivisions 9, 63, 73, and by adding subdivisions; 297A.48, by adding subdivisions; 297E.01, by adding a subdivision; 297E.02, subdivisions 1, 3, 4, and 6; 297F.01, subdivision 23; 297F.17, subdivision 6; 297H.05; 297H.06, subdivision 2; 298.22, subdivision 7; 298.24, subdivision 1; 298.28, subdivisions 9a and 9b; 298.296, subdivision 4; 299D.03, subdivision 5; 357.021, subdivision 1a; 360.55, by adding a subdivision; 373.40, subdivision 1; 375.18, subdivision 12; 375.192, subdivision 2; 383C.482, subdivision 1; 414.11; 462A.071, subdivision 2; 465.82, by adding a subdivision; 469.002, subdivision 10; 469.012, subdivision 1; 469.169, subdivision 12, and by adding a subdivision; 469.1735, by adding a subdivision; 469.176, subdivision 4g; 469.1763, by adding a subdivision; 469.1771, subdivision 1, and by adding a subdivision; 469.1791, subdivision 3; 469.1813, subdivisions 1, 2, 3, 6, and by adding subdivisions; 469.1815, subdivision 2; 473.252, subdivision 2; 475.52, subdivisions 1, 3, and 4; 477A.011, subdivision 36; 477A.03, subdivision 2; 477A.06, subdivision 1; 485.018, subdivision 5; 487.02, subdivision 2; 487.32, subdivision 3; 487.33, subdivision 5; and 574.34, subdivision 1; Laws 1997, chapter 231, article 1, section 19, subdivisions 1 and 3; article 2, section 68, subdivision 3, as amended; article 3, section 9; Laws 1997, First Special Session chapter 3, section 27; Laws 1997, Second Special Session chapter 2, section 6; Laws 1998, chapter 389, article 8, section 44, subdivisions 5, 6, and 7, as amended; Laws 1998, chapter 645, section 3; and Laws 1999, chapter 112, section 1, subdivisions 1, 3, 4, and 9; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapters 16A; 116J; 275; 290; 383D; 414; and 469; repealing Minnesota Statutes 1998, sections 92.22; 116J.991; 273.11,

subdivision 10; 280.27; 281.13; 281.38; 284.01; 284.02; 284.03; 284.04; 284.05; 284.06; 297E.12, subdivision 3; 297F.19, subdivision 4; 297G.18, subdivision 4; 473.252, subdivisions 4 and 5; and 477A.05; Laws 1997, chapter 231, article 1, section 19, subdivision 2; and Laws 1998, chapter 389, article 3, section 45.

Enactment: 5/25/99

Line-item vetoes:

Page 190, Art. 8, Sec. 7, Lines 19-25

Effective: various dates

Public debt use limitations and conditions modified.

HF2127 (Abrams)
SF1876* (Pogemiller)

Chapter 248: relating to public administration; imposing and modifying conditions and limitations on the use of public debt; providing for the Dakota County community development agency and the Cuyuna Range joint powers economic development authority; reenacting certain provisions relating to taxes, abatements, and tax increments; clarifying the treatment of property of certain limited liability companies for certain property tax exemption purposes; broadening certain revenue bonding authority involving certain nonprofit facilities and to refund certain youth-based-ice facility debt; authorizing the city of Duluth to provide for certain refunding bonds; removing a condition for the issuance of certain bonds by the Long Prairie housing and redevelopment authority; temporarily expanding an exception to competitive bidding requirements for certain bond-financed structured parking facilities; authorizing the city of Woodbury to issue general obligations to finance construction of a highway interchange and related improvements; authorizing the use of enterprise zone incentive grants for certain purposes by Minneapolis and St. Paul; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, sections 126C.55, subdivision 7; 272.02, by adding a subdivision; 383D.41, subdivisions 1, 2, 3, and by adding subdivisions; 469.155, subdivision 4; 469.305, subdivision 1; 473.39, by adding a subdivision; 473.898, subdivision 3; 475.56; 475.58, by adding a subdivision; and 475.60, subdivisions 1 and 3.

Enactment: 5/25/99

Effective: various dates



TRANSPORTATION FINANCE

Omnibus transportation appropriations bill.

HF2387* (Molnau)
SF2217 (Johnson, J.B.)

Chapter 238: relating to transportation; appropriating money for the Department of Transportation and other agencies; authorizing certain fees; providing for a maximum percentage of the motorcycle safety fund that may be spent for certain activities; exempting from registration taxes vehicles owned by a commercial driving school and used exclusively in driver education and training; allowing payment of prorated license fee following transfer of vehicle from dealer; modifying provisions relating to disability parking privileges; abolishing certain credit for vehicle registration fee; modifying provisions relating to vehicle titles, registrations, and transfers; authorizing suspension of a vehicle's registration in certain circumstances; requiring a detachable postcard to be provided in a vehicle's certificate of title and completed; specifically authorizing cities to enact ordinances regulating long-term parking; allowing certain lighting devices mounted on delivery vehicles; providing equipment for deputy registrars; modifying driver instruction permit provisions; providing for driver training for home school students; reducing cost of Minnesota identification card for persons with serious and persistent mental illness; changing definition of "directional signs"; authorizing siting of public safety radio communications towers; directing commissioner of transportation to establish a southern railway corridor improvement plan; setting minimum requirements for local regulation of small vehicle passenger service; modifying provisions relating to motor carriers; changing percentage of gas tax attributed to snowmobiles; regulating advertising in Department of Public Safety publications; modifying provisions relating to special number plates for classic aircraft; requiring report of metropolitan radio board; extending existence of metropolitan radio board; requiring commissioner of transportation to study feasibility of extending Northstar commuter

rail corridor from St. Cloud to Little Falls; requiring commissioner of transportation to study restoration of Amtrak rail passenger service; requiring taxi regulation study; restricting passenger motor carrier service at the international airport; requiring commissioner of public safety to make recommendations concerning allowable vehicle lighting; requiring Office of Strategic and Long-Range Planning to establish state development strategy and report to Legislature concerning I-94 corridor; authorizing commissioner of transportation to contract for the public safety radio communication system; modifying definitions; making technical and clarifying changes; requiring studies and reports; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, sections 121A.36, subdivision 3; 168.011, subdivision 35; 168.012, subdivision 1; 168.013, subdivisions 2 and 6; 168.021, subdivision 2; 168.17; 168.301, subdivisions 3 and 4; 168A.05, subdivision 5; 168A.10, subdivisions 1, 2, and 5; 168A.30, subdivision 2; 169.122, subdivision 5; 169.345, subdivisions 1, 3, and 4; 169.346, subdivision 3, and by adding a subdivision; 169.55, subdivision 1; 169.58, by adding a subdivision; 171.04, subdivision 1; 171.05, subdivisions 1a and 2; 171.061, subdivision 4; 171.07, subdivision 3; 171.39; 173.02, subdivision 6; 174.24, subdivision 3b; 174.70; 174A.02, subdivision 4; 174A.06; 221.011, subdivisions 15, 37, 38, and by adding subdivisions; 221.021; 221.022; 221.025; 221.0251; 221.026, subdivision 2; 221.031, subdivisions 1, 2, 6, and 7; 221.036, subdivisions 1 and 3; 221.091; 221.122, subdivision 1; 221.124; 221.131, subdivision 2; 221.141, subdivision 1; 221.172, subdivision 10; 221.185, subdivisions 1, 2, 3, 4, 9, and by adding a subdivision; 221.221, subdivision 3; 221.291, subdivision 4; 221.55; 296A.18, subdivision 3; 299A.01, by adding a subdivision; 360.531, subdivision 3; 360.55, subdivision 4; 368.01, subdivision 12; 412.221, subdivision 20; 458A.06, subdivision 5; 609.671, subdivision 5; Laws 1995, chapter 195, article 1, section 18; Laws 1997, chapter 159, article 1, sections 2, subdivision 7, and 4, subdivision 3; Laws 1998, chapter 404, section 17, subdivision 3; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapters 219; 221; 388; 473; repealing Minnesota Statutes 1998, sections 168.011, subdivision 36; 168.1281; 221.011, subdivisions 7, 9, 20, 21, 32, and 34; 221.041; 221.051; 221.061; 221.071; 221.081; 221.121, subdivisions 6b and 6h; 221.172, subdivision 9; 221.281; 221.85; and 473.3998.

Enactment: 5/25/99

Line-item vetoes:

Page 8, Art. 1, Sec. 2,
Subd. 7, Lines 40-58

Effective: various dates



TRANSPORTATION POLICY

Laura Ingalls Wilder Historic Highway route modification.

HF157* (Kuisle)
SF379 (Scheevel)

Chapter 16: relating to highways; modifying route of Laura Ingalls Wilder Historic Highway; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, section 161.14, subdivision 29.

Enactment: 3/18/99
Effective: 3/19/99

Special disability license plates for modified motor vehicles.

HF165 (Stang)
SF460* (Fischbach)

Chapter 25: relating to motor vehicles; allowing disability license plates to be issued for vehicles modified for use by disabled persons; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, section 168.021, subdivision 1.

Enactment: 3/29/99
Effective: 8/1/99

Kenyon Trunk Highway No. 56 relocation easements transfer.

HF1305* (Sviggum)
SF1280 (Day)

Chapter 29: relating to highways; requiring commissioner of transportation to transfer excess highway easements to city of Kenyon.

Enactment: 4/1/99
Effective: upon local approval

Motorcycle blue lights display.

HF766* (Broecker)
SF739 (Murphy)

Chapter 35: relating to traffic regulations; authorizing blue lights on motorcycles as part of the rear brake light; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, section 169.64, subdivision 4.

Enactment: 4/12/99
Effective: 4/13/99

Otter Tail veterans memorial drive designation.

HF1986 (Nornes)
SF1888* (Larson)

Chapter 42: relating to highways; designating Otter Tail veterans memorial drive; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, section 161.14, by adding a subdivision.

Enactment: 4/12/99
Effective: 8/1/99

Rural residential districts speed limit.

HF1265 (Workman)
SF1150* (Johnson, J.B.)

Chapter 44: relating to traffic regulations; fixing speed limit in rural residential districts; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, section 169.14, subdivision 2.

Enactment: 4/12/99
Effective: 8/1/99

Motor vehicle registration requirements modified.

HF1507 (Skoe)
SF1600* (Flynn)

Chapter 70: relating to motor vehicles; eliminating requirement that certain applications submitted to Department of Public Safety be in writing; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, sections 168.013, subdivision 3; and 168.82, subdivision 1.

Enactment: 4/20/99
Effective: 8/1/99

Underground fuel storage tanks specifications requirements.

HF528* (Westrom)
SF1259 (Murphy)

Chapter 88: relating to transportation; requiring Department of Transportation specifications for underground storage tanks to include certain types of fiberglass and steel tanks; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 174.

Enactment: 4/23/99
Effective: 8/1/99

Commercial motor vehicle disqualification and violations modifications.

HF1046 (Workman)
SF1324* (Wiger)

Chapter 93: relating to motor vehicles; requiring commissioner of public safety to impose commercial driver's license disqualifications for violations of an out-of-service order; requiring commissioner of transportation to impose civil penalties for violations of an

out-of-service order; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, section 171.165, by adding a subdivision; and 221.036, subdivision 3.

Enactment: 4/23/99
Effective: 4/1/99

Port authorities revenue retention.

HF1161 (Dempsey)
SF480* (Murphy)

Chapter 114: relating to transportation; allowing port authorities to retain lease or management contract revenues from commercial navigation projects financed by the state; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, section 457A.04, by adding a subdivision.

Enactment: 5/3/99
Effective: 8/1/99

Vehicle security interests release time reduced.

HF790 (Kuisle)
SF778* (Sams)

Chapter 131: relating to motor vehicles; requiring release of a security interest in a vehicle to be acted on within seven days if satisfied by a dealer; modifying the placement of television screens in motor vehicles; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, sections 168A.20; and 169.471, subdivision 1.

Enactment: 5/7/99
Effective: 5/8/99 (Sec. 2); 8/1/99 (Sec. 1)

Milk transporters seasonal highway weight restrictions exemption.

HF1641 (Juhnke)
SF1645* (Johnson, D.E.)

Chapter 154: relating to transportation; abolishing Babcock test requirements for drivers to determine fat content of milk or cream; exempting vehicles carrying milk from seasonal weight restrictions under certain circumstances; allowing conveyance of excess railbank property; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, sections 32.25, subdivision 3; 169.87, by adding a subdivision; and 222.63, subdivision 4; repealing Minnesota Statutes 1998, section 32.01, subdivision 7.

Enactment: 5/13/99
Effective: 5/14/99 (Sec. 2, 3); 8/1/99 (Sec. 1, 4)

Metropolitan area motor vehicle emission control inspection program termination.

HF7* (Haake)
SF142 (Metzen)

Chapter 178: relating to the environment; providing for the termination of the motor vehicle emissions testing program by

March 1, 2000, or earlier; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, sections 116.60, by adding a subdivision; 116.61, subdivision 1, and by adding a subdivision; 116.62, subdivisions 2, 3, 5, and by adding a subdivision; and 116.63, subdivision 4; repealing Minnesota Statutes 1998, sections 116.60; 116.61; 116.62; 116.63; 116.64; and 116.65.

Enactment: 5/18/99

Effective: various dates

Transportation and highway provisions modified.

HF1551 (Workman)

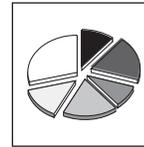
SF1762* (Flynn)

Chapter 230: relating to transportation; modifying state contract requirements; allowing Department of Transportation to contract for land surveying; clarifying requirements for notaries and filing corrections to maps and plats relating to highways; providing for transfer of certain revolving loan accounts to transportation revolving loan fund; correcting trunk highway route description; modifying filing requirements for highway route location orders; increasing dollar amount for contracts negotiated by commissioner of transportation for highway construction or maintenance work; modifying provisions for estimates and agency costs relating to county state-aid highway and municipal state-aid street funds; abolishing provision that restricted evidence of use of headgear by motorcyclist to only the question of damages for head injuries; authorizing commissioner of transportation to determine dates for seasonal load restrictions; modifying provision requiring certification for disbursement from state transportation fund; requiring commissioner of transportation to be responsible for design, construction, and operation of commuter rail; establishing design approval process for commuter rail; creating commuter rail corridor

coordinating committee; changing period of hours of service exemption for drivers transporting sugar beets; requiring petroleum tank truck driver to be at least 18 years old; authorizing commissioner to convey excess rail bank corridor land to state agency or political subdivision; modifying provisions governing state grants for local airports; restricting liability related to land acquired by municipality for highway purposes; modifying powers and duties of counties with respect to light rail and commuter rail transit planning; modifying deadlines for Metropolitan Transit performance evaluation reports by Metropolitan Council; establishing priority order for light rail transit construction; requiring Metropolitan Council to develop regional master plan for transit; making technical corrections; appropriating money; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, sections 16C.05, subdivision 2; 16C.09; 160.085, subdivisions 1 and 1a; 161.04, subdivision 3, and by adding a subdivision; 161.115, subdivision 164; 161.16, subdivision 2; 161.32, subdivision 2; 162.06, subdivisions 1, 2, and 6; 162.12, subdivisions 1, 2, and 5; 169.87, subdivision 2; 174.02, by adding a subdivision; 174.50, subdivision 5; 221.0314, subdivision 9a; 221.033, by adding a subdivision; 222.63, subdivision 4; 360.0151, subdivision 2; 360.032, subdivision 1a; 360.305, subdivision 4; 398A.04, subdivisions 1, 2, and 9; 446A.085, subdivisions 3 and 6; 466.03, by adding a subdivision; 473.1466; 473.399; 473.3993, subdivision 3; and 473.3994, subdivisions 3, 4, and 10; Laws 1998, chapter 404, section 17, subdivision 3; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 174; repealing Minnesota Statutes 1998, sections 169.832, subdivision 13; 169.974, subdivision 6; 473.3994, subdivision 12; and 473.3998.

Enactment: 5/25/99

Effective: various dates



WAYS AND MEANS

State departments deficiency appropriations.

HFnone

SF2234* (Cohen)

Chapter 141: relating to public administration; making deficiency appropriations for state government operations; transferring money; appropriating money.

Enactment: 5/11/99

Effective: 5/12/99

Payment of claims against the state; Lake Willis elevation control determination.

HF2221 (Ozment)

SF2052* (Kelly, R.C.)

Chapter 169: relating to claims against the state; providing for payment of various claims; clarifying certain language concerning claims; authorizing determination of a lake control elevation; appropriating money; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, sections 3.738, subdivision 2; and 3.739, subdivision 2a.

Enactment: 5/17/99

Effective: 5/18/99

Minnesota House of Representatives 1999 Members

List as of May 17, 1999

District/Member/Party	Room†	Phone (651) 296-	District/Member/Party	Room†	Phone (651) 296-
49A Abeler, Jim (R)	581	1729	33A Lindner, Arlon (R)	417	7806
45A Abrams, Ron (R)	585	9934	47A Luther, Darlene (DFL)	371	3751
19B Anderson, Bruce (R)	411	5063	67A Mahoney, Tim (DFL)	223	4277
3A Anderson, Irv (DFL)	343	4936	55A Mares, Harry (R)	401	5363
6A Bakk, Thomas (Tom) (DFL)	345	2190	65B Mariani, Carlos (DFL)	209	9714
59A Biernat, Len (DFL)	303	4219	57B Marko, Sharon (DFL)	221	3135
30B Bishop, Dave (R)	453	0573	55B McCollum, Betty (DFL)	239	1188
25B Boudreau, Lynda (R)	473	8237	36B McElroy, Dan (R)	437	4212
30A Bradley, Fran (R)	559	9249	54A McGuire, Mary Jo (DFL)	259	4342
53B Broecker, Sherry (R)	533	7153	39B Milbert, Bob (DFL)	243	4192
35B Buesgens, Mark (R)	415	1072	35A Molnau, Carol L. (R)	443	8872
46B Carlson, Lyndon R. (DFL)	279	4255	21B Mulder, Richard (R)	515	4336
47B Carruthers, Phil (DFL)	217	3709	58A Mullery, Joe (DFL)	387	4262
10B Cassell, George (R)	421	4317	7A Munger, Willard (DFL)*	283	4282
52A Chaudhary, Satveer (DFL)	311	4331	8A Murphy, Mary (DFL)	357	2676
23A Clark, James T. (R)	583	9303	20A Ness, Robert "Bob" (R)	509	4344
61A Clark, Karen (DFL)	307	0294	10A Nornes, Bud (R)	471	4946
11A Daggett, Roxann (R)	439	4293	19A Olson, Mark (R)	501	4237
31B Davids, Gregory M. (R)	367	9278	16A Opatz, Joe (DFL)	281	6612
65A Dawkins, Andy (DFL)	215	5158	60B Orfield, Myron (DFL)	377	9281
14A Dehler, Steve (R)	491	7808	29B Osskopp, Mike (R)	449	9236
29A Dempsey, Jerry (R)	549	8635	66A Osthoff, Tom (DFL)	273	4224
27A Dorman, Dan (R)	579	8216	11B Otremba, Mary Ellen (DFL)	393	3201
24A Dorn, John (DFL)	201	3248	37A Ozment, Dennis (R)	479	4306
64A Entenza, Matt (DFL)	213	8799	42B Paulsen, Erik (R)	445	7449
42A Erhardt, Ron (R)	591	4363	38B Pawlenty, Tim (R)	459	4128
17A Erickson, Sondra (R)	407	6746	64B Paymar, Michael (DFL)	331	4199
1B Finseth, Tim (R)	517	9918	32A Pelowski Jr., Gene (DFL)	295	8637
44A Folliard, Betty (DFL)	211	3964	13B Peterson, Doug (DFL)	287	4228
4A Fuller, Doug (R)	525	5516	39A Pugh, Thomas W. (DFL)	267	6828
36A Gerlach, Chris (R)	531	5506	46A Rest, Ann H. (DFL)	277	4176
63B Gleason, Mark S. (DFL)	313	5375	28A Reuter, Doug (R)**	216D Cap.	5368
9A Goodno, Kevin (R)	563	5515	44B Rhodes, Jim (R)	409	9889
58B Gray, Gregory (DFL)	229	8659	32B Rifenberg, Michelle (R)	423	1069
62A Greenfield, Lee (DFL)	207	0173	18A Rostberg, Jim (R)	545	5364
54B Greiling, Mindy (DFL)	253	5387	5A Rukavina, Tom (DFL)	375	0170
26A Gunther, Bob (R)	379	3240	17B Schumacher, Leslie J. (DFL)	327	5377
52B Haake, Barb (R)	429	0141	41A Seagren, Alice (R)	477	7803
48A Haas, Bill (R)	569	5513	57A Seifert, Jim (R)	577	7807
50A Hackbarth, Tom (R)	575	2439	21A Seifert, Marty (R)	593	5374
22B Harder, Elaine (R)	487	5373	2B Skoe, Rod (DFL)	321	4265
12A Hasskamp, Kris (DFL)	353	4333	62B Skoglund, Wes (DFL)	251	4330
66B Hausman, Alice (DFL)	245	3824	34A Smith, Steve (R)	503	9188
8B Hilty, Bill (DFL)	241	4308	3B Solberg, Loren A. (DFL)	309	2365
37B Holberg, Mary Liz (R)	433	6926	33B Stanek, Rich (R)	543	5502
56A Holsten, Mark William (R)	381	3018	14B Stang, Doug (R)	597	4373
4B Howes, Larry (R)	431	2451	24B Storm, Julie (R)	527	7065
6B Huntley, Thomas (DFL)	351	2228	28B Sviggum, Steve (R)	463	2273
7B Jaros, Mike (DFL)	291	4246	23B Swenson, Howard (R)	539	8634
18B Jennings, Loren Geo (DFL)	237	0518	43B Sykora, Barb (R)	403	4315
48B Johnson, Alice M. (DFL)	349	5510	50B Tingelstad, Kathy (R)	567	5369
15A Juhnke, Al (DFL)	329	6206	5B Tomassoni, David J. (DFL)	233	0172
59B Kahn, Phyllis (DFL)	255	4257	67B Trimble, Steve (DFL)	289	4201
26B Kalis, Henry J. (DFL)	317	4240	25A Tuma, John (R)	369	4229
60A Kelliher, Margaret Anderson (DFL)	231	0171	1A Tunheim, Jim (DFL)	335	9635
20B Kielkucki, Tony (R)	521	1534	34B Van Dellen, Henry Todd (R)	571	5511
16B Knoblach, Jim (R)	451	6316	51B Vandever, Ray (R)	529	4124
49B Koskinen, Luanne (DFL)	301	4231	63A Wagenius, Jean (DFL)	227	4200
53A Krinkie, Philip (R)	365	2907	61B Wejcman, Linda (DFL)	203	7152
15B Kubly, Gary W. (DFL)	315	4346	12B Wenzel, Stephen G. (DFL)	389	4247
31A Kuisle, William (R)	565	4378	51A Westerberg, Andrew (R)	523	4226
56B Larsen, Peg (R)	551	4244	9B Westfall, Robert L. (Bob) (R)	553	6829
40A Larson, Dan (DFL)	225	7158	13A Westrom, Torrey (R)	557	4929
27B Leighton, Rob (DFL)	261	4193	38A Wilkin, Tim (R)	413	3533
40B Lenczewski, Ann (DFL)	337	4218	22A Winter, Ted (DFL)	247	5505
45B Leppik, Peggy (R)	485	7026	41B Wolf, Ken (R)	359	5185
2A Lieder, Bernie L. (DFL)	323	5091	43A Workman, Tom (R)	537	5066

Note: Room numbers are subject to change.

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

*Rep. Munger died July 11, 1999. A special election will be held Nov. 2, 1999 to fill his seat.

**Rep. Reuter changed his party affiliation from Republican to Independent after the conclusion of the 1999 session.

Minnesota Senate 1999 Members

District/Member/Party	Room*	Phone (651) 296-	District/Member/Party	Room*	Phone (651) 296-
66 Anderson, Ellen (R) (DFL)	G-24 Cap.	5537	8 Lourey, Becky (DFL)	G-9 Cap.	0293
41 Belanger Jr., William V. (R)	113 SOB	5975	54 Marty, John (DFL)	326 Cap.	5645
13 Berg, Charles A. (IND)	G-51 SOB	5094	39 Metzen, James P. (DFL)	303 Cap.	4370
61 Berglin, Linda (DFL)	309 Cap.	4261	2 Moe, Roger D. (DFL)	208 Cap.	2577
48 Betzold, Don (DFL)	306 Cap.	2556	29 Murphy, Steve (DFL)	301 Cap.	4264
64 Cohen, Richard J. (DFL)	317 Cap.	5931	25 Neuville, Thomas M. (R)	123 SOB	1279
28 Day, Dick (R)	147 SOB	9457	52 Novak, Steven G. (DFL)	322 Cap.	4334
20 Dille, Steve (R)	103 SOB	4131	43 Oliver, Edward C. (R)	121 SOB	4837
14 Fischbach, Michelle L. (R)	15 SOB	2084	34 Olson, Gen (R)	119 SOB	1282
62 Flynn, Carol (DFL)	120 Cap.	4274	19 Ourada, Mark (R)	145 SOB	5981
49 Foley, Leo (DFL)	G-9 Cap.	4154	65 Pappas, Sandra L. (DFL)	120 Cap.	1802
23 Frederickson, Dennis (R) (R)	139 SOB	8138	37 Pariseau, Pat (R)	109 SOB	5252
50 Hanson, Paula E. (DFL)	328 Cap.	3219	27 Piper, Pat (DFL)	G-9 Cap.	9248
58 Higgins, Linda I. (DFL)	227 Cap.	9246	59 Pogemiller, Lawrence J. (DFL)	235 Cap.	7809
24 Hottinger, John C. (DFL)	120 Cap.	6153	57 Price, Leonard (R) (DFL)	235 Cap.	297-8060
5 Janezich, Jerry (R) (DFL)	328 Cap.	8017	63 Ranum, Jane B. (DFL)	306 Cap.	297-8061
40 Johnson, Dave (DFL)	111 Cap.	9261	45 Robertson, Martha (R) (R)	125 SOB	4314
15 Johnson, Dean E. (R)	117SOB	3826	35 Robling, Claire A. (R)	151 SOB	4123
6 Johnson, Douglas J. (DFL)	205 Cap.	8881	53 Runbeck, Linda (R)	107 SOB	1253
18 Johnson, Janet B. (DFL)	G-9 Cap.	5419	11 Sams, Dallas C. (DFL)	328 Cap.	297-8063
46 Junge, Ember (R) (DFL)	205 Cap.	2889	12 Samuelson, Don (DFL)	124 Cap.	4875
44 Kelley, Steve (DFL)	321 Cap.	297-8065	31 Scheevel, Kenric J. (R)	129 SOB	3903
67 Kelly, Randy C. (DFL)	323 Cap.	5285	47 Scheid, Linda (DFL)	317 Cap.	8869
32 Kierlin, Bob (R)	127 SOB	5649	7 Solon, Sam G. (DFL)	303 Cap.	4188
30 Kiscaden, Sheila M. (R)	135 SOB	4848	60 Spear, Allan H. (DFL)	120 Cap.	4191
16 Kleis, Dave (R)	143 SOB	6455	17 Stevens, Dan (R)	105 SOB	8075
36 Knutson, David L. (R)	133 SOB	4120	1 Stumpf, LeRoy A. (DFL)	G-24 Cap.	8660
51 Krentz, Jane (DFL)	235 Cap.	7061	4 Ten Eyck, David J. (DFL)	G-24F Cap.	4913
56 Laidig, Gary W. (R)	141 SOB	4351	42 Terwilliger, Roy (R)	115 SOB	6238
9 Langseth, Keith (DFL)	122 Cap.	3205	22 Vickerman, Jim (DFL)	226 Cap.	5650
10 Larson, Cal (R)	153 SOB	5655	38 Wiener, Deanna L. (DFL)	303 Cap.	297-8073
21 Lesewski, Arlene J. (R)	131 SOB	4125	55 Wiger, Charles W. (DFL)	325 Cap.	6820
3 Lessard, Bob (DFL)	111 Cap.	4136	26 Ziegler, Don (R)	149 SOB	5713
33 Limmer, Warren (R)	25 SOB	2159			

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

Minnesota House and Senate Membership

1 A • Rep. Jim Tunheim-DFL B • Rep. Tim Finseth-R Sen. LeRoy A. Stumpf-DFL	15 A • Rep. Al Juhnke-DFL B • Rep. Gary W. Kubly-DFL Sen. Dean E. Johnson-R	29 A • Rep. Jerry Dempsey-R B • Rep. Mike Oskopp-R Sen. Steve Murphy-DFL	43 A • Rep. Tom Workman-R B • Rep. Barb Sykora-R Sen. Edward C. Oliver-R	57 A • Rep. Jim Seifert-R B • Rep. Sharon Marko-DFL Sen. Leonard R. Price-DFL
2 A • Rep. Bernie L. Lieder-DFL B • Rep. Rod Skoe-DFL Sen. Roger D. Moe-DFL	16 A • Rep. Joe Opatz-DFL B • Rep. Jim Knoblach-R Sen. Dave Kleis-R	30 A • Rep. Fran Bradley-R B • Rep. Dave Bishop-R Sen. Sheila M. Kiscaden-R	44 A • Rep. Betty Folliard-DFL B • Rep. Jim Rhodes-R Sen. Steve Kelley-DFL	58 A • Rep. Joe Mullery-DFL B • Rep. Gregory Gray-DFL Sen. Linda I. Higgins-DFL
3 A • Rep. Irv Anderson-DFL B • Rep. Loren A. Solberg-DFL Sen. Bob Lessard-DFL	17 A • Rep. Sondra Erickson-R B • Rep. Leslie J. Schumacher-DFL Sen. Dan Stevens-R	31 A • Rep. William Kuisle-R B • Rep. Gregory M. Davids-R Sen. Kenric J. Scheevel-R	45 A • Rep. Ron Abrams-R B • Rep. Peggy Leppik-R Sen. Martha R. Robertson-R	59 A • Rep. Len Biernat-DFL B • Rep. Phyllis Kahn-DFL Sen. Lawrence J. Pogemiller-DFL
4 A • Rep. Doug Fuller-R B • Rep. Larry Howes-R Sen. David J. Ten Eyck-DFL	18 A • Rep. Jim Rostberg-R B • Rep. Loren Geo Jennings-DFL Sen. Janet B. Johnson-DFL	32 A • Rep. Gene Pelowski Jr.-DFL B • Rep. Michele Rifenberg-R Sen. Bob Kierlin-R	46 A • Rep. Ann H. Rest-DFL B • Rep. Lyndon R. Carlson-DFL Sen. Ember R. Junge-DFL	60 A • Rep. Margaret Anderson Kelliher-DFL B • Rep. Myron Orfield-DFL Sen. Allan H. Spear-DFL
5 A • Rep. Tom Rukavina-DFL B • Rep. David J. Tomassoni-DFL Sen. Jerry R. Janezich-DFL	19 A • Rep. Mark Olson-R B • Rep. Bruce Anderson-R Sen. Mark Ourada-R	33 A • Rep. Arlon Lindner-R B • Rep. Rich Stanek-R Sen. Warren Limmer-R	47 A • Rep. Darlene Luther-DFL B • Rep. Phil Carruthers-DFL Sen. Linda Scheid-DFL	61 A • Rep. Karen Clark-DFL B • Rep. Linda Wejman-DFL Sen. Linda Berglin-DFL
6 A • Rep. Thomas (Tom) Bakk-DFL B • Rep. Thomas Huntley-DFL Sen. Douglas J. Johnson-DFL	20 A • Rep. Robert "Bob" Ness-R B • Rep. Tony Kielkucki-R Sen. Steve Dille-R	34 A • Rep. Steve Smith-R B • Rep. Henry Todd Van Dellen-R Sen. Gen Olson-R	48 A • Rep. Bill Haas-R B • Rep. Alice M. Johnson-DFL Sen. Don Betzold-DFL	62 A • Rep. Lee Greenfield-DFL B • Rep. Wes Skoglund-DFL Sen. Carol Flynn-DFL
7 A • Rep. Willard Munger-DFL* B • Rep. Mike Jaros-DFL Sen. Sam G. Solon-DFL	21 A • Rep. Marty Seifert-R B • Rep. Richard Mulder-R Sen. Arlene J. Lesewski-R	35 A • Rep. Carol L. Molnar-R B • Rep. Mark Buesgens-R Sen. Claire A. Robling-R	49 A • Rep. Jim Abeler-R B • Rep. Luanne Koskinen-DFL Sen. Leo Foley-DFL	63 A • Rep. Jean Wagenius-DFL B • Rep. Mark S. Gleason-DFL Sen. Jane B. Ranum-DFL
8 A • Rep. Mary Murphy-DFL B • Rep. Bill Hilty-DFL Sen. Becky Lourey-DFL	22 A • Rep. Ted Winter-DFL B • Rep. Elaine Harder-R Sen. Jim Vickerman-DFL	36 A • Rep. Chris Gerlach-R B • Rep. Dan McElroy-R Sen. David L. Knutson-R	50 A • Rep. Tom Hackbarth-R B • Rep. Kathy Tingelstad-R Sen. Paula E. Hanson-DFL	64 A • Rep. Matt Entenza-DFL B • Rep. Michael Paymar-DFL Sen. Richard J. Cohen-DFL
9 A • Rep. Kevin Goodno-R B • Rep. Robert L. (Bob) Westfall-R Sen. Keith Langseth-DFL	23 A • Rep. James T. Clark-R B • Rep. Howard Swenson-R Sen. Dennis R. Frederickson-R	37 A • Rep. Dennis Ozment-R B • Rep. Mary Liz Holberg-R Sen. Pat Pariseau-R	51 A • Rep. Andrew Westerberg-R B • Rep. Ray Vandever-R Sen. Jane Krentz-DFL	65 A • Rep. Andy Dawkins-DFL B • Rep. Carlos Mariani-DFL Sen. Sandra L. Pappas-DFL
10 A • Rep. Bud Nornes-R B • Rep. George Cassell-R Sen. Cal Larson-R	24 A • Rep. John Dorn-DFL B • Rep. Julie Storm-R Sen. John C. Hottinger-DFL	38 A • Rep. Tim Wilkin-R B • Rep. Tim Pawlenty-R Sen. Deanna L. Wiener-DFL	52 A • Rep. Satveer Chaudhary-DFL B • Rep. Barb Haake-R Sen. Steven G. Novak-DFL	66 A • Rep. Tom Osthoff-DFL B • Rep. Alice Hausman-DFL Sen. Ellen R. Anderson-DFL
11 A • Rep. Roxann Daggett-R B • Rep. Mary Ellen Otremba-DFL Sen. Dallas C. Sams-DFL	25 A • Rep. John Tuma-R B • Rep. Lynda Boudreau-R Sen. Thomas M. Neuville-R	39 A • Rep. Thomas W. Pugh-DFL B • Rep. Bob Milbert-DFL Sen. James P. Metzen-DFL	53 A • Rep. Philip Krinkie-R B • Rep. Sherry Broecker-R Sen. Linda Runbeck-R	67 A • Rep. Tim Mahoney-DFL B • Rep. Steve Trimble-DFL Sen. Randy C. Kelly-DFL
12 A • Rep. Kris Hasskamp-DFL B • Rep. Stephen G. Wenzel-DFL Sen. Don Samuelson-DFL	26 A • Rep. Bob Gunther-R B • Rep. Henry J. Kalis-DFL Sen. Don Ziegler-R	40 A • Rep. Dan Larson-DFL B • Rep. Ann Lenczewski-DFL Sen. Dave Johnson-DFL	54 A • Rep. Mary Jo McGuire-DFL B • Rep. Mindy Greiling-DFL Sen. John Marty-DFL	*Rep. Munger died July 11, 1999. A special election will be held Nov. 2, 1999 to fill his seat.
13 A • Rep. Torrey Westrom-R B • Rep. Doug Peterson-DFL Sen. Charles A. Berg-IND	27 A • Rep. Dan Dorman-R B • Rep. Rob Leighton-DFL Sen. Pat Piper-DFL	41 A • Rep. Alice Seagren-R B • Rep. Ken Wolf-R Sen. William V. Belanger Jr.-R	55 A • Rep. Harry Mares-R B • Rep. Betty McCollum-DFL Sen. Charles W. Wiger-DFL	**Rep. Reuter changed his party affiliation from Republican to Independent after the conclusion of the 1999 session.
14 A • Rep. Steve Dehler-R B • Rep. Doug Stang-R Sen. Michelle L. Fischbach-R	28 A • Rep. Doug Reuter-R** B • Rep. Steve Sviggum-R Sen. Dick Day-R	42 A • Rep. Ron Erhardt-R B • Rep. Erik Paulsen-R Sen. Roy Terwilliger-R	56 A • Rep. Mark William Holsten-R B • Rep. Peg Larsen-R Sen. Gary W. Laidig-R	

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162	949	383*	43	122	222	1077	319*	62	117	
163	1255	2120*	17	110	223	2390*	2227	22, 77, 78	123	
164	1112	1180*	28	110	224	358	685*	12	108	
165	66	9*	60	126	225	2016	1831*		112	
166	1173	1605*	30	116	226	598	369*		122	
167	1544	1609*	77	126	227	2058	653*	41	105	
168	2010	2038*		107	228	1778*	1785	67	108	
169	2221	2052*	39	132	229	1195*	2029	49	105	
170	578	84*	57	104	230	1551	1762*	70	132	
171	989	1094*		104	231	2388	2226*	31, 79	112	
172	718*	225	46	122	232	937	709*	12	118	
173	751	768*	60	126	233	228	174*	18	112	
174	526	615*	60	127	234	2337	1262*	57	105	
175	1607*	1674	22	111	235	1621*	1734		115	
176	621*	584	20	111	236	584	1932*	1607	54	108
177	837*	1205		107	237	1015*	1064	29	127	
178	7*	142	68	131	238	2387*	2217	67, 82	130	
179	1140	1329*	58	127	239	1303	1219*		108	
180	1430	1572*		114	240	2205*	1058	10, 77	101	
181	870	841*	53	107	241	2333*	2242	25, 79	124	
182	1693	2017*		116	242	2386	2223*	76	128	
183	805	556*	56	127	243	2420*	1276	63, 77, 82	129	
184	160	233*		104	244	112	333*	17	112	
185	853	1204*	42	117	245	2412	2225*	50, 82	118	
186	777	851*		127	246	851*	321		124	
187	686	2044*	37	117	247	1426*	1651		122	
188	1348	891*	58	127	248	2127	1876*		130	
189	1024*	1424		129	249	2441	2224*		127	
190	1122	1093*		104	250	878*	1464	38, 81	128	
191	1890	1639*	22	111						

House File Index

HF#	SF#	CH#	Highlights Page	Summary Page	HF#	SF#	CH#	Highlights Page	Summary Page
none	2234*	141	40	132	502	626*	161		114
1*	106	112		129	510	23*	196	36	104
6*	40	4	61	113	525*	404	48	59	126
7*	142	178	68	131	526	615*	174	60	127
14*	574	201	27	112	528*	1259	88	70	131
26*	29	2		101	536	464*	9		109
40*	25	83	43	121	541	436*	108	56	104
48	50*	21		105	544*	638	1	34	100
49*	162	12	54	125	564	609*	27	76	113
53	129*	74		102	566	673*	94	45	121
56*	90	23	56	120	578	84*	170	57	104
60*	591	156	44	121	583*	735	52		106
66	9*	165	60	126	585*	595	119	28	124
67*	32	77	21	109	595*	365	203	34	124
70*	197	148	17	110	598	369*	226		122
74	301*	14	44	120	610	649*	18		120
92*	397	124		104	614*	913	51	45	120
112	333*	244	17	112	621*	584	176	20	111
132*	1138	128	37	118	624	441*	218	20	112
133*	107	3	59	125	625	746*	195		127
137*	463	22	62	113	627*	616	89		126
139*	88	1	40	115	640*	488	39		120
142*	1634	98	20	109	643*	676	61	29	102
157*	379	16	67	131	645*	651	66		113
160	233*	184		104	661	832*	103	13	106
165	460*	25	69	131	673	1012*	115		126
171	121*	5	46	119	684	521*	134	55	106
174*	156	147	60	126	686	2044*	187	37	117
182	257*	75	29	126	718*	225	172	46	122
183*	144	32	36	102	719	757*	2	44	100
193	255*	24	18	109	726*	157	192	12	101
197	198*	72	16	109	732	99*	28	21	109
214*	241	8	45	120	733	117*	38	21	109
216*	237	50	22	109	735*	495	64	19	109
228	174*	233	18	112	743	171*	209	48	108
240*	236	49	21	109	751	768*	173	60	126
248*	324	7	10	105	766*	739	35	69	131
258	376*	145	61	126	777	851*	186		127
263	411*	142	21	110	790	778*	131	69	131
270*	470	130	54	106	793*	1497	78	13	106
302*	579	13	44	122	805	556*	183	56	127
346*	278	215	57	105	812	914*	19		105
356	73*	10	53	120	817	346*	219		105
358	685*	224	12	108	836*	833	85		103
359*	684	125	42	106	837*	1205	177		107
370	424*	6		101	841	881*	65		113
371*	461	155	59	126	853	1204*	185	42	117
379*	381	31		128	861	145*	220		117
382	343*	11		102	863	834*	122		104
384	836*	59	13	101	868*	866	76	21	109
408*	170	62	46	121	870	841*	181	53	107
413*	418	33	45	120	872*	682	87		123
414*	428	45	10, 77	101	877	1218*	107		124
420*	321	246		124	878*	1464	250	38, 81	128
426*	534	3	35	100	879	1636*	193	58	127
434	593*	20		101	893	1041*	110	13	101
438	407*	26		101	896	854*	96	58	126
453*	416	15	59	125	908	465*	69	61	126
454*	564	17		120	937	709*	232	12	118
462	303*	106	55, 76	103	949	383*	162	43	122
463*	578	84	44	121	960	829*	80	60	115
475*	517	30	59	125	963	486*	197	30	104
478	148*	212	54	108	982	984*	58		121
483	296*	123	28	112	984	983*	109	46	121
489	283*	118		104	989	1094*	171		104
492*	518	34	48	123	1003*	840	99	41	116

HF#	SF#	CH#	Highlights Page	Summary Page	HF#	SF#	CH#	Highlights Page	Summary Page
1008	1047*	160		107	1477	1541*	158	33	114
1015*	1064	237	29	127	1494*	none	208	19	105
1024*	1424	189		129	1507	1600*	70	70	131
1035	1017*	104		103	1538	1463*	113	60	126
1037*	950	86		103	1544	1609*	167	77	126
1046	1324*	93	70	131	1551	1762*	230	70	132
1051*	971	138	30	124	1553*	2078	126	40	110
1052	451*	105		101	1556*	2043	47		115
1066*	1190	53		106	1564	1715*	137		107
1077	319*	222	62	117	1565*	1677	46	61	115
1079*	1331	202	59	108	1568*	1209	135	42	116
1081	1404*	217	20	111	1607*	1674	175	22	111
1097	1188*	82	77	126	1613	1471*	150	49	124
1106*	1075	121	53	106	1621*	1734	235		115
1109	803*	57	38	113	1622	1368*	116		106
1112	1180*	164	28	110	1641	1645*	154	70	131
1119	1099*	210	45	122	1658	1268*	146	52	121
1122	1093*	190		104	1660*	1650	54	47	120
1125*	1087	111		109	1693	2017*	182		116
1126*	862	36	36	120	1707*	1602	127	19	110
1131	1115*	143	66	104	1708*	1675	120	55	106
1132*	1116	60		102	1714*	1693	63	46	121
1140	1329*	179	58	127	1728	1485*	213	29	108
1150	1182*	100	55	106	1778*	1785	228	67	108
1151	1176*	73	34	114	1809	1554*	68	24	123
1153	973*	71	56	102	1825*	1619	206	37	117
1161	480*	114	24	131	1845	1527*	101	28	112
1168	1144*	132	28	116	1848	1382*	194	20	111
1169	496*	117	10	110	1877	1721*	221	41	117
1171	98*	79	19	109	1890	1639*	191	22	111
1173	1605*	166	30	116	1905*	1993	129	40	116
1175	1330*	151		107	1910	1821*	211		124
1178*	1253	97	49	124	1932*	1607	236	54	108
1183	1060*	133		116	1933	1615*	152	53	121
1184	794*	43	63	106	1940*	1792	200	31	108
1195*	2029	229	49	105	1944	1470*	95	33	114
1216*	1391	55	46	120	1968*	1827	90	44	106
1235*	692	204	75	101	1975	1920*	91		116
1248	1528*	92		114	1986	1888*	42	71	131
1255	2120*	163	17	110	2010	2038*	168		107
1258*	487	37	56	102	2016	1831*	225		112
1265	1150*	44	69	131	2021	1539*	153	31	114
1286	1976*	198	31	127	2023	1746*	144	42	116
1289*	1109	207	18	108	2024	1660*	41		115
1301	1449*	157	34	114	2058	653*	227	41	105
1303	1219*	239		108	2127	1876*	248		130
1305*	1280	29	70	131	2205*	1058	240	10, 77	101
1309	1273*	102	46	121	2221	2052*	169	39	132
1310	184*	139	14	110	2333*	2242	241	25, 79	124
1336	727*	40	13	106	2337	1262*	234	57	105
1348	891*	188	58	127	2380*	2235	214	47, 82	123
1359*	1023	136	19	110	2386	2223*	242	76	128
1384	1357*	140		107	2387*	2217	238	67, 82	130
1393	1585*	159	53	122	2388	2226*	231	31, 79	112
1403	1173*	56		113	2390*	2227	223	22, 77, 78	123
1404	972*	81		114	2404	2221*	216	14, 78	111
1414*	1584	149	53	121	2412	2225*	245	50, 82	118
1421*	1239	67	46	121	2420*	1276	243	63, 77, 82	129
1426*	1651	247		122	2425*	2232	199		105
1430	1572*	180		114	2441	2224*	249		127
1467*	2222	205	35, 80	115					

Senate File Index

SF#	HF#	CH#	Highlights Page	Summary Page	SF#	HF#	CH#	Highlights Page	Summary Page
none	1494*	208	19	105	460*	165	25	69	131
9*	66	165	60	126	461	371*	155	59	126
23*	510	196	36	104	463	137*	22	62	113
25	40*	83	43	121	464*	536	9	109	109
29	26*	2		101	465*	908	69	61	126
32	67*	77	21	109	470	270*	130	54	106
40	6*	4	61	113	480*	1161	114	24	131
50*	48	21		105	486*	963	197	30	104
73*	356	10	53	120	487	1258*	37	56	102
84*	578	170	57	104	488	640*	39		120
88	139*	1	40	115	495	735*	64	19	109
90	56*	23	56	120	496*	1169	117	10	110
98*	1171	79	19	109	517	475*	30	59	125
99*	732	28	21	109	518	492*	34	48	123
106	1*	112		129	521*	684	134	55	106
107	133*	3	59	125	534	426*	3	35	100
117*	733	38	21	109	556*	805	183	56	127
121*	171	5	46	119	564	454*	17		120
129*	53	74		102	574	14*	201	27	112
142	7*	178	68	131	578	463*	84	44	121
144	183*	32	36	102	579	302*	13	44	122
145*	861	220		117	584	621*	176	20	111
148*	478	212	54	108	591	60*	156	44	121
156	174*	147	60	126	593*	434	20		101
157	726*	192	12	101	595	585*	119	28	124
162	49*	12	54	125	609*	564	27	76	113
170	408*	62	46	121	615*	526	174	60	127
171*	743	209	48	108	616	627*	89		126
174*	228	233	18	112	626*	502	161		114
184*	1310	139	14	110	638	544*	1	34	100
197	70*	148	17	110	649*	610	18		120
198*	197	72	16	109	651	645*	66		113
225	718*	172	46	122	653*	2058	227	41	105
233*	160	184		104	673*	566	94	45	121
236	240*	49	21	109	676	643*	61	29	102
237	216*	50	22	109	682	872*	87		123
241	214*	8	45	120	684	359*	125	42	106
255*	193	24	18	109	685*	358	224	12	108
257*	182	75	29	126	692	1235*	204	75	101
278	346*	215	57	105	709*	937	232	12	118
283*	489	118		104	727*	1336	40	13	106
296*	483	123	28	112	735	583*	52		106
301*	74	14	44	120	739	766*	35	69	131
303*	462	106	55, 76	103	746*	625	195		127
319*	1077	222	62	117	757*	719	2	44	100
321	420*	246		124	768*	751	173	60	126
324	248*	7	10	105	778*	790	131	69	131
333*	112	244	17	112	794*	1184	43	63	106
343*	382	11		102	803*	1109	57	38	113
346*	817	219		105	829*	960	80	60	115
365	595*	203	34	124	832*	661	103	13	106
369*	598	226		122	833	836*	85		103
376*	258	145	61	126	834*	863	122		104
379	157*	16	67	131	836*	384	59	13	101
381	379*	31		128	840	1003*	99	41	116
383*	949	162	43	122	841*	870	181	53	107
397	92*	124		104	851*	777	186		127
404	525*	48	59	126	854*	896	96	58	126
407*	438	26		101	862	1126*	36	36	120
411*	263	142	21	110	866	868*	76	21	109
416	453*	15	59	125	881*	841	65		113
418	413*	33	45	120	891*	1348	188	58	127
424*	370	6		101	913	614*	51	45	120
428	414*	45	10, 77	101	914*	812	19		105
436*	541	108	56	104	950	1037*	86		103
441*	624	218	20	112	971	1051*	138	30	124
451*	1052	105		101	972*	1404	81		114

**NEW LAWS
1999**

SF#	HF#	CH#	Highlights Page	Summary Page	SF#	HF#	CH#	Highlights Page	Summary Page
973*	1153	71	56	102	1539*	2021	153	31	114
983*	984	109	46	121	1541*	1477	158	33	114
984*	982	58		121	1554*	1809	68	24	123
1012*	673	115		126	1572*	1430	180		114
1017*	1035	104		103	1584	1414*	149	53	121
1023	1359*	136	19	110	1585*	1393	159	53	122
1041*	893	110	13	101	1600*	1507	70	70	131
1047*	1008	160		107	1602	1707*	127	19	110
1058	2205*	240	10, 77	101	1605*	1173	166	30	116
1060*	1183	133		116	1607	1932*	236	54	108
1064	1015*	237	29	127	1609*	1544	167	77	126
1075	1106*	121	53	106	1615*	1933	152	53	121
1087	1125*	111		109	1619	1825*	206	37	117
1093*	1122	190		104	1634	142*	98	20	109
1094*	989	171		104	1636*	879	193	58	127
1099*	1119	210	45	122	1639*	1890	191	22	111
1109	1289*	207	18	108	1645*	1641	154	70	131
1115*	1131	143	66	104	1650	1660*	54	47	120
1116	1132*	60		102	1651	1426*	247		122
1138	132*	128	37	118	1660*	2024	41		115
1144*	1168	132	28	116	1674	1607*	175	22	111
1150*	1265	44	69	131	1675	1708*	120	55	106
1173*	1403	56		113	1677	1565*	46	61	115
1176*	1151	73	34	114	1693	1714*	63	46	121
1180*	1112	164	28	110	1715*	1564	137		107
1182*	1150	100	55	106	1721*	1877	221	41	117
1188*	1097	82	77	126	1734	1621*	235		115
1190	1066*	53		106	1746*	2023	144	42	116
1204*	853	185	42	117	1762*	1551	230	70	132
1205	837*	177		107	1785	1778*	228	67	108
1209	1568*	135	42	116	1792	1940*	200	31	108
1218*	877	107		124	1821*	1910	211		124
1219*	1303	239		108	1827	1968*	90	44	106
1239	1421*	67	46	121	1831*	2016	225		112
1253	1178*	97	49	124	1876*	2127	248		130
1259	528*	88	70	131	1888*	1986	42	71	131
1262*	2337	234	57	105	1920*	1975	91		116
1268*	1658	146	52	121	1976*	1286	198	31	127
1273*	1309	102	46	121	1993	1905*	129	40	116
1276	2420*	243	63, 77, 82	129	2017*	1693	182		116
1280	1305*	29	70	131	2029	1195*	229	49	105
1324*	1046	93	70	131	2038*	2010	168		107
1329*	1140	179	58	127	2043	1556*	47		115
1330*	1175	151		107	2044*	686	187	37	117
1331	1079*	202	59	108	2052*	2221	169	39	132
1357*	1384	140		107	2078	1553*	126	40	110
1368*	1622	116		106	2120*	1255	163	17	110
1382*	1848	194	20	111	2217	2387*	238	67, 82	130
1391	1216*	55	46	120	2221*	2404	216	14, 78	111
1404*	1081	217	20	111	2222	1467*	205	35, 80	115
1424	1024*	189		129	2223*	2386	242	76	128
1449*	1301	157	34	114	2224*	2441	249		127
1463*	1538	113	60	126	2225*	2412	245	50, 82	118
1464	878*	250	38, 81	128	2226*	2388	231	31, 79	112
1470*	1944	95	33	114	2227	2390*	223	22, 77, 78	123
1471*	1613	150	49	124	2232	2425*	199		105
1485*	1728	213	29	108	2234*	none	141	40	132
1497	793*	78	13	106	2235	2380*	214	47, 82	123
1527*	1845	101	28	112	2242	2333*	241	25, 79	124
1528*	1248	92		114					

Effective Date Index

Effective Date	Title	HF#	SF#	CH#	Highlights Page	Summary Page
7/1/97 (retroactive)	Marriage dissolution summary process revival.	1258*	487	37	56	102
1/1/99 (retroactive)	Nonregistered pesticide distribution permitted for certain uses outside the state.	370	424*	6		101
2/18/99	Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board member qualifications specified.	139*	88	1	40	115
3/16/99	Emergency medical services volunteer ambulance attendant definition.	214*	241	8	45	120
3/16/99	Program for persons with functional limitations eligibility criteria modification.	356	73*	10	53	120
3/17/99	Peace officers or firefighters killed in line of duty spouse health insurance coverage.	49*	162	12	54	125
3/19/99	Minneapolis skilled workers and apprentices deferred compensation plan participation.	453*	416	15	59	125
3/19/99	Laura Ingalls Wilder Historic Highway route modification.	157*	379	16	67	131
3/19/99	Nursing home administrators sharing authority expansion.	454*	564	17		120
3/26/99	St. Cloud Paramount Arts District regional arts center grant recipient change.	434	593*	20		101
3/26/99	Legislative Electric Energy Task Force membership modification.	812	914*	19		105
3/30/99	Emergency telephone (911) calls interference crime expansion.	193	255*	24	18	109
3/30/99	McLeod West School District #2887; secondary educational facility grant.	438	407*	26		101
3/5/99	Minneapolis and St. Paul residency requirements repealed.	133*	107	3	59	125
3/5/99	Snowmobile metal traction device use restrictions modified.	6*	40	4	61	113
3/9/99	Health-related licensing board licensees infection control.	171	121*	5	46	119
4/1/99	Commercial motor vehicle disqualification and violations modifications.	1046	1324*	93	70	131
4/13/99	Minnesota State University, Mankato authorized to construct the Taylor Center multipurpose facility.	492*	518	34	48	123
4/13/99	Motorcycle blue lights display.	766*	739	35	69	131
4/13/99	Family day care licensure child age groupings definitions.	1126*	862	36	36	120
4/13/99	Contracts continuity under European currency.	1336	727*	40	13	106
4/13/99	Pseudorabies control continuation appropriation and vaccine reimbursement requirement.	414*	428	45	10, 77	101
4/16/99	Scott County Blue Lake wastewater treatment plant water use permit approval.	1403	1173*	56		113
4/16/99	Food handlers licensing period and fee modifications for state operators.	384	836*	59	13	101
4/17/99	All persons under civil commitment status provided the same legal rights.	643*	676	61	29	102
4/2/99	Town officers or employees criminal charges defense costs reimbursement.	475*	517	30	59	125
4/21/99	Podiatry temporary permits extension.	1421*	1239	67	46	121
4/21/99	Bloomington Housing and Redevelopment Authority surplus state land purchase.	960	829*	80	60	115
4/23/99	Nursing home residents allowed to request the use of restraints.	40*	25	83	43	121
4/23/99	Ambulance services and first responders health care review.	463*	578	84	44	121
4/23/99	Revisor's bill.	1037*	950	86		103
4/24 (Sec. 3); 8/1 (Secs. 1, 2)	State archaeologist position appointment process modification.	1975	1920*	91		116
4/24/99	Construction contracts environmental liability modifications.	872*	682	87		123
4/24/99	Medicare supplemental insurance regulation provisions modifications.	1968*	1827	90	44	106
4/24/99	Counties, cities, or towns lawful land uses termination prohibition.	896	854*	96	58	126
4/24/99	Agricultural assistance and tax relief.	1*	106	112		129
4/25/99	Harmful exotic species provisions modifications.	1248	1528*	92		114
4/27/99	Legislative Audit Commission modifications.	1003*	840	99	41	116
4/27/99	Nursing home administrators licensing and examiners board modifications.	1309	1273*	102	46	121
4/28/99	Small company securities offering registration modifications.	661	832*	103	13	106
4/28/99	Emergency telephone service (911) dispatchers liability immunity.	541	436*	108	56	104
5/5/99	Isle School District grant modification.	585*	595	119	28	124
5/7/99	DWI implied consent law modified.	92*	397	124		104
5/7/99	Public Utilities Commission powers expansion.	359*	684	125	42	106
5/8/99	Increasing maximum benefits for Minnesota Comprehensive Health Association.	270*	470	130	54	106
5/8/99 (Sec. 2); 8/1/99 (Sec. 1)	Vehicles security interests release time reduced.	790	778*	131	69	131
5/12/99 (Secs. 2, 3); 8/1/99 (Secs. 1, 4-8)	Public utilities energy conservation improvement program modified.	1384	1357*	140		107
5/12/99	State departments deficiency appropriations.	none	2234*	141	40	132
5/12/99	Delinquent taxes collection legal actions process modified.	1131	1115*	143	66	104
5/12/99	Paynesville area hospital district Richmond annexation authority.	174*	156	147	60	126
5/14/99	Mental retardation day training payment rate structure task force.	1933	1615*	152	53	121
5/14/99	Garnishment, attachment, or levy of execution exemption for Roth IRAs.	1008	1047*	160		107
5/14/99	Juvenile court habitual truants jurisdiction extension.	1112	1180*	164	28	110
5/14/99	Police civil service commissions abolishment by city council vote.	66	9*	165	60	126
5/14/99 (Secs. 2, 3); 8/1/99 (Secs. 1, 4)	Milk transporters seasonal highway weight restrictions exemption.	1641	1645*	154	70	131
5/18/99	Seat belt use evidence admissibility clarification.	462	303*	106	55, 76	103
5/18/99	Workers compensation commercial self insurance group provisions modifications.	2010	2038*	168		107
5/18/99	Payment of claims against the state; Lake Willis elevation control determination.	2221	2052*	169	39	132
5/19/99	Tribal peace officers law enforcement authority.	1607*	1674	175	22	111
5/20/99	Public employment provisions modifications.	1693	2017*	182		116
5/22/99	Local government units corporations expiration date elimination.	777	851*	186		127
5/22/99	Dice games in licensed liquor establishments.	686	2044*	187	37	117
5/22/99	Criminal offenders rehabilitation law exemption for taxicab drivers.	1890	1639*	191	22	111

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5/22/99; retroactive with exceptions (Sec. 1)	Public service corporations private property easements description requirements.	160	233*	184		104
5/22/99 (Sec. 2);						
8/1/99 (Sec. 1)	State building code fire safety enforcement authority.	853	1204*	185	42	117
5/22/99 (Sec. 3);						
8/1/99 (Secs. 1, 2, 4-7)	Bonding authority allocation provisions modifications.	1024*	1424	189		129
5/25/99	DWI enhanced gross misdemeanor provisions repealed.	1848	1382*	194	20	111
5/25/99	Renewable energy development funding requirements modified.	1940*	1792	200	31	108
5/25/99	Persons convicted of criminal sexual conduct ineligible to become teachers.	14*	574	201	27	112
5/25/99 (Secs. 1, 3, 9);						
8/1/99 (Secs. 2, 4-8)	Public employees labor agreements and compensation plans ratified.	1877	1721*	221	41	117
5/25/99 (Sec. 1);						
upon local approval (Sec. 2)	Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board authorized to distribute and sell electric power.	1286	1976*	198	31	127
5/25/99 (Sec. 2);						
8/1/99 (Sec. 1)	Mortgage flipping educational campaign provided money.	743	171*	209	48	108
5/25/99 with exceptions	Omnibus gambling bill.	1825*	1619	206	37	117
5/26/99	Coin-operated telephones deregulated.	358	685*	224	12	108
5/26/99	State government telecommunications pricing plan provided.	1778*	1785	228	67	108
5/26/99	Tenant screening report requirements modified.	1195*	2029	229	49	105
5/26/99	Year 2000 consumer protection act.	2337	1262*	234	57	105
5/26/99	Omnibus bonding bill.	2205*	1058	240	10, 77	101
5/26/99 (Sec. 5);						
8/1/99 (Secs. 1-4)	Sex offender registration and community notification laws expanded.	228	174*	233	18	112
7/1/99	Mortgage registry and deed taxes technical corrections and administrative changes.	379*	381	31		128
7/1/99	Sex offender registration plea negotiation modified.	1707*	1602	127	19	110
7/1/99	Governor veto authority over state agency rules.	1905*	1993	129	40	116
7/1/99	State building and energy code provisions modified.	1568*	1209	135	42	116
7/1/99	Health maintenance organizations home care providers prompt payment.	1658	1268*	146	52	121
7/1/99	Midwifery practice regulation.	949	383*	162	43	122
7/1/99	Child and medical support order administrative process repealed.	510	23*	196	36	104
7/1/99	Landlord and tenant law recodified.	2425*	2232	199		105
7/1/99	Omnibus family and early childhood education bill.	1467*	2222	205	35, 80	115
7/1/99 (Sec. 1);						
8/1/99 (Secs. 2, 3)	Leased lakeshore lot exchange or sale provisions modified.	1430	1572*	180		114
7/1/99 (Secs. 1-17);						
8/1/99 (Secs. 18, 19)	Advanced practice registered nursing regulation.	718*	225	172	46	122
8/1/99	Carisoprodol classification as controlled substance effective date delay.	536	464*	9		109
8/1/99	Ambulance services shared service purchasing.	302*	579	13	44	122
8/1/99	Health care directive form modification.	74	301*	14	44	120
8/1/99	Public utilities performance based natural gas purchasing plans sunset repeal.	48	50*	21		105
8/1/99	Safe drinking water act public water supply definition modification.	610	649*	18		120
8/1/99	Collector watercraft license numbers and display requirements exemption.	137*	463	22	62	113
8/1/99	Health care provider actions statute of limitations modification.	56*	90	23	56	120
8/1/99	Special disability license plates for modified motor vehicles.	165	460*	25	69	131
8/1/99	Minors voluntary admission and treatment parental consent modified.	183*	144	32	36	102
8/1/99	Physicians, acupuncturists, and athletic trainers licensing and registration requirements modifications.	413*	418	33	45	120
8/1/99	Criminal offenders costs payment for failure to appear after release.	732	99*	28	21	109
8/1/99	Criminal offenders restitution challenge hearing requests time limit.	733	117*	38	21	109
8/1/99	State Advisory Council on Mental Health membership requirements modification.	640*	488	39		120
8/1/99	Government Innovation and Cooperation Board rules exemptions.	2024	1660*	41		115
8/1/99	Otter Tail veterans memorial drive designation.	1986	1888*	42	71	131
8/1/99	One call excavation notice system requirements modifications.	1184	794*	43	63	106
8/1/99	Rural residential districts speed limit.	1265	1150*	44	69	131
8/1/99	Eligibility expanded for certain state military service.	1565*	1677	46	61	115
8/1/99	Extending the civil service pilot project in the Housing Finance Agency.	1556*	2043	47		115
8/1/99	DWI investigations county sheriff contingent funds use.	240*	236	49	21	109
8/1/99	County prisoners transfer authority clarification.	216*	237	50	22	109
8/1/99	Community integrated service networks net worth reserve corridor increase and utilization review.	614*	913	51	45	120
8/1/99	Township mutual insurance companies authorized investments expansion.	583*	735	52		106
8/1/99	Township mutual insurance companies territories of operation regulation modifications.	1066*	1190	53		106
8/1/99	Nonprofit organizations human diseases research personnel unlawful practice of medicine exemption.	1660*	1650	54	47	120
8/1/99	Chiropractors licensed in other states practical examination requirement modification.	1216*	1391	55	46	120
8/1/99	St. Louis River estuary fishing guide license requirement.	1109	803*	57	38	113
8/1/99	Psychological test results release regulation.	982	984*	58		121
8/1/99	Delinquent real estate taxes duplicate publication copies filing requirement.	1132*	1116	60		102
8/1/99	Pharmacy practice definition modification.	408*	170	62	46	121
8/1/99	Pharmacists to pharmacy technicians ratio requirements waiver.	1714*	1693	63	46	121

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8/1/99	Crime of adulteration scope expansion and penalty increases.	735*	495	64	19	109
8/1/99	Stearns, Benton, and Sherburne counties regional parks and trails plan.	841	881*	65		113
8/1/99	Water and wastewater treatment system modifications.	645*	651	66		113
8/1/99	Duluth Seaway Port Authority new name.	1809	1554*	68	24	123
8/1/99	County recorders minimum security deposits requirement authority.	908	465*	69	61	126
8/1/99	Motor vehicle registration requirements modified.	1507	1600*	70	70	131
8/1/99	Juror compensation system study.	1153	973*	71	56	102
8/1/99	Criminal trials closing arguments rebuttal limits elimination.	197	198*	72	16	109
8/1/99	Waste Management Act technical modification.	1151	1176*	73	34	114
8/1/99	Statutory cities special elections to fill office vacancies.	182	257*	75	29	126
8/1/99	Crime of theft expansion to personal property rental.	868*	866	76	21	109
8/1/99	Killing or injuring a search and rescue dog provided felony penalties.	67*	32	77	21	109
8/1/99	Rental motor vehicle lien and right of detainer.	793*	1497	78	13	106
8/1/99	Crime victims' and witnesses' birth dates confidentiality.	1171	98*	79	19	109
8/1/99	Migratory waterfowl refuge designation.	1404	972*	81		114
8/1/99	Underground fuel storage tanks specifications requirements.	528*	1259	88	70	131
8/1/99	Health plans network shadow contracting restriction.	566	673*	94	45	121
8/1/99	Paul Bunyan State Trail route modification.	1944	1470*	95	33	114
8/1/99	Landlords prelease deposits acceptance regulation.	1178*	1253	97	49	124
8/1/99	Subsequent controlled substance conviction definition expanded.	142*	1634	98	20	109
8/1/99	Funeral or burial insurance sales restrictions eliminated.	1150	1182*	100	55	106
8/1/99	Convicted sexual offenders prohibited from school board candidacy.	1845	1527*	101	28	112
8/1/99	Marriage dissolution summonses alternative dispute resolution requirements.	1035	1017*	104		103
8/1/99	Uniform Commercial Code agricultural crops financing modifications.	1052	451*	105		101
8/1/99	Psychologists licensing and regulation provisions.	984	983*	109	46	121
8/1/99	Warehouse operators regulations modified.	893	1041*	110	13	101
8/1/99	Local correctional fees imposition responsibility transferred.	1125*	1087	111		109
8/1/99	Towns capital reserve funds.	1538	1463*	113	60	129
8/1/99	Port authorities revenue retention.	1161	480*	114	24	131
8/1/99	Certain professions payment requirements exemption.	1622	1368*	116		106
8/1/99	Financial institution search warrants extension.	1169	496*	117	10	110
8/1/99	Civil commitment procedures modified.	489	283*	118		104
8/1/99	FAIR plan modifications.	1708*	1675	120	55	106
8/1/99	Insurers restricted from using HIV vaccine information.	1106*	1075	121	53	106
8/1/99	Putative fathers adoption registry modified.	863	834*	122		104
8/1/99	Department of Corrections conditional release and other provisions modified.	1553*	2078	126	40	110
8/1/99	Nursing home bingo game regulation modified.	132*	1138	128	37	118
8/1/99	Elections provisions modified.	1168	1144*	132	28	116
8/1/99	Secretary of state records provisions modified.	1183	1060*	133		116
8/1/99	Certain no-fault insurance benefits to cover translation services.	684	521*	134	55	106
8/1/99	Crime victims unclaimed restitution payments requirements.	1359*	1023	136	19	110
8/1/99	Employment and training programs information collection and report.	1051*	971	138	30	124
8/1/99	Juvenile delinquency and child protection provisions recodified.	1310	184*	139	14	110
8/1/99	Crime of counterfeited intellectual property.	263	411*	142	21	110
8/1/99	Occupational regulation legislation supporting documentation requirement.	2023	1746*	144	42	116
8/1/99	Certain sanitary districts' board members per diems increased.	258	376*	145	61	126
8/1/99	Law enforcement agencies forfeited firearms sale and use authority.	70*	197	148	17	110
8/1/99	Deaf and hard-of-hearing services division provisions modified.	1414*	1584	149	53	121
8/1/99	Tenant screening fee limits.	1613	1471*	150	49	124
8/1/99	Senior center, youth center, and historical work appropriations approval requirements.	371*	461	155	59	126
8/1/99	Medical assistance reimbursement for spousal private duty nursing.	60*	591	156	44	121
8/1/99	State park additions, deletions, and name changes provided.	1301	1449*	157	34	114
8/1/99	Environmental improvement pilot program modified and made permanent.	1477	1541*	158	33	114
8/1/99	Human services technical changes.	1393	1585*	159	53	122
8/1/99	Gamma hydroxybutyrate as controlled substance.	1255	2120*	163	17	110
8/1/99	Firefighters arbitration procedure.	1173	1605*	166	30	116
8/1/99	Nonconsensual common law liens regulation for public officials and employees protection purposes.	578	84*	170	57	104
8/1/99	Uniform probate code and guardian and conservator nomination provisions modifications.	989	1094*	171		104
8/1/99	Ramsey County personnel process modification.	751	768*	173	60	126
8/1/99	Arson provisions expansion.	621*	584	176	20	111
8/1/99	Cities amusement machines license fee limit.	1140	1329*	179	58	127
8/1/99	Small employers alternative health benefit plans.	870	841*	181	53	107
8/1/99	Municipal power agencies liability provisions modifications.	805	556*	183	56	127
8/1/99	Local government units snow and ice accumulations tort liability exemption clarification.	1348	891*	188	58	127
8/1/99	Civil mediation proceedings settlement agreements effect modification.	1122	1093*	190		104
8/1/99	Local government units capital improvement projects state assistance standards.	726*	157	192	12	101
8/1/99	Local units of government regulatory relief provided.	879	1636*	193	58	127

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8/1/99	Grand Rapids Township authorized to hold November elections.	625	746*	195		127
8/1/99	Firefighter previous employment background investigations authorized.	963	486*	197	30	104
8/1/99	Criminal forfeiture provisions modified.	2016	1831*	225		112
8/1/99	Physician assistants disaster care authority.	598	369*	226		122
8/1/99	Providing alcohol to underage persons provided increased penalties.	1289*	1109	207	18	108
8/1/99	State economically disadvantaged area business preferences award increase.	937	709*	232	12	118
8/1/99	Prohibited inmate actions to include challenging employee assignments.	1494*	none	208	19	105
8/1/99	Nursing assistants educational requirements modified.	1119	1099*	210	45	122
8/1/99	Structured insurance settlement payment rights and agreements protected.	478	148*	212	54	108
8/1/99	Architecture, engineering, and other professional design board provisions modified.	1728	1485*	213	29	108
8/1/99	Court reporting freelance services regulated.	346*	278	215	57	105
8/1/99	Minnesota Pollution Control Agency judicial review provisions modified.	1621*	1734	235		115
8/1/99	Rental vehicle insurance coverage regulated.	1932*	1607	236	54	108
8/1/99	Election redistricting provided.	1015*	1064	237	29	127
8/1/99	Pornographic work depicting minors provided criminal penalties.	1081	1404*	217	20	111
8/1/99	Fraudulent use of another's identity provided felony penalties.	112	333*	244	17	112
8/1/99	Dishonored check pretrial diversion program authorized.	624	441*	218	20	112
8/1/99	Relative ex parte temporary child custody provisions expanded.	817	346*	219		105
8/1/99	Election campaign finance and ethics provisions modified.	861	145*	220		117
8/1/99	Health department provisions modified.	1426*	1651	247		122
8/1/99 with qualifications	Mississippi education center previous grantee changed to city of Grand Rapids.	26*	29	2		101
1/1/00	Uniform Child Custody Jurisdiction and Enforcement Act modifications.	53	129*	74		102
n/a	Resolution for Minnesota/Ontario border lakes trade agreements violation resolution.	544*	638	Res. 1	34	100
n/a	Resolution to prohibit federal recoupment of state tobacco settlement recoveries.	719	757*	Res. 2	44	100
n/a	Resolution for Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness management facilitation.	426*	534	Res. 3	35	100
upon local approval	Crooked Lake detached banking facility.	248*	324	7	10	105
upon local approval	Kenyon Trunk Highway #56 relocation easements transfer.	1305*	1280	29	70	131
upon local approval	Itasca County road and bridge money authority.	673	1012*	115		126
upon local approval	Brooklyn Park housing improvement area authority modified.	420*	321	246		124
upon local compliance	Anoka County dangerous dog registration system administration responsibility.	525*	404	48	59	126
upon local compliance	Washington County Housing and Redevelopment Authority commissioners term modification.	627*	616	89		126
upon local compliance (Sec. 1); 5/19/99 (Sec. 2)	Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board employees provisions modified.	526	615*	174	60	127
various	Real estate provisions modifications.	382	343*	11		102
various	Business corporations regulation provisions modifications.	836*	833	85		103
various	Re-employment insurance housekeeping changes.	877	1218*	107		124
various	Special education provisions modified.	483	296*	123	28	112
various	Department of Commerce enforcement bill.	1564	1715*	137		107
various	Department of Commerce banking bill.	1175	1330*	151		107
various	Vertical heat exchanger contractors licensing and regulation.	2021	1539*	153	31	114
various	Wabasha County tax-forfeited land sale.	502	626*	161		114
various	Various technical and policy changes relating to insurance.	837*	1205	177		107
various	Metropolitan area motor vehicle emission control inspection program termination.	7*	142	178	68	131
various	Statewide and local pension plans modified.	1077	319*	222	62	117
various	Omnibus economic development appropriations bill.	2390*	2227	223	22, 77, 78	123
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various	Government data classification and dissemination provisions clarified.	2058	653*	227	41	105
various	Above ground storage tank reimbursements authorized.	595*	365	203	34	124
various	Omnibus environment, natural resources, and agriculture appropriations bill.	2388	2226*	231	31, 79	112
various	Housing program provisions modified.	1910	1821*	211		124
various	Omnibus higher education finance bill.	2380*	2235	214	47, 82	123
various	Omnibus transportation appropriations bill.	2387*	2217	238	67, 82	130
various	Health plan companies uniform complaint resolution processes modified.	1303	1219*	239		108
various	Omnibus K-12 education policy and appropriations bill.	2333*	2242	241	25, 79	124
various	Omnibus crime prevention and judiciary finance bill.	2404	2221*	216	14, 78	111
various	Omnibus tax bill.	2420*	1276	243	63, 77, 82	129
various	Omnibus health and human services appropriations bill.	2412	2225*	245	50, 82	118
various	Public debt use limitations and conditions modified.	2127	1876*	248		130
various	Revisor's bill.	2441	2224*	249		127
various	Omnibus state departments appropriations bill.	878*	1464	250	38, 81	128
various	Transportation and highway provisions modified.	1551	1762*	230	70	132
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veto	Uniform municipal contracting law dollar limit increases.	1097	1188*	82	77	126
veto	Local government units joint contracts joint powers agreement requirements exemption.	1544	1609*	167	77	126
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