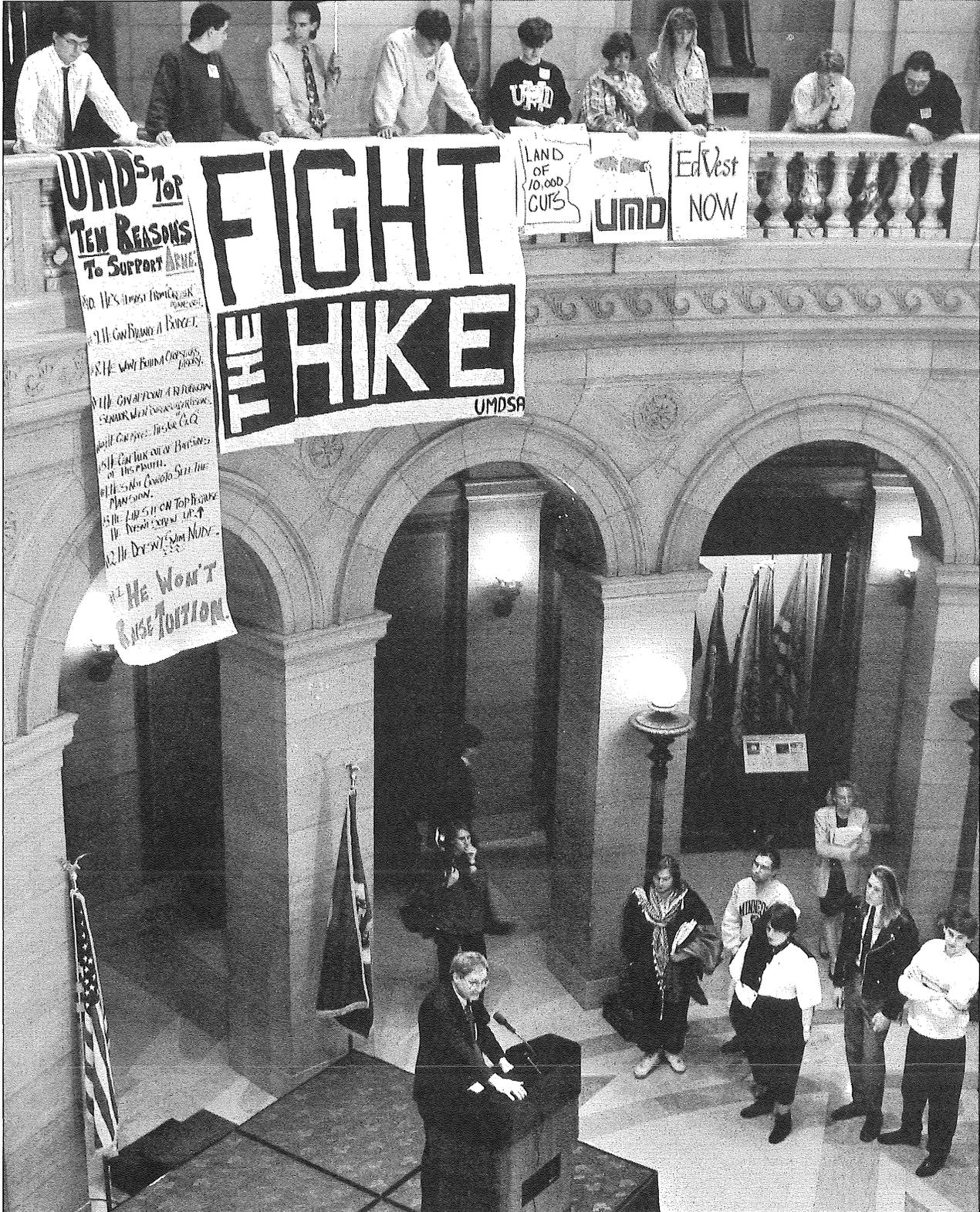
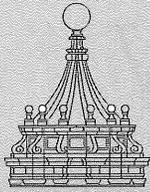


Session Weekly

Minnesota House of Representatives • February 22, 1991 • Volume 8, Number 7





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To subscribe, contact:
Minnesota House of Representatives
Public Information Office
175 State Office Building
St. Paul, MN 55155
(612) 296-2146 or 1-800-657-3550

Acting Public Information Officer:
David R. Cummiskey

Editor:
Peg Hamerston

Assistant Editor:
Grant Moos

Writers:
Robert DeBoer, Martha Johnson,
Dave Price, Beverly Smith,
Andris Straumanis, John T. Tschida,
Joan Wadkins

Art & Production Coordinator:
Paul Battaglia

Photographers:
Tom Olmscheid, Laura Phillips,
Andrew VonBank

Committee Schedule:
Terrie Gimpel

Staff Assistants:
Sondra Elliott, A.-Scott Hobbs,
Tonie Lissimore



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Flashback

The honeymoon's over. Within minutes of releasing his long-awaited budget proposal for the next two-year spending cycle, House and Senate leaders minced no words when it came to Gov. Arne Carlson's plan.

House Speaker Robert Vanasek called it a "budgetary Nightmare on Elm Street," and Senate Majority Leader Roger Moe said it changes the "Minnesota Miracle into the Minnesota Betrayal."

Their tones seemed markedly different from just a few short weeks ago when the Legislature quickly approved Carlson's budget for the current biennium.

But the reaction this week was much more in keeping with what might be expected when you have an Independent-Republican governor and a DFL-controlled Legislature. If there's really to be a revolution in the way state government operates, someone's got to scream.

It was 20 years ago that the Legislature met in a record-long 159-day special session throughout the summer and fall of 1971. But the result was the so-called Minnesota Miracle that revolutionized Minnesota government by channeling state funds back to communities to level the state's economic playing field. It was hailed across the nation and even landed then-Gov. Wendell Anderson and a fish on the cover of *Time* magazine.

But such major political overhauls don't come easy. So it's not surprising there should be such a spirited outcry when the attempt is made to partially dismantle the system by slashing state aid to counties and cities.

No one has suggested that Carlson be burned at the stake or thrown in a vat to see if he sinks or floats. But there have been a few other ideas tossed around the Capitol, as is the custom with politics.

That's not surprising. Even Carlson has said an outcry is to be expected the moment deep budget cuts are proposed. When Galileo publicized the idea that the sun — not the earth — is at the center of the universe, he was placed under house arrest.

But unlike Galileo, Carlson carries a big (veto) stick to defend himself against his inquisitors. Should he use it, the 159-day special session record may be in jeopardy. And that will certainly be no honeymoon for anyone.

—Grant Moos

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On the cover: Addressing the concerns of college students gathered in the Capitol rotunda Feb. 20, Rep. Lyndon Carlson speaks beneath several banners calling for no tuition hikes. The governor's budget calls for an increase in student tuition contribution.

—photo by Laura Phillips

Highlights

Budget

Carlson budget

Gov. Arne Carlson Feb. 20 unveiled his 1991-93 budget recommendations to the Legislature, labeling the package "a blueprint for the future" which will significantly restructure government spending while still providing for the state's neediest citizens.

Carlson is calling for a \$958 million reduction in spending during the next two years, including cuts of \$538 million from aid to city and county governments, \$173 million in human development programs, and \$69 million in higher education funding.

Despite the broad cuts in some programs, the governor says the budget plan reflects his priorities to bolster children-at-risk programs, grade school and high school education, the environment, and economic development.

"This budget is driven by a desire to make Minnesota competitive with other states," the governor told lawmakers during his joint address to the House and Senate.

"It's driven by a desire to create more and more job opportunities. And it's driven by what I think is much clearer understanding of the taxpayer. This budget is a taxpayers' budget."

In all, Carlson is proposing \$14.5 billion in state spending during the next two years, a 2 percent increase over the current biennium.

The proposal balances the projected \$1.2 billion revenue shortfall without using the state's \$550 million budget reserve fund, and would not boost the state sales tax or income taxes for a majority of state residents.

But it would increase income taxes for some people earning more than \$100,000 per year by bringing Minnesotans into compliance with federal tax laws. And it would also raise so-called "sin taxes" on cigarettes and liquor.

DFL legislative leaders immediately



Lt. Governor Joann Dyrstad shared the spotlight Feb. 20, delivering a portion of the governor's budget address.

jumped on many portions of the Carlson proposal, predicting property taxes could climb 30 percent or more just to make up for the cuts in local aids.

Even his plans for educational funding, which would rise by \$737 million in 1991-93, came under fire. House Education Committee Chair Bob McEachern (DFL-Maple Lake) says much of the increase is "smoke and mirrors," and would barely cover the cost of educating additional students expected to enter Minnesota schools in the next two years.

"During the last campaign, Carlson promised Minnesotans a house on Fantasy Island," House Speaker Robert Vanasek (DFL-New Prague) said following Carlson's address. "Today, he wants to move us into a budgetary Nightmare on Elm Street."

DFLers will take their opposition on the road next week with public hearings in Alexandria, Moorhead, Mankato, Worthington, Rochester, and Duluth. "The governor has invited us to join him in a dialogue [on the budget]," says Senate Majority Leader Roger Moe (DFL-Erskine). "We intend to invite a lot more people in to do just that."

Here's a brief breakdown of the impact the Carlson budget would have should the Legislature approve it:

Higher education

Students will be expected to pay a larger share of their college education under Gov. Arne Carlson's budget proposal.

The proposal calls for student tuition to pay, on average, 37 percent of higher education costs — up from its current level of 33 percent.

But at the same time, the plan also recommends colleges to hold tuition hikes to the rate of inflation, or a total of about 7 percent over the next two years.

Funding for the state's four college systems would be trimmed by about 2.5 percent during the next two years.

Funding for the University of Minnesota, the State University System, community colleges, technical colleges, and other higher education programs in 1991-93 would be trimmed by about \$69 million from current levels.

Carlson's plan also calls for creating a commission to examine the missions of

each of the higher education systems and to suggest ways to eliminate duplication and further reduce costs — possibly by merging programs, campuses, or even entire systems.

The governor intends to put some teeth into the commission by withholding 10 percent of a system's funding if it does not comply with the commission's recommendations.

Carlson's plan would also shift to the state's general fund \$47.4 million in lottery proceeds now dedicated to help finance campus building projects.

K-12 education

One of the few perceived winners in the 1991-93 budget are grade schools and high schools, but largely because they don't receive any cuts.

Under the budget proposal, the state's per-pupil funding formula would increase to \$3,050 per grade school student, up \$97, for the 1991-92 school year. There is no per-pupil increase budgeted in 1992-93.

But the plan would reduce the weighted funding formula for secondary school students from its current 135 percent to 130 percent. This would actually result in a slight dip in the per-student funding for high schools, down from its current \$3,986 to \$3,965 in the next two school years.

Funding for early childhood programs, such as Head Start, and some teacher

development programs, would go up. The budget plan also includes added incentives for schools to initiate site-based management programs at individual schools, and attempts to equalize some of the disparities in the amount of money local districts can appropriate through tax levies.

Carlson's plan represents a 7 percent increase over current funding levels for K-12 education. But some educators and DFLers say funding essentially will remain constant because many new students will be going to school.

They say the \$737 million increase won't be nearly enough to handle the 70,000 new students expected to enter Minnesota's schools during the next two years. They predict the proposed funding levels will result in salary freezes or layoffs for many teachers.

Carlson is also being criticized for proposing that local school districts take on a greater portion of their operating expenses. The budget plan suggests districts statewide increase their general revenue levies 5 percent for taxes due in 1993.

Environment

The Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund will continue to receive 40 percent of funds raised from the Minnesota lottery, thanks, in part, to a constitutional amendment.

But other environmental programs relying on dedicated funding, such as a portion of the cigarette tax directed to the Legislative Commission on Minnesota Resources (LCMR) budget, will be phased out under Gov. Arne Carlson's budget proposal.

This cigarette tax raises about \$17 million every two years for environmental programs.

Carlson's budget does, however, call for \$50 million in state bonding to finance the wetlands preservation bill (HF1) proposed by Rep. Willard Munger (DFL-Duluth).

Carlson has said he supports the "basic regulatory framework" of HF1, and advocates a \$5 million annual increase in water user fees in conjunction with the program.

The proposed budget also calls on the newly established Commission on

Reform and Efficiency to examine and recommend possible consolidation of agencies that oversee environmental concerns.

Currently, the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA), the Office of Waste Management, the Department of Natural Resources, the Board of Soil and Water Resources, and the Environmental Quality Board are all components of the state environmental equation. Duplication of efforts within these departments has been cited as a chief concern.

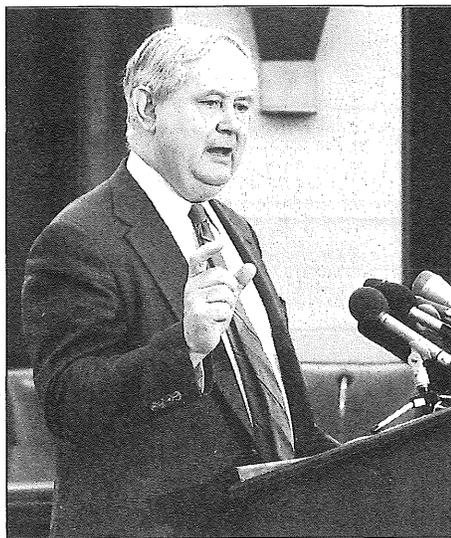
The proposal does call for one immediate change in the delivery of MPCA services, however. Carlson's budget calls for a transfer of 60 employees to regional MPCA field offices to improve monitoring and services.

Economic development

Several economic development programs, including the Greater Minnesota Corporation and the World Trade Center, would sustain substantial cuts or be eliminated under Gov. Arne Carlson's budget plan.

The Greater Minnesota Corporation would be trimmed a third of its total funding, or \$12 million, in the next two-year spending cycle. The World Trade Center would lose its entire \$2.2 million appropriation.

The Department of Trade and Economic Development (DTED) would see a 26 percent reduction, or a cut of \$19.5



Minority Leader Terry Dempsey voices his support for the governor's budget at a Feb. 20 press conference.



Speaker of the House Robert Vanasek outlines his problems with the Carlson proposal following Wednesday's budget address.

million, in its budget. Its two-year appropriation would be trimmed to \$56.4 million from \$75.9 million.

That proposed cut brought a strong reaction from Rep. Phyllis Kahn (DFL-Mpls), who accused Gov. Arne Carlson of "going back on a bargain" by proposing to cancel operation and maintenance subsidies to Twin Cities metropolitan parks. Those subsidies are financed by DTED.

Property taxes

A proposed \$639 million cut in state aids to local government likely will mean substantial property tax hikes.

State tax officials say it's possible local property taxes could rise 30 percent or more if cities and counties pass on the reductions in state aids while maintaining the same level of services.

Local officials, who stormed the Capitol prior to Carlson's address, predicted the property tax hike likely will be much higher, particularly in rural areas currently receiving disparity aids.

The plan attempts to sever the tie between the state and cities, counties and other local units of government.

It would reduce state spending for local aids to about 11 percent of the total budget, create a one-class property tax system, eliminate local levy limits, scrap homestead and agricultural credits, and end disparity reduction aid.

The elimination of disparity aid would likely hit Iron Range cities and rural areas in southeastern Minnesota the hardest. Both areas have received large disparity aid in the past.

Direct state aid to local governments would be cut \$450 million during the biennium. Another \$189 million in property tax relief now administered through municipalities would instead be targeted to individuals through increased "circuit-breaker" payments, which refund portions of taxes paid based on a person's income.

The result will be that property tax circuit breaker payments will be more closely tied to homeowners' ability to pay property taxes, and is designed, in part, to help the elderly and lower-income homeowners.

The qualifications for tax-exempt properties could also be tightened to generate more tax dollars.

DFL leaders harshly criticized the

probable property tax increases. Says Senate Majority Leader Roger Moe (DFL-Erskine): "This will change the Minnesota Miracle into the Minnesota Betrayal."

Independent-Republicans, however, defended the cuts in local aids and the likely property tax hike, saying it was preferable to increasing sales or income taxes.

They also said the improved circuit-breaker funding would help maintain the state's progressive tax system.

House minority leader Terry Dempsey (IR-New Ulm) says even a 30 percent property tax jump could be "affordable," particularly for people who are paying relatively little today.

"This is a short-term solution to long-term problems," he says. "The people complaining about this budget are the tax spenders, not the tax payers."

Taxes

Smokers, imbibers, and the wealthy would feel the sharpest pinch from additional taxes under the governor's budget proposals.

New taxes would total \$274 million during the next two years. The largest share of new revenue, \$158 million, would come from a 24-cent rise in the tax on cigarettes, pushing the total tax to 62 cents per pack.

That would give Minnesota the highest cigarette tax in the nation; the next highest tax is 20 cents lower. The higher price would also generate \$6.6 million in extra sales taxes.

Taxes on wine, beer, and liquor also will increase, netting \$25 million over the next two years. Finance Commissioner John Gunyou estimates beer drinkers would pay an extra cent per can of beer. Wine and beer would be taxed according to wholesale price, rather than a per-unit basis.

Carlson also suggests capturing up to \$83.7 million in new revenue by reshaping the state's tax provisions to conform with 1989 changes in federal law.

The increase would largely affect higher income people: a married family of four earning more than \$150,000 per year likely will pay \$127 more in state income taxes; single people or heads of households earning \$125,000 yearly would pay about \$95 in additional taxes, Gunyou says.

Education

Getting a Head Start

Young children often crave attention, and the proponents of young children's programs are looking for it, too.

Representatives from several early childhood and family programs told House members Feb. 19 that many programs are successful, but more must be done.

One concern is quality staffing because wages are so low, says Kate Williams of the Minneapolis YWCA Children's Center.

Another is the staffing of all-white employees to work with people of color, says Bob Brancale of the Minneapolis Early Childhood Family Education (ECFE) program. Whites often work with non-whites because they are the ones who have received required child care training, he says.

Denise DeVaun, executive director of the Minnesota Community Action Association, says positive results in programs, such as Head Start and ECFE, are mainly due to their focus on involving parents in the programs.

Head Start, for example, allows parent policy councils to approve its program design. Brancale says that school districts should "take cues and look at the success level" of ECFE and Head Start.

"[ECFE and Head Start] truly know how to work with parents and get them involved, and the K-12 system does not," he says.

Basic components of early childhood family programs are social services, health, nutrition, and education.

The advocates appeared before the Education Committee's Education Finance Division and the Appropriations Committee's Human Resources Division.

Student hardships

Recognition as "citizens and consumers" rather than "students" is what Minnesota's higher education students need, says Shawn Towle, a senior at the University of Minnesota and chair of the Minnesota Student Coalition (MSC).

Towle, appearing before a joint meeting of the Senate and House Higher

education committees, said the traditional way of viewing "students" as a separate class is outdated because more and more older students, who have families and hold full-time jobs, are returning to school.

He called for more student aid funding and a restructuring of student loans to recognize the changes in today's students.

Towle presented three proposals from the MSC:

- an increase of almost \$900 per qualified applicant in the living and miscellaneous expense category of the State Grant Program. Currently, the state figure to adequately meet student needs in that category is \$3,465, but higher education institutions recognize the real needs of students as \$4,980;

- the creation of a credit-based financial aid system — rather than one based on the traditional four-year calendar — which wouldn't penalize non-traditional students who sometimes are forced to drop out of school to earn more money to go to school. Such a system also would allow credits to be more easily transferred between public higher education systems, and would help non-traditional students who occasionally pick up college credits wherever and whenever they can get them; and

- studies to be conducted every two years to calculate actual costs of higher education to more accurately reflect what student aid should be.

Several students told the panel that as the cost of education rises, qualifying for low-interest loans and grants becomes more difficult. And the high costs have caused many students to either delay their education by taking fewer classes or dropping out indefinitely.

This, in turn, has caused the average age of students to rise, which contributes to further delays in education as the responsibilities of families and jobs increase.

One result has been an increase in SELF loans (Student Educational Loan Fund), a "last resort" type loan that charges a high interest rate and requires a co-signer.

Ken Johnson, a senior at the University of Minnesota-Duluth (UMD) and vice president of its Student Academic Affairs Council, says SELF loans have increased 103 percent at UMD since 1988.

Enrichment, not \$

A former Minnesota Teacher of the Year says recognition and opportunities for professional renewal — not necessarily more pay — will help keep quality teachers in the classroom.

Testifying Feb. 19 in favor of a proposed Institute for the Advancement of Teaching, Paul Goodnature told members of the Economic Development, Infrastructure, and Regulations Division of the Appropriations Committee that "teachers are concerned about a lot more than just salaries."

The Albert Lea humanities instructor, honored in 1988 as the state's top teacher, says professional growth opportunities such as those available through a teaching institute would go a long way toward helping teachers recharge their creative energies.

The institute would be part of a larger resource and study center proposed by the Minnesota Humanities Commission, and would be modeled after similar institutes in other states. The center would also include extensive learning programs for the public.

Rep. Gene Pelowski (DFL-Winona), a member of the appropriations division, says that although it may appear odd for a panel that normally considers development and road-building funding to discuss educational policy, it's time for lawmakers to examine non-traditional sources to improve Minnesota schools.

"In my 15 years of teaching, the Department of Education has never come up with one thing that I could actually use in the classroom," says Pelowski, who teaches political science at Winona Senior High School and Winona State University.

Correction

An article on welfare families on page 6 of the Feb. 15 issue should have said all of Minnesota's 157,000 children on welfare live an average of 18 percent below the poverty line. The Minnesota Index on page 24 should also have reflected that fact. In addition, the Index should have stated that 53 percent of children on AFDC are under the age of 7.

Business

Business-education marriage?

Independent-Republicans didn't waste time in attacking a portion of a sweeping education reform bill that was unveiled last week by education leaders of the DFL Caucus.

Much of their criticism focused on a provision that would tie 40 percent of future commercial/industrial tax revenues to fund public education — an arrangement that would make it politically difficult for business leaders to oppose higher taxes.

"Aren't we again making it prohibitive to drop it [commercial-industrial taxes] because it's a test to education?" asks Rep. Richard Pellow (IR-New Brighton). "All of a sudden you're against apple pie and motherhood. [If] anybody who owns a business piece of property asks for their taxes to be dropped, they're anti-child."

House Speaker Robert Vanasek appeared before the Education Committee Feb. 18 and told members that he views the bill as a "working document," adding that there is no need to pass HF350 this session. He explained that he and others have been working on the proposal since the spring of 1988.

In defending the tie to commercial-industrial property taxes, Vanasek says the bill "recognizes that business benefits directly from well-educated students."

In addition, Vanasek says the measure would require local governments to more closely examine spending decisions because 40 percent of their tax base would be eliminated — that portion of commercial-industrial revenues that are earmarked for education.

"If they want to raise the local levy in the future, a greater burden is going to fall on properties other than CI [commercial-industrial] — homeowners being the major ones," he says.

The education reform bill (HF 350), authored by Rep. Bob McEachern (DFL-Maple Lake), was originally unveiled at a Feb. 14 press conference. The measure, say its supporters, would:

- merge the administrations of small districts without consolidating school boards, allowing them to retain control of the local curriculum;
- allow schools and local committees to

have more input into how local schools should be run;

- require students to stay in school until they are 18;
- increase the number of school days from 170 to 190 by school year 2002-03; and
- create greater equity in school funding by increasing the state's share of funding by 10 percent, which would reduce the dependence on local property taxes.

Work curfew bill resurfaces

Minnesota high school students under the age of 18 would be prohibited from working past 11 p.m. on school nights, and before 5 a.m. on any school day, under a bill approved by the Labor-Management Relations Committee Feb. 18.

Bill sponsor Rep. Joel Jacobs (DFL-Coon Rapids) says the bill is designed both to ensure quality of education and to protect students, whom he says some employers view as "dispensable and easily manipulated."

"Students feel intimidated when employers place overwhelming demands upon them . . . they work late hours, and the homework just doesn't get done," says Jacobs.

Employers found to be in violation of this provision of the work curfew bill would be fined \$50 for each employee who worked during the prohibited times.

The House has passed similar work curfew bills in each of the past two years, but the measure has stalled each time in the Senate.

Opponents of HF156 call it the "Motherhood Bill," and say parents should be the regulators of their children's work hours.

But proponents, even those who acknowledge some students are working to supplement family income, say working late nights adversely affects academic performance.

"Sometimes they tend to put the current situation of earning a few dollars ahead of their long-term educational endeavors," says Jacobs. But absenteeism, tardiness, and sleeping in class are the trade-offs, said several teachers testifying on behalf of the bill.

And some argue that such a bill is

needed more in Minnesota than elsewhere in the country because the state ranks first in the nation in the number of 16- to 19-year-olds in the workforce, says Kathryn Pierce of the Anoka-Hennepin School District, adding that 65.3 percent of people in this age bracket are employed.

Pierce says most high school students fall into two main employment categories: fast food and retail.

She surveyed more than 3,400 16- and 17-year-old high school students. Of the 68.5 percent she found to be employed, more than 80 percent work in these two fields. A total of 32 percent of all employed students reported working past 10 p.m. on at least two school nights a week.

And nearly 26 percent of those surveyed indicated their employer is making no effort to end their scheduled shifts before 10 p.m.

"We as a Legislature invest a lot of money in education. This is one more thing that will give students an opportunity to learn better," Jacobs says, adding it won't cost the state a dime.

HF156 was recommended to pass and referred to the House Floor.

Donate your time

A bill that would increase the amount of accrued vacation time a state employee may donate to another employee was approved by the Governmental Operations Committee Feb. 20.

HF290 would allow a state employee to contribute up to 12 hours of vacation time, and up to 40 hours of accrued sick leave per year, to a specific account that would benefit another state employee.

Current state law allows only eight vacation hours to be shifted to the vacation donation program.

The measure, sponsored by Rep. Paul Ogren (DFL-Aitkin), was prompted by the medical condition of Dave Green, a House DFL-Media employee who suffers from congestive heart failure.

Green's State Health Plan insurance package doesn't cover the heart transplant he needs, which could cost anywhere between \$85,000 and \$150,000.

"It [including heart transplant coverage] would have meant an extra dollar a month per employee charge added to the

premium," says Ogren. "The decision was made not to include transplant coverage. For most people that's alright. For Dave Green that's a tragedy."

To qualify as a recipient for the donation program, an employee must have amassed at least \$10,000 in unpaid medical bills.

CHARTing success

St. Paul-based CHART/WEDCO, an organization that supports business and career development for Minnesota women, is asking for \$700,000 from the state to help fund its programs over the next two years.

More than 100 businesses receive start-up assistance from CHART/WEDCO each year, says CHART/WEDCO President Kathryn Keeley. That includes help with business plans and marketing strategy, as well as financial assistance from the group's loan fund.

Keeley appeared before the Economic Development Committee Feb. 19 to tell lawmakers some of the eight-year-old organization's success stories.

Those include Animal Connections, a Minnesota company that leases trained animals for commercial and movie work. Starting with a \$100 loan from CHART/WEDCO for business cards and a portfolio, Animal Connections has grown to become a \$2 million per year business within three years, Keeley says.

Another successful CHART-supported business is Tuxedo Toys, which recently sold a game to General Mills Inc. that teaches math and geography to kids.

"So you can see the sort of eclectic range of businesses that we have worked with over time," says Keeley. "Our real interest is in economic self-sufficiency — getting a business that provides support for more than a year or two."

A total of 87 percent of CHART/WEDCO supported businesses have lasted at least five years, says Keeley. The organization received about \$600,000 in state funds during the current biennium.



Taxes

Untruth in taxation?

Truth in taxation is a good idea in principle, says Hennepin County Commissioner John Derus. But in practice in Minnesota, it has been "the antithesis of truth in taxation" and has stimulated a lot of disinformation and anger, he adds.

County officials brought their concerns to the Property Tax Subcommittee of the Taxes Committee Feb. 19.

Truth in taxation was enacted in 1988 to notify each taxpayer, in advance, of what their property taxes will be based on forecasts from local units of government. The taxpayer is then notified of a public hearing at which they can attempt to influence what the final levy will be.

But the problem, says Washington County Auditor/Treasurer Richard Stafford, is that taxpayers are invited into the process too late, causing a great deal of frustration and anger. He says his county cut \$500,000 from their budget "out of sheer panic."

Derus says the law is well-meaning, but "is a new mandate that pits irate taxpayers against county boards" and other local units of government.

Derus is concerned that the law could cause further cuts in human services programs, adding that those programs have already been trimmed in response to federal and state cutbacks.

But Rep. Paul Ogren (DFL-Aitkin) questioned the state cutbacks to which Derus referred and asked for specific examples. He says state funding for human services has risen by "leaps and bounds" every year since 1982 and is one reason for the current budget crunch.

"Don't try to pretend that we played the Ronald Reagan role here at state government," says Ogren. "It's simply not the case. You want to talk about federal cutbacks — do that. You want to talk about increased demand for services — do that. But don't play Pontius Pilate with us."



Members of Arts Action Against Domestic Violence brought 27 life-size cutouts of women killed by batterers last year to a Feb. 18 rally at the Capitol. The event was sponsored by the Minnesota Women's Consortium.



Law

DWI repeaters' program

A program in Anoka County for repeat DWI offenders is going against the grain by reducing jail sentences — provided offenders complete a comprehensive treatment program designed to curb alcohol abuse.

Sandy Buchar, coordinator of the program, says that of the 95 people who completed the program between 1988 and 1990, there were only four "re-offenders."

The reason for the success? Buchar attributes it to the intensive follow-up

care that closely monitors offenders after they are released from jail.

Jerry Soma, assistant director of the Anoka County Corrections Department, gave members of the Criminal Justice Division of the Judiciary Committee an overview of the program Feb. 20.

Soma explained that if offenders meet the program's criteria at the time of their court hearing, a judge can reduce jail time to 90 days from one year if violators agree to successfully complete the program.

Under the program, an offender is required to spend 90 days in jail and is normally granted work-release privileges. After serving the jail time, offenders are placed under house arrest provided they

attend 35 hours of the program per week for up to four months.

During this phase, offenders attend AA meetings, receive counseling, and perform other duties. Also, they are subject to daily breathalyzer tests, random home visits, and are called daily to ensure their whereabouts.

If violators complete this phase of the program, they are then removed from house arrest, but are still required to attend the program sessions two to five times per week for up to three months.

If offenders don't complete the program, they can be ordered back to jail to complete their suspended sentences.

The program is designed for DWI offenders who have had three alcohol-related violations within the past two years and those who have four or more alcohol-related violations on their record.



Health

AIDS and minorities

Although blacks comprise just 1.3 percent of the state's population, 10 percent of the reported Minnesota AIDS cases are suffered by blacks.

In addition, 18 percent of the state's HIV, or human immunodeficiency virus, patients are blacks, according to a December 1990 report by the Department of Health.

Those were just a few of the grim statistics presented Feb. 18 by several minority councils to the Appropriations Committee's Human Resources Division.

AIDS is also disproportionately represented in other minority communities, says the report.

The report notes that proliferation of AIDS and HIV cases in communities of color is believed to be linked to intravenous drug use.

And state health officials say the incidence of AIDS among minorities, as well as the general population, may continue to increase.

The report says the incidence of sexually transmitted diseases in the state is also on the rise — a trend that usually signals a rapid increase in HIV cases.

Minnesota's AIDS death total has reached 521, while the number of reported cases is 845, say Department of Health officials.

Living will II

"The living will of mental health" is how Rep. Richard Jefferson (DFL-Mpls) described a bill approved Feb. 19 by a Health and Human Services subcommittee.

The bill, authored by Rep. Lee Greenfield (DFL-Mpls), would allow people who suffer from cyclical mental illness to declare, in advance, the type of health care they want should they become unable to make those decisions themselves.

Greenfield says the law is needed because a 1988 Minnesota Supreme Court decision, *Jarvis v. Levine*, held that a judge must give approval before medication can be forcibly administered to a committed patient who is mentally ill.

Greenfield says some mentally ill patients, when mentally competent, are well aware of the treatment they need.

Kathy Kasnofs of the Minnesota Mental Health Law Project says that in some cases, people who lead productive lives — outside of the times when they lapse into a mentally ill state — are held in mental hospitals for up to two weeks while waiting for a so-called *Jarvis* hearing.

In the meantime, they are not receiving the treatment they need, she says. The bill would apply only in those cases where intrusive medical techniques are required.

HF233 was recommended to pass by the Subcommittee on Social and Family Services and was referred to the Health and Human Services Committee.

Urging organ donations

A bill that would require hospital administrators to discuss the option of organ donation with critically ill patients or their families was heard by the Judiciary Committee Feb. 18.

Rep. Lee Greenfield (DFL-Mpls) says the proposed additions to the 1987 Minnesota Uniform Anatomical Gift Act will bring Minnesota into conformity with organ donor laws in other states.

Mutual legal protection encourages the donation of organs across state lines, adds Greenfield, author of HF144.

The measure would also provide for a public donor education program administered by the state commissioner of the Department of Public Safety. The bill calls for an \$85,000 appropriation to initiate the program, provided an equal amount of private funds are raised.

Greenfield says several nonprofit groups are interested in attempting the match.

Dr. John Najarian, chair of the University of Minnesota Hospitals' Department of Surgery, reported that 350 people are currently waiting for a kidney transplant at the university; 20,000 are waiting for kidney transplants nationwide.

But even as the number of cases has escalated, the number of organ donors has remained the same during the past four years. And although the costs of transplant surgery is high, Najarian points out that patients' alternatives are generally grim: expensive, ongoing medical treatment, inability to work, and physical disability.

"But those who are successfully



Calling for an immediate legislative response, participants at the Health Care Campaign for Minnesota rally crowded the Capitol rotunda Feb. 21.

transplanted return to perfectly normal lives and this is what we are trying to achieve," he says.

Former University of Minnesota football coach Cal Stoll joined Najarian in endorsing Greenfield's bill. Stoll underwent successful heart transplant surgery in 1987 after waiting six months for a heart.

"It's the most exciting healing process in the history of medicine, without any exception," says Stoll. "Everything is in place — the technology's there, the hardware's there, the expertise and the great doctors are available — all except for one thing: there's a shortage of organs."

Greenfield's bill would require doctors to discuss organ donation with critically ill patients (or their families) who have not previously documented their preference for organ donation.



Elections

Candidate withdrawal

Should Minnesota allow gubernatorial candidates to withdraw as close to the general election as possible, or would this open the door to political game-playing?

That was the debate when state IR party Chair Bob Weinholzer and state DFL Chair Todd Otis appeared before the Elections Division of the General Legislation, Veterans Affairs, and Gaming Committee Feb. 19.

Weinholzer says candidates should be allowed to withdraw within a few days of the general election to allow voters a real choice between candidates if one withdraws unexpectedly.

To not give candidates ample opportunity to withdraw would force voters to consider a candidate who could be politically damaged, and, therefore, not a viable choice, says Weinholzer.

But Otis told committee members that the deadline for withdrawal should be much earlier to allow a full discussion of campaign issues. This would prohibit short campaigns such as the one Arne Carlson waged just before the 1990 election.

And some representatives say allowing a candidate to withdraw within days of the general election could cause candi-

dates to withdraw when polls show them hopelessly behind, only to be replaced by a potentially more viable candidate.

Weinholzer and Otis appeared before the division to testify on a bill authored by Rep. Linda Scheid (DFL-Brooklyn Park) that would give candidates 15 days after a primary election to withdraw, and give political party committees the authority to fill those vacancies.

HF69 was offered in response to last fall's unusual gubernatorial election where candidate Jon Grunseth withdrew from the race nine days before the election, throwing the IR Party into political turmoil.

Grunseth's running mate refused to step aside and only did so after the Minnesota Supreme Court ruled that she should. Carlson replaced Grunseth on the ballot and won the governor's job with an abbreviated campaign.

Scheid's bill, had it been in force last year, would have prevented Grunseth from withdrawing. Weinholzer recommends that candidates be allowed to withdraw up to seven days before the general election and Rep. Gil Gutknecht (IR-Rochester) agreed.

"If you really believe that elections are for the benefit of the people and to give them a choice, then you've got to allow this [longer] period of withdrawal," says Gutknecht.

Likewise, Secretary of State Joan Growe says candidates should be given ample time to withdraw, but not enough time to allow purely political maneuvering.

"We don't want to leave any opening for people to play games where someone could read the polls . . . and withdraw," says Growe.

HF69 was laid over for further discussion and testimony.



Military

Continue POW/MIA support

Two resolutions designed to continue support for the POW/MIA cause were unanimously approved by the General Legislation, Veterans Affairs, and Gaming Committee Feb. 21.

The first (HF195) asks Congress to continue funding a special investigation being conducted by the United States

Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

Bill sponsor Rep. Pat Beard (DFL-Cottage Grove) told members of the committee's Veteran affairs Division Feb. 19 that the ongoing investigation has yielded "conclusive evidence" there are hundreds of American servicemen still alive in Southeast Asia.

However, federal funding for the continued investigation has been slashed dramatically. Lead investigator Tracy Usry told lawmakers at a Feb. 8 meeting that the program is now being funded solely by the travel budget reserved for investigators.

The second bill (HF196), also sponsored by Beard, memorializes Congress to pass what has come to be known as the "truth" bill. This would mandate that federal agencies and departments disclose information concerning military personnel classified as POW/MIA from World War I, and the wars in Korea and Vietnam.

The measure says there are 88,000 service personnel that fit into this category.

"It's about time that we make this step . . . especially for the families that have been emotionally hung all this time," says Rep. Bob Waltman (IR-Elgin).

Three members of Minnesota's congressional delegation, U.S. Rep. Tim Penny (D-Minn), U.S. Rep. Jim Ramstad (R-Minn) and U.S. Rep. Gerry Sikorski (D-Minn) have publicly voiced their support for the two bills. Beard expects more will follow.

Members referred HF195 and HF196 to the full General Legislation, Veterans Affairs, and Gaming Committee.



Energy

Fuel assistance for the north

A resolution asking the president and Congress to increase funding for the federal low-income home energy assistance program, and to maintain its operation in Minnesota, was approved by the Energy Committee Feb. 19.

The resolution, sponsored by Rep. Mary Murphy (DFL-Hermantown), says the funding level for the program has been reduced by about \$600 million since 1986.

But because the program has been expanded since then to include energy assistance for household cooling, there is less money to help keep low-income people warm in cold-weather states, says Murphy.

The resolution asks that funding for the program be concentrated in cold-weather states such as Minnesota, and adds that reducing funding and availability of funds in states with harsh climates could result in life-threatening conditions for low-income people.



Gregory Davids, formerly the mayor of Preston, was sworn in on the House floor Feb. 18 as the new representative from District 32B. Davids, an Independent-Republican, was elected Feb. 12 to fill the seat vacated by Rep. Elton Redalen. Redalen now is the commissioner of agriculture.

Environment

Clearing the air

Residents of Duluth who breathe what they think is fresh air coming off Lake Superior could be inhaling a lungful of industrial pollution from Indiana and Ohio.

Depending on which way the wind blows, Minnesota might be getting a number of chemicals dumped on it from other areas of the country. At the same time, however, there are plenty of sources of chemical poisons right here in Minnesota.

Lawmakers are expected this session to discuss several bills dealing with chemical pollution of the state's air, water, and soil, so members of the Environment and

Natural Resources Committee spent more than two hours Feb. 21 learning about the topic.

Gary Glass, a Duluth-based researcher with the federal Environmental Protection Agency, told the committee how toxins get into Minnesota's water and noted that some pollution comes from heavily industrialized states.

Eville Gorham, a University of Minnesota ecologist and behavioral biologist, warned of the danger of global warming caused by the buildup of carbon dioxide and the depletion of the ozone layer by chemical pollutants.

"I'm a believer in that we are, in fact, going to see greenhouse warming," he says. "The question is not if, but when."

But one legislator says care must be taken not to succumb to what he calls "an atmosphere of chemophobia." Rep. Steve Dille (IR-Dassel) said many chemicals that are harmful in large doses might be safe at low levels.

The environment committee is expected to review several pollution-related bills, including Rep. Willard Munger's (DFL-Duluth) HF160, which would establish a \$1.8 million toxic air monitoring and reduction program at the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency.

Something fishy?

Department of Natural Resources officials came to the meeting just to talk about a fish study, but they didn't get off the hook that easy.

The discussion led Rep. Tom Osthoff (DFL-St. Paul) to question how the agency goes about stocking fish and providing access for anglers in Twin Cities area lakes.

Despite its own studies, the DNR has failed to address the state's aging population, complained Osthoff, explaining that older Twin Cities' residents don't want to travel long distances to a good fishing lake with public access. But access to good lakes in the metropolitan area is limited.

"This has gone on long enough," Osthoff said during a Feb. 20 meeting of the Environment and Natural Resources Division of the Appropriations Committee. "The agency isn't paying attention yet."

DNR fisheries are doing a good job

breeding and stocking the types of fish popular in outstate Minnesota, Osthoff says, but they are not doing much to beef up Twin Cities lakes.

Committee chair Rep. Dave Battaglia (DFL-Two Harbors) told Osthoff that outstate legislators would be willing to work with metro lawmakers to improve Twin Cities' fishing.

The fish hatchery study, released in October, compared costs for fish production between state-owned and private hatcheries. The study was performed for the DNR by the accounting firm of KPMG Peat Marwick and FishPro Inc.

Mapping Minnesota

Added together, Minnesota's state and local governments spend an estimated \$60 million per year on geographic information systems (GIS).

It's a significant but hidden expense, admits Alan Robinette, assistant commissioner in the State Planning Agency. While some state agencies have been using GIS for years, legislators and the public know little about the high-tech map database.

This session, however, lawmakers have been hearing more and more about GIS.

GIS, proponents of the idea say, is more than just a map. It's "a database management system for spatial data," says Robinette. GIS takes information such as aerial maps and census data and organizes it in a computer database. When fully developed, GIS will allow quick access to a variety of information about a parcel of land.

Several state agencies already are using GIS. The Department of Transportation, for example, uses it in traffic planning, while the Department of Natural Resources has GIS for management of timber harvesting. And legislators will be using GIS as they haggle over redistricting.

"The reason that it's coming to the forefront now is that there's a need for coordination," says Robinette. In Minnesota, GIS has been organized by a 150-member consortium composed of people who work with or are interested in GIS.

Currently, House committees are hearing presentations about the technology and its potential.

Assistant IR leaders cover all the bases

What do a farmer, an ex-mayor, a loan officer, and three attorneys have in common?

Although that may sound like the lead-in to a joke, diversity does *not* equal comedy for the six House members who serve as IR assistant minority leaders.

Collectively, with Minority Leader Terry Dempsey (IR-New Ulm), they form the House IR Caucus' policy-making body, which is also known as the executive board.

The function of the assistants, says Rep.



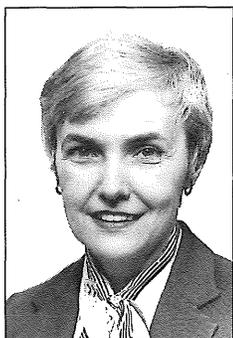
Bill Macklin

Bill Macklin (IR-Lakeville), is to serve as Dempsey's liaisons, letting him know how party members feel about key legislative and political issues.

The team — Reps. Ben Boo (IR-Duluth), Dave

Gruenes (IR-St. Cloud), Gene Hugoson (IR-Granada), Sally Olsen (IR-St. Louis Park), Art Seaberg (IR-Eagan), and Macklin — each say that diversity among their group members means vitality for the caucus.

"I think we work well together and



Sally Olsen

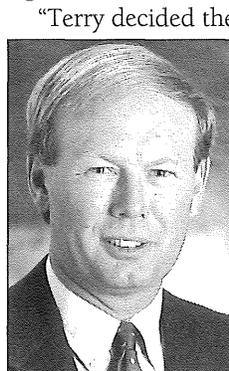
bring different strengths to the executive board," says Olsen, who serves as the chief assistant leader. "In the areas where one may be weak, we have others who are very knowledgeable to help in the decision making."

In fact, all the assistants say it was balance — a reflection of all facets of House IR membership — that shaped Dempsey's decision in forming the team.

Three of the assistants represent metropolitan areas, for example, while the other three represent outstate areas. The strategy, explains Hugoson, is to keep both the philosophical bases (within

the caucus), and issue bases (within the committees), thoroughly covered.

Hugoson, who is a farmer, points out that he was quickly brought in as a replacement for former assistant Elton Redalen, who is also a farmer. Redalen resigned from the House to become commissioner of the Department of Agriculture.



Gene Hugoson

"Terry decided there should still be a farmer involved in the minority leader group," says Hugoson. "He brought in people with different perspectives, to [represent] the gamut of moderates to conservatives within the party, and different

geographic factors, occupations, and lengths of service in the Legislature."

With an IR governor, the assistants say pulling together a thoughtful leadership team is all the more important. To that end, Dempsey added a 10-person IR Caucus steering committee to the leadership picture this year.

Its job is to coordinate and develop strategy to push Gov. Arne Carlson's legislation through the House. Although the steering committee has pared the assistants' floor duties somewhat, Seaberg says dispersing leadership roles in the minority caucus is smart.

That gives responsibility to more members, so when the time comes for the IRs to take control of the House, more members will be ready to take on the heady responsibility of chairing committees.

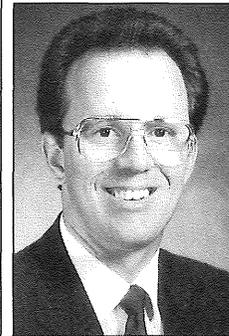


Art Seaberg

"Terry Dempsey seems to want to disperse power and bring as many players into the process that he can," says Seaberg.

And Gruenes, the only assistant who carried over in the position from last

session, says the caucus' new Carlson-



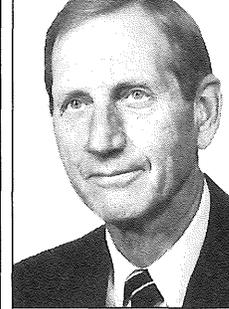
Dave Gruenes

borrowed dynamism is professionally exciting. "Being 'players' is a new experience for all of us — we now have more access to rooms where some big decisions might be made," he says.

Political experience, Gruenes

adds, will be the assistants' key to guiding the IR caucus through the 77th Session.

He points to Boo, former mayor of Duluth and a fifth-term legislator, as the embodiment of the good political instincts upon which the group must



Ben Boo

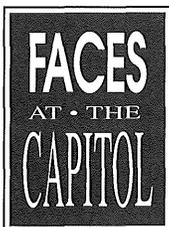
rely. "It requires a lot of coordination, negotiation, and cooperation," says Boo. "But I view that as an assistant minority leader's role."

—Joan Wadkins

Feb. 20, 1855

On this day, Faribault County was established and named after the first white settler to practice agriculture in Minnesota. Jean Baptiste Faribault, a longtime trader with the Dakota, moved to Minnesota in 1803.

Ken of Capitol Barbers: a political 'fence-sitter'



An afternoon cruise in a pickup truck changed Ken Kirkpatrick's occupation from construction worker to barber.

Kirkpatrick, owner of Capitol Barbers in the basement of the State Office Building, recalls that he and a friend were driving past a St. Paul barber school 22 years ago when an idea struck him.

"I said, 'Stop there. That looks like it might be interesting,'" says Kirkpatrick. He had no interest in barbering at that time, but he's been in the business ever since.

"I knew I didn't want to be in construction for the rest of my life," he says.

His first job was cutting hair in Coffman Memorial Union in 1970 during the height of the Vietnam War protests. And ironically, it may have been the prevailing protest sentiment that landed him in the State Office Building.

At about that same time, a bomb damaged the State Office Building, which demolished a wall in the old barber shop. Kirkpatrick didn't know about the bombing when he bought the shop, but now jokes "that's probably why he sold it to me."

Kirkpatrick, who is 43, says that if he couldn't make it as a barber in the Capitol complex with all the legislators and state employees, he probably couldn't make it anywhere.

Tucked away in the midst of several state offices, Kirkpatrick's shop has a hometown feel to it. And like most shops, there is a lot of small talk, some of it about politics.

But those conversations are confidential, says Kirkpatrick. As for his political leanings, Kirkpatrick describes himself as a committed "fence-sitter."

He has dabbled a bit, however, in barbering politics. In 1980, he was appointed to the Minnesota Barber Examiners Board by former Gov. Al Quie, and served for 10 years.

Unlike the cyclical, political work in the Legislature, Kirkpatrick says his business doesn't fall off when the Legislature's not in session. Nor does he lose business with the changes brought



Barber Ken Kirkpatrick has cut IR and DFL hair for years.

about by elections.

Instead, he says he actually picks up business because his old customers often keep on coming back, and sometimes bring new customers with them.

That's not surprising, given the testimonials to both his speed and skills as a barber.

"Kirkpatrick," says longtime customer Rep. Willard Munger, is "the fastest cutting barber that I've ever sat in the chair for — he'll have you in and out in four minutes."

Added customer Terrie Gimpel, "He makes going to get a haircut a lot of fun." And she says that he always strives to do

exactly what the customer wants.

Kirkpatrick says he has no intention of leaving the Capitol complex, although he adds that he wouldn't mind retiring at age 55. He and his wife, Mary, have four children.

In contrast to the not-always-flattering opinion some people have of politicians and state employees, Kirkpatrick says he has only high praise for the pillars of politics and their staffs.

"The people here are good, honest people," he says. "In 20 years, I've only received three bad checks and two of those were made good."

—Beverly Smith



Editor's note: Last year we invited readers to ask questions about the legislative process so they could be answered in this space. Here's one of several questions we received.

Why are there so many bills on the same subject?

Several bills are often introduced on the same or similar topics because more than one legislator supports the proposal for a new law.

There can be only one chief author of a

bill, and a maximum of four co-authors. That doesn't leave much room for a particularly popular idea. Sometimes many bills are introduced intentionally to show widespread support for an idea. It's also done so legislators can claim authorship of a bill during election time.

But more often than not, legislators approach a specific topic in different ways. So although bills may appear identical, there are actually slight differences.

If you have a question about the Legislature, address it to Session Weekly, House Public Information Office, 175 State Office Building, St. Paul, Minnesota 55155-1298

Nelson political genes span four generations

Many people around the Capitol say they have politics in their blood. But when Rep. Syd Nelson (DFL-Sebeka) makes that claim, it really rings true.

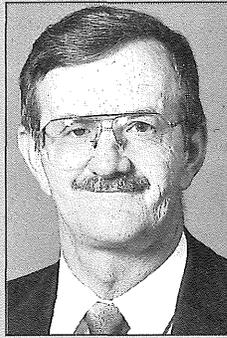
His great grandfather represented the same region in the House back in 1898. That marked the beginning of public service for the Nelson clan, which has continued ever since for four generations.

Before Nelson edged former Rep. Don Richter in the November election, he had served as a Wadena County commissioner.

But after serving 14 years on the board, Nelson, who first considered running for the House eight years ago, decided it was time for a change.

"New blood is always good," says Nelson. "I have always felt that time limits should be placed on elected offices."

Nelson says he hopes his years of service as a county commissioner will serve as a guide for his role as a legislator. Like many county commissioners, Nelson says he believes state government imposes too many mandates — without



Syd Nelson

District 12A

Age: 59

Home: Sebeka

Occupation: Farmer

District traits: 12A is dominated by the lumber and dairy industries. The political "swing district" had been represented by an IR. The Bush-Quayle ticket defeated Dukakis-Bentsen by a 57.3-to-42.7 percent margin in 1988.

providing funding — on local units of government.

"We thought it was unfair that the Legislature would tell local units of government how to tax their people," he says. One of his primary goals is to eliminate the levy limits the Legislature recently has placed on county governments, he adds.

Other issues of importance include health care and economic development. Health care for the uninsured is particularly important in his district because

some wages are very low and many businesses don't offer health insurance, he says.

Nelson is also concerned that the economy in his region, based heavily on the lumber and dairy industries, is "stagnant," and he feels steps need to be taken to increase economic development.

Although Nelson is anticipating an arduous session, he hopes maintaining a sense of humor will help pull him through.

It's a fact!

How much would you pay for the state Capitol?

Today, the Capitol, including the land it sits on, has an estimated market value of \$23,955,000, according to Ramsey County property tax records.

That's not much when you consider that estimate is only five times the original cost to acquire the land and construct the Capitol.

Opened in 1905, the Capitol cost \$4.5 million to build, according to the Minnesota Historical Society. The land, which the state bought during the 1893 depression, cost \$285,225.

But should state officials ever put a "for sale" sign on the Capitol lawn, don't expect it to go for a measly \$24 million.

Steven J. Mackenthun, an analyst in the real estate management division of the Department of Administration, says the county's value probably isn't accurate because of the "specialized use" of the Capitol, and how much it would cost to replace the structure.



How much would you pay for the Capitol? It's not for sale, but tax records say it's worth about \$24 million.

Election was 'realization of dream' for Krinkie

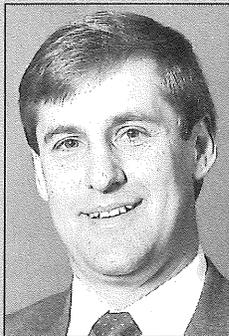
Rep. Philip Krinkie (IR-Shoreview) got his first taste of politics back in 1975 when he worked as an intern for the House.

Since then, he has mounted two unsuccessful campaigns to become a member of the House. So when he defeated Marc Asch in the November election for the open District 53A seat, Krinkie says it was "a realization of a dream."

"It's still hard to believe," he adds. "It's going to take me awhile to settle in . . . I am very glad to be here and I hope that I can do a good job representing the people of my district and focus on the truly important issues of state government."

One issue of importance to Krinkie that he feels directly affects his district is property taxes. He says the suburbs pay a disproportionate share of property taxes and feels the three-tiered property tax system in Minnesota should be more equitable.

Krinkie says one solution would be to eliminate the highest property tax tier — the one targeted for homes over \$110,000 in value — and tax homes on just two levels.



Philip B. Krinkie

District 53A

Age: 41

Home: Shoreview

Occupation: Business owner

District traits: 53A includes the northern part of Ramsey County and several north suburban communities. Residents are mainly middle to upper-middle class. The district voted for the Bush-Quayle ticket over Dukakis-Bentsen by a 55.1-to-44.9 percent margin.

Krinkie says he also intends to be active in business climate issues — a topic that Krinkie knows firsthand and one that is high on the agenda for many of his constituents in northern Ramsey County.

Krinkie is the president of the Snelling Co., a heating and air conditioning business his father established in the 1930s.

"Workers' compensation is a major concern," he says. "Hopefully, we will be able to hold the consensus of opinion between the House and Senate and get legislation to the governor's desk before too long. It is an important economic tool

that will help foster job growth."

Concerning other issues, Krinkie says he hopes some good will come of the current budget crisis by focusing attention on health care, education, and energy conservation. The crisis, he adds, could lead to innovative breakthroughs to help address these problems.

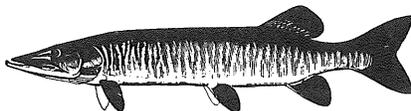
Krinkie describes his legislative approach as ". . . a catalyst and an innovator but I don't necessarily feel I have to be the lone soldier."

"I don't think individual egos should get in the way of good legislation. I hope I don't fall into the trap of trying to justify my existence by passing legislation."



Making muskies isn't cheap, no matter if a state fish hatchery does the work or if the job is given to a private hatchery. It could cost as much as \$10.95 in a state hatchery, or \$9.54 in a private hatchery, to raise one tiger muskellunge, says a fish hatchery cost comparison study released in October by the Department of Natural Resources. The study found that, in some cases, the DNR can grow fish for release in Minnesota lakes cheaper than private hatcheries could, but in some cases it can't. Cases in point: the DNR can raise a chinook salmon for about a nickel, but it would cost a private hatchery 48 cents; a brown trout finger-

ling can be grown by a private hatchery for as little as 4 cents, but the cheapest the DNR could do it would be for 28 cents.



Muskellunge

A total of 39 people perished in Minnesota fires during 1990, down from 90 deaths the previous year, says Tom Brace, the state fire marshal. He told members of the Governmental Operations Committee Feb. 20 that 25 of these deaths came in single family dwellings. In his testimony, Brace also noted a fire occurs every 2.7 hours in Greater Minnesota, and every 2.4 hours in the metropolitan area.

Feb. 20, 1855

On this day, Stearns County was established and mistakenly named after Charles Thomas Stearns. The county was supposed to be named after Isaac Ingalls Stevens, but a clerical error caused it to be named after Stearns. The Legislature decided Stearns was worthy of the honor and another county was later named after Stevens.

Low profile is good profile for state treasurer

Michael A. McGrath, re-elected in November to a four-year-term as state treasurer, admits that his position in government is low-key and that his job often is misunderstood.

Sometimes, he says, it bothers him that few people know who he is or what he does. "But I can go into a store and nobody knows me," he adds. "Skip Humphrey [Minnesota's attorney general] can't do that."

Minnesota has had 26 treasurers since statehood, but their names are not widely known. "There's a saying that the only time you hear from the state treasurer is when there's trouble," says McGrath, a DFLer who got his initial financial training in the Air Force. And treasurers have had their share of trouble.

For example, William Seeberg, treasurer from 1872-1873, wasn't especially liked by the Minnesota Legislature. Lawmakers voted to impeach Seeberg for corruption, partly because he allegedly pocketed money that belonged to the state.

But that was only half of it. The Legislature also was peeved that Seeberg had failed to get his predecessor, Emil Munch, to repay an estimated \$112,000 that he allegedly had embezzled during his time in office.

The episode is one of the dimmer moments in the history of the state treasurer's office.

Relatively recent controversy, however, also has affected the performance of the Treasurer's Office. In 1982, Treasurer Robert W. Mattson was widely criticized for spending too much time tending to business in Florida when he should have been running the Treasurer's Office. At the same time, Mattson pushed for consolidation of the treasurer's office with the auditor and the secretary of state.

In 1985, the Legislature retaliated, transferring many of the treasurer's duties to the Department of Finance and slashing the treasurer's budget and staff. Mattson sued the Legislature, arguing that the lawmakers' action violated the state Constitution. Although the Minnesota Supreme Court in 1986 ruled in the treasurer's favor, the office has never quite been the same.



State Treasurer Michael McGrath will be asking the Legislature to expand his office's duties.

Calls for eliminating the treasurer's office have come and gone. Any such measure would require a constitutional amendment. McGrath supports neither elimination of the office nor combining it with another government agency, such as the Department of Finance.

"You don't have the accountant and the bookkeeper in the same office," he says. "You need checks and balances."

McGrath also doesn't want to see further erosion of the treasurer's domain. In fact, he'll be pushing the Legislature this session to return or increase some of the office's responsibilities.

A major concern for McGrath is that the Treasurer's Office regain control over the state's unclaimed property, a function that was transferred in 1983 to the Department of Commerce. Through his involvement with the National Association of State Treasurers, McGrath has learned that "there is a national concern that federal government has a whole lot of unclaimed property — I'm talking billions [of dollars] — that belong to the states."

Minnesota now collects \$4 million annually in unclaimed property; if pursued aggressively on the federal as well as the state levels, McGrath believes, Minnesota could earn another \$500,000 to \$1 million. The money always can be

claimed by rightful owners, but until then it can be used by the state's general fund.

Other programs for the state treasurer that McGrath would like the Legislature to approve include:

- A consumer credit clearinghouse that would rank credit cards based on their interest rate, annual fee, and grace period. The program would allow consumers to choose the most economical credit plan. Only Iowa has a state-sponsored program now.
- MINNVEST, a "linked-deposit" investment plan that would use surplus state money in local banks to provide farming and small business loans at favorable rates of interest.

McGrath, whose financial background includes 12 years as a vice president for International Dairy Queen, says the move from the private to the public sector was not too tough.

But he concedes that working with the Legislature "is like having a 201-member board of directors."

—Andris Straumanis

Bill Introductions

HF353 — HF453

Monday, Feb. 18

HF353—Kahn (DFL)

Regulated Industries

Cities allowed to extend to 2:30 a.m., on-sale closing hours.

HF354—Murphy (DFL)

Environment & Natural Resources

Legislative task force on minerals to submit final report by January 15, 1993.

HF355—Reding (DFL)

Transportation

Bicycles and bikeways on interstate highways provided and regulated.

HF356—Welle (DFL)

Education

Independent school district No. 345, New London-Spicer, approved a capital loan.

HF357—Jacobs (DFL)

Regulated Industries

Local governments to receive notice of utility work and restoration of town roads required.

HF358—Dawkins (DFL)

Education

Male responsibility for sexual behavior pilot programs appropriated money.

HF359—Kinkel (DFL)

Local Government & Metro. Affairs

Towns allowed to appropriate money for economic and agricultural development.

HF360—Dawkins (DFL)

Taxes

Working family income tax credit created.

HF361—Bauerly (DFL)

Health & Human Services

Health care plan for uninsured and underinsured established and money appropriated.

HF362—Swenson (IR)

Education

Tuition reimbursement modified for post-secondary enrollment options program and money appropriated.

HF363—Swenson (IR)

Transportation

Semitrailer bumper height not to exceed 22 inches.

HF364—Pelowski (DFL)

Health & Human Services

Health and human services rule adoption notices to include certain information.

HF365—Welker (IR)

Judiciary

Service of process by sheriff not charged a fee.

HF366—Dawkins (DFL)

Gen'l Leg., Vet's Affairs & Gaming

Spaying and neutering program established and money appropriated.

HF367—Trimble (DFL)

Judiciary

Government data not to include records stored at a historical repository.

HF368—O'Connor (DFL)

Commerce

Minnesota-produced beer sold at publicly subsidized buildings where beer is sold.

HF369—Trimble (DFL)

Taxes

Motor vehicle excise tax reduced for vehicles which meet fuel-efficiency standards.

HF370—Segal (DFL)

Education

Comprehensive school and community health and wellness program established and money appropriated.

HF371—O'Connor (DFL)

Governmental Operations

St. Paul police officer surviving spouse to receive benefits.

HF372—Cooper (DFL)

Health & Human Services

Intermediate care facilities for persons with mental retardation exempted from additional state human services rules.

HF373—Scheid (DFL)

Commerce

Corporate officer allowed a real estate license.

HF374—Ogren (DFL)

Education

Independent school district No. 95, Cromwell, approved a capital loan.

HF375—Ogren (DFL)

Judiciary

Marriage solemnization; former court commissioners allowed to solemnize marriages.

HF376—Kahn (DFL)

Health & Human Services

Clean indoor air act amended.

HF377—Ogren (DFL)

Local Government & Metro. Affairs

Local governments to provide notice of airport establishment or enlargement.

HF378—Ogren (DFL)

Environment & Natural Resources

State land exchanged for private property.

HF379—Wenzel (DFL)

Gen'l Leg., Vet's Affairs & Gaming

Morrison county disabled American veterans reconveyed state land.

HF380—Kinkel (DFL)

Environment & Natural Resources

Cass county authorized to sell certain tax-forfeited lands bordering public water.

HF381—Morrison (IR)

Education

Intermediate school district No. 917, Dakota County Technical College, authorized construction.

HF382—Hanson (DFL)

Regulated Industries

Liquor establishments required to post a driving under the influence of alcohol penalty warning sign.

HF383—Hanson (DFL)

Regulated Industries

Liquor establishments required to post a sign stating it is illegal to serve alcohol to a person who is obviously intoxicated.

HF384—Wenzel (DFL)

Agriculture

Farm and small business management programs at technical colleges appropriated money.

Thursday, Feb. 21

HF385—Winter (DFL)

Financial Institutions & Insurance

Automobile insurance premium reduction for seniors effective upon receipt of accident prevention course certificate, instructor certification program established, and money appropriated.

HF386—Kahn (DFL)**Transportation**

Bicycle registration required, fee structure changed, and money appropriated.

HF387—Tunheim (DFL)**Health & Human Services**

Insurance provider payments rates not to discriminate geographically.

HF388—Milbert (DFL)**Education**

School board membership qualifications provided.

HF389—Jefferson (DFL)**Governmental Operations**

State patrol retirement refunds paid to spouses and surviving children.

HF390—Trimble (DFL)**Taxes**

Sales tax exemption provided to nonprofit organizations conducting athletic programs for adults with mental retardation or related conditions.

HF391—Onnen (IR)**Judiciary**

Child abuse prevention program established and money appropriated.

HF392—Anderson, I. (DFL)**Health & Human Services**

Health care plan for uninsured and underinsured established.

HF393—Greenfield (DFL)**Health & Human Services**

Health care access department and health assurance plan created.

HF394—Erhardt (IR)**Governmental Operations**

Minneapolis teachers retirement fund member provided leave of absence payment extension.

HF395—Trimble (DFL)**Gen'l Leg., Vet's Affairs & Gaming**

Bingo card requirement exemption provided to certain organizations, pull-tab and tipboard tax changed, and interagency advisory council on lawful gambling regulation created.

HF396—Simoneau (DFL)**Judiciary**

Liability; joint and several liability apportionment provided.

HF397—Osthoff (DFL)**Gen'l Leg., Vet's Affairs & Gaming**

Balloting by mail authorized on an experimental basis and money appropriated.

HF398—Osthoff (DFL)**Gen'l Leg., Vet's Affairs & Gaming**

Judges; election judges to include high school students and time off from work provided.

HF399—Reding (DFL)**Governmental Operations**

Employers to make additional retirement contributions.

HF400—Ostrom (DFL)**Taxes**

Omnibus technical and administrative corrections, clarifications, and changes provided for sales, use, and special taxes.

HF401—Reding (DFL)**Governmental Operations**

Legislator surviving spouse benefits to continue after remarriage.

HF402—Blatz (IR)**Judiciary**

Child support compliance required for persons contracting with state agencies and suspension of occupational licenses provided.

HF403—Jefferson (DFL)**Health & Human Services**

Foster care start-up grants provided and money appropriated.

HF404—Winter (DFL)**Financial Institutions & Insurance**

Health care benefit assignment regulated.

HF405—Steensma (DFL)**Transportation**

Hazardous material transportation variances authorized and rules established.

HF406—Johnson, A. (DFL)**Labor-Management Relations**

Employee wage protection act adopted and money appropriated.

HF407—Ostrom (DFL)**Housing**

Multicounty housing and redevelopment authority allowed to appoint additional commissioners.

HF408—Bauerly (DFL)**Gen'l Leg., Vet's Affairs & Gaming**

Carcass disposal options provided.

HF409—Reding (DFL)**Governmental Operations**

Police state aid program contributions provided.

HF410—Farrell (DFL)**Commerce**

Electricity board powers and examination requirements expanded.

HF411—Hasskamp (DFL)**Education**

Sparsity revenue eligibility expanded.

HF412—Pugh (DFL)**Commerce**

Fuel burner equipment installation and repair personnel regulated in the metropolitan area.

HF413—Anderson, R. (IR)**Health & Human Services**

Rural health office established upon receipt of federal grant and money appropriated.

HF414—Bishop (IR)**Judiciary**

Deadly force policy adopted by local and state law enforcement agencies.

HF415—Sparby (DFL)**Commerce**

Farm equipment dealerships regulated.

HF416—Vellenga (DFL)**Judiciary**

Sex offenders required to register with local law enforcement agencies and money appropriated.

HF417—Solberg (DFL)**Judiciary**

Juvenile correctional facilities to have one counselor or other staff person for every 20 juveniles confined.

HF418—Kahn (DFL)**Governmental Operations**

Capital grounds not to contain more than one portrait of a governor.

HF419—Johnson, R. (DFL)**Governmental Operations**

Tax sheltered annuity and deferred compensation payments allowed by government units.

HF420—Kelso (DFL)**Education**

Early childhood health and developmental screening programs established by school districts and insurance coverage required.

HF421—Bauerly (DFL)**Education**

Individual learning and development aid eligibility extended through third grade and money appropriated.

HF422—McGuire (DFL)**Local Government & Metro. Affairs**

Cities in metropolitan area exempted from public notice requirements.

HF423—Welker (IR)**Judiciary**

Coroners and medical examiners provided records and other information relating to deaths.

HF424—Sviggum (IR)**Gen'l Leg., Vet's Affairs & Gaming**

Athletics; assault on sports official provided penalty.

HF425—Begich (DFL)**Environment & Natural Resources**

State land in St. Louis county sold.

HF426—Beard (DFL)**Gen'l Leg., Vet's Affairs & Gaming**

Persian Gulf war veterans provided two-year tuition exemption.

HF427—Ogren (DFL)**Regulated Industries**

Telephones; resale of local exchange services regulated.

HF428—Sparby (DFL)**Appropriations**

Red Lake county watershed district grant provisions modified.

HF429—Cooper (DFL)**Health & Human Services**

Nurses; midlevel practitioner loan forgiveness program established and money appropriated.

HF430—Rukavina (DFL)**Regulated Industries**

Virginia authorized to issue 21 on-sale liquor licenses.

HF431—Skoglund (DFL)**Financial Institutions & Insurance**

Health maintenance organizations regulated by commerce commissioner.

HF432—Janezich (DFL)**Taxes**

Omnibus technical and administrative changes provided to income, franchise, and mining taxes.

HF433—Carruthers (DFL)**Taxes**

Homestead eligibility provided to homes of disabled parents owned by their children.

HF434—Cooper (DFL)**Energy**

Ethanol plant developers provided information.

HF435—Pugh (DFL)**Governmental Operations**

Municipalities refunded excess contributions to police and fire retirement programs.

HF436—Sviggum (IR)**Gen'l Leg., Vet's Affairs & Gaming**

Animal cruelty penalties expanded for second time offenders and equine exemption repealed.

HF437—Waltman (IR)**Education**

Fund balance averaging allowed for cooperating school districts.

HF438—Ostrom (DFL)**Health & Human Services**

Contested case and maltreatment appeal provisions clarified for human service personnel.

HF439—Smith (IR)**Gen'l Leg., Vet's Affairs & Gaming**

Flag desecration; memorializes Congress to propose a constitutional amendment to allow laws prohibiting the desecration of the American flag.

HF440—Valento (IR)**Financial Institutions & Insurance**

Health care plan for uninsured.

HF441—Rest (DFL)**Taxes**

External nuclear decommissioning reserve fund exempted from taxation.

HF442—Carruthers (DFL)**Judiciary**

Spiritual health care exemption from child neglect and child abuse reporting repealed.

HF443—Murphy (DFL)**Health & Human Services**

Chemical dependency counselors' board created, licensing provided, and money appropriated.

HF444—Sparby (DFL)**Local Government & Metro. Affairs**

Pennington county and Thief River Falls allowed to construct, finance, and own student housing.

HF445—Cooper (DFL)**Health & Human Services**

Medical care vendor error notification procedures modified, state health plan flexibility required, and money appropriated.

HF446—Kinkel (DFL)**Environment & Natural Resources**

Eurasian water milfoil watercraft surcharge expanded, expenditures modified, and pilot project established.

HF447—Pelowski (DFL)**Education**

High school graduate scholarship program established and certain higher education duties transferred.

HF448—Bertram (DFL)**Governmental Operations**

Resident bidder preference expanded and certain contractors prohibited from public contracts.

HF449—Bertram (DFL)**Judiciary**

Providing volunteers immunity from civil liability.

HF450—Bertram (DFL)**Transportation**

Rustic road system established.

HF451—Davids (IR)**Education**

Independent school district No. 239, Rushford-Peterson, authorized a special operating debt levy within the boundaries of former independent school district No. 234, Rushford, to retire preconsolidation debt.

HF452—Swenson (IR)**Judiciary**

Sentences not to be mitigated due to amenability to treatment or probation.

HF453—Winter (DFL)**Financial Institutions & Insurance**

Automobile insurance medical claim denials regulated.

Hotline update

Our 24-hour recorded committee information service, House Calls (296-9283), has been updated to provide quicker access to committee meeting information.

The tape-based system has been replaced by electronic voice mail which allows direct access to individual portions of the schedule.

Callers with touchtone telephones who want information about a 12:30 meeting will no longer have to listen to everything else to obtain the answer. If you have a rotary telephone, you still have to listen to the entire schedule. The service is designed to allow more people to have access to the hotline.

In addition, people in outstate Minnesota can now call 1-800-657-3550 when the office is closed to get the full committee schedule.

Committee Schedule

This schedule is subject to change. For information updates, call House Calls at (612) 296-9283. All meetings are open to the public.

MONDAY, Feb. 25

8 a.m.

Economic Development, Infrastructure & Regulation Division/ APPROPRIATIONS

400S State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Jim Rice

Agenda: Secretary of State.

Education Division/ APPROPRIATIONS

300N State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Lyndon Carlson

Agenda: Mission statements and enrollment reports by higher education systems.

Environment & Natural Resources Division/ APPROPRIATIONS

Basement Hearing Room
State Office Building
Chr. Rep. David Battaglia

Agenda: Budget hearings: Hazardous Substance Compensation Board, Board of Animal Health, Minnesota/Wisconsin Boundary Commission and Citizens Council on Voyageur National Park.

EDUCATION

5 State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Bob McEachern

Agenda: HF0350 (McEachern) Educational fiscal and policy reforms.

Government Structures Division/ GOVERNMENTAL OPERATIONS

10 State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Rich O'Connor

Agenda: Presentation by Tom Walstrom, Legislative Auditors Office. Report on Pollution Control Agency. PCA commissioner, Charles Williams. PCA board chair, Dan Foley. Department of Natural Resources commissioner, Rod Sando.

8:30 a.m.

Human Resources Division/ APPROPRIATIONS

200 State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Lee Greenfield

Agenda: Presentation of the governor's budget; Department of Human Services overview, begin Medical Assistance/ General Assistance medical care (health care for families and individuals).

State Government Division/ APPROPRIATIONS

300S State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Phyllis Kahn

Agenda: Board of Public Defense: Weighted caseload study.

10 a.m.

AGRICULTURE

5 State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Steve Wenzel

Agenda: Dr. Pat Borich, director, Minnesota Extension Service, University of Minnesota. Jerry Miller, assistant director of agriculture, Minnesota extension Service, University of Minnesota. Overview of the Minnesota Extension service.

JUDICIARY

Basement Hearing Room
State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Kathleen Vellenga

Agenda: HF144 (Greenfield) Uniform anatomical gift act of 1987 adopted.

REGULATED INDUSTRIES

10 State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Joel Jacobs

Agenda: HF0282 (Cooper) Gas utilities exempted from prior rate regulation. HF0353 (Kahn) Extending on-sale closing hours (cities of the first class).

11 a.m.

Criminal Justice Division/ JUDICIARY

Basement Hearing Room
State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Loren Solberg

Agenda: HF0239 (Carruthers) Intentionally disarming of a peace officer provided penalty.

HF0345 (Vellenga) Statute of limitations extended and eliminated for sexual abuse crimes against minors.

12:30 p.m.

Education Finance Division/ EDUCATION

300N State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Ken Nelson

Agenda: HF0277 (Cooper) Independent school district No. 653, Olivia, authorized to transfer money for combination with independent school district No. 646, Bird Island-Lake Lillian, and operating debt levies authorized. Overview of new initiatives in governor's biennial education budget proposal.

Banking Division/ FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS & INSURANCE

300S State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Wally Sparby

Agenda: Presentation: Norwest Corporation, John Berg (continued). Resolution Trust Corporation, Robert Fish, director of the Minneapolis Consolidated Office.

HOUSING

5 State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Karen Clark

Agenda: Guiding principles summary. Minnesota NAHRO: Introduction, Branna Lindell, executive director; public housing, John Gutzman, St. Paul PHA; 1st ring suburbs, Bruce Nordquist, Richfield; central cities, Lorrie Louder, MCDA; greater Minnesota, Ken Crowell, Clay County HRA (Moorhead), Lyn Fundingsland, Becker County HRA (Detroit Lakes), Steve Griesert, community development, Faribault; suburban development, Mark Ulfers, Dakota County HRA.

LABOR-MANAGEMENT RELATIONS

200 State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Joseph Begich

Agenda: HF0304 (Anderson, I.) Employers not to make replacement workers permanent during a strike or lockout. HF0324 (Farrell) Wages to include payments made to a vacation, health, welfare, or pension fund on behalf of the employee.

2:30 p.m.

The House will meet in session.

TUESDAY, Feb. 26**8 a.m.****Education Division/
APPROPRIATIONS**

300N State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Lyndon Carlson

Agenda: Mayo Medical School overview.**Environment &
Natural Resources Division/
APPROPRIATIONS**

Basement Hearing Room State Office Building

Chr. Rep. David Battaglia

Agenda: Budget hearings: Academy of Science, Science Museum of Minnesota.**Human Resources Division/
APPROPRIATIONS**

200 State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Lee Greenfield

Agenda: Continuation of the governor's budget review; Medical Assistance/General Assistance medical care (health care for families and individuals).**8:15 a.m.****State Government Division/
APPROPRIATIONS**

300S State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Phyllis Kahn

Agenda: Agency overview/budget hearing: Capitol Area Architectural & Planning Board.**8:30 a.m.****GOVERNMENTAL OPERATIONS**

10 State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Leo Reding

Agenda: Overview: Gaming Department/Lottery Division, George Andersen, director.**10 a.m.****ENVIRONMENT &
NATURAL RESOURCES**

10 State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Willard Munger

Agenda: HF0128 (Reding) Water detention devices or practices required for developments covering more than one acre.

HF0160 (Munger) Toxic air pollutant list and monitoring and reduction program established by the pollution control agency and money appropriated.

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

5 State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Alan Welle

Agenda: Overview of the governor's human services budget presented by Commissioner Nellie Steffen.**12:30 p.m.****ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

5 State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Gloria Segal

Agenda: E. Peter Gillette, commissioner, Department of Trade and Economic Development (DTED) and Jenny Engh, assistant commissioner, DTED: Summary of the governor's economic development proposal.**Elections Division/
GENERAL LEGISLATION,
VETERANS AFFAIRS & GAMING**

500N State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Linda Scheid

Agenda: Continuation of: HF0069 (Scheid) Political parties; executive committee to fill nomination vacancies. HF0137 (Scheid) Candidate withdrawal provisions provided.**Subcommittee on Fiscal Affairs/
LOCAL GOVERNMENT &
METROPOLITAN AFFAIRS**

200 State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Phil Carruthers

Agenda: Metropolitan Council budget.**2:30 p.m.****Subcommittee on Civil Law/****JUDICIARY**

500S State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Tom Pugh

Agenda: To be announced.**4 p.m.****REDISTRICTING**

Natural Resources Research Institute,

5013 Miller Trunk Highway, Duluth

Chr. Rep. Peter Rodosovich

Agenda: Demographic information, Tom Gillaspay, state demographer. Review of concurrent resolutions to establish standards. Open testimony.**WEDNESDAY, Feb. 27****8 a.m.****Economic Development,
Infrastructure, and Regulation
Division/
APPROPRIATIONS**

400S State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Jim Rice

Agenda: Minnesota Safety Council, Minnesota Municipal Board and P.O.S.T. Board**Education Division/
APPROPRIATIONS**

300N State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Lyndon Carlson

Agenda: Report on Minnesota Study of Postsecondary Access & Needs (MSPAN) by the Minnesota Higher Education Coordinating Board.**Human Resources Division/
APPROPRIATIONS**

200 State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Lee Greenfield

Agenda: Continuation of the governor's Department of Human Services budget review: State operated residential care for special needs population.**EDUCATION**

5 State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Bob McEachern

Agenda: HF0350 (McEachern) Education fiscal and policy reforms. (Continued from Monday's meeting, if needed.) HF0009 (Johnson, A.) Legislative commission on children, youth, and their families created.

8:15 a.m.

*****JOINT MEETING*****

**State Government Division/
APPROPRIATIONS &
Environment & Natural Resources
Division/APPROPRIATIONS**

Basement Hearing Room
State Office Building
Chrs. Reps. Phyllis Kahn & David
Battaglia

Agenda: Department of Finance informa-
tional review of budget structure.

8:30 a.m.

GOVERNMENTAL OPERATIONS

10 State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Leo Reding

Agenda: Structure and financing of the
court system: Supreme Court Chief
Justice A.M. (Sandy) Keith, Judge Kevin
Burke, chair, State Board of Public
Defense, and Herbert Baumhoefner,
chair, Martin County Board of Commis-
sioners.

10 a.m.

**Higher Education Division/
EDUCATION**

500N State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Mike Jaros

Agenda: State University System:
Presentation on student placements for
certain two and four year degree pro-
grams. How many graduated; how many
found jobs; how much did it cost the
system; and future placement outlook.
HF0278 (Rukavina) Permanent university
fund expenditures to include endowed
chairs and outreach programs.
HF0173 (Rukavina) University of
Minnesota bargaining unit structure to
include an administrative unit.

**FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS &
INSURANCE**

Basement Hearing Room
State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Wes Skoglund

Agenda: HMO overview and health care
cost issues, George Halvorson, Group
Health Inc. Life insurance overview: Dan
Anderson, Minnesota Association of Life
Underwriters.

**Criminal Justice Division/
JUDICIARY**

500S State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Loren Solberg
Agenda: HFXXXX (Bishop) Requiring
law enforcement agencies to adopt
written policies on the use of force.

12:30 p.m.

ENERGY

500N State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Mary Murphy
Agenda: Department of Public Service
report on technological developments.
Department of Public Service will
respond and clarify references presented
at previous meetings.

**Subcommittee on Health Care Access
& Delivery/
HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES**

300S State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Roger Cooper
Agenda: Overview of EMS training and
testing issues: Minnesota Department of
Health presentation.

**Subcommittee on Data Privacy/
JUDICIARY**

500S State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Phil Carruthers
Agenda: Background information: Ken
Bentfield, Department of Public Safety,
director, Information Systems Manage-
ment. Dana Badgerow, commissioner of
Administration (tentative). Richard
Neumeister, citizen lay specialist in data
practices issues.

TRANSPORTATION

10 State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Henry Kalis
Agenda: Department of Public Safety
overview.
HF0243 (Reding) Service signs autho-
rized along interstate highways.
HF0087 (Solberg) Itasca county board
and appropriate town boards allowed to
establish and record certain public roads
less than four rods in width.

2:30 p.m.

**Education Finance Division/
EDUCATION**

300N State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Ken Nelson
Agenda: The governor's biennial budget

recommendations; General Education
Formula.

**Subcommittee on Standards &
Regulations/
HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES**

300S State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Howard Orenstein
Agenda: Overview of ethical issues
involved in organ transplantation.

Time to be announced

**Subcommittee on Property Tax/
TAXES**

Alexandria & Moorhead
Chr. Rep. Edgar Olson
Agenda: The governor's budget.

**Subcommittee on State Taxes &
Tax Laws/TAXES**

Mankato & Worthington
Chr. Rep. Ann Rest
Agenda: The governor's budget.

THURSDAY, Feb. 28

8 a.m.

**Economic Development,
Infrastructure, and Regulation
Division/
APPROPRIATIONS**

400S State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Jim Rice
Agenda: Transportation Regulation
Board, IRRRB, and Racing Commission.

**Education Division/
APPROPRIATIONS**

300N State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Lyndon Carlson
Agenda: Overview of the governor's
budget by the Department of Finance.

**Environment &
Natural Resources Division/
APPROPRIATIONS**

Basement Hearing Room
State Office Building
Chr. Rep. David Battaglia
Agenda: Budget hearings: Continuation
of the Science Museum, and the Minne-
sota Zoological Gardens.

**Human Resources Division/
APPROPRIATIONS**

200 State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Lee Greenfield

Agenda: Public testimony. The governor's Department of Human Services budget: Medical Assistance/ General Assistance medical care, state operated residential care for special needs population.

**Education Finance Division/
EDUCATION**

400N State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Ken Nelson

Agenda: The governor's biennial budget recommendations.

8:15 a.m.

**State Government Division/
APPROPRIATIONS**

300S State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Phyllis Kahn

Agenda: Attorney General's Office: Indian treaties; and attorneys in the agencies.

10 a.m.

**ENVIRONMENT & NATURAL
RESOURCES**

10 State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Willard Munger

Agenda: HF0322 (Wagenius) Solid waste management certification and training program established and money appropriated.

HF0303 (Wagenius) Waste management practices changed and emphasis placed on waste reduction and recycling.

**Subcommittee on Health Care Access
& Delivery/
HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES**

5 State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Roger Cooper

Agenda: HF0006 (Lourey) Health care plan for uninsured and underinsured established.

HF0007 (Greenfield) Health care plan for uninsured and underinsured established. Public testimony will be taken on both bills. (HF0007 will continue on Tuesday, March 5, during the full committee meeting.)

12:30 p.m.

**GENERAL LEGISLATION, VETER-
ANS AFFAIRS & GAMING**

500S State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Tom Osthoff

Agenda: Nan Connor, compliance officer, gambling control division.

**Subcommittee on Fiscal Affairs/
LOCAL GOVERNMENT &
METROPOLITAN AFFAIRS**

200 State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Phil Carruthers

Agenda: To be announced.

2:30 p.m.

The House will meet in session.

3:30 p.m. (or after session)

**Joint House/Senate Subcommittee on
Libraries/
EDUCATION**

200 State Office Building
Chrs. Rep. Edwina Garcia & Sen. Sandy Pappas

Agenda: Annual report, Minnesota Department of Education; public libraries services; and the governor's recommended budget.

FRIDAY, March 1

12 noon

**Subcommittee on Soil & Water
Resources/
AGRICULTURE**

Thief River Falls Community College,
Thief River Falls

Chr. Rep. Jeff Bertram

Agenda: Public hearing concerning the following proposed wetland legislation: HF0001 (Munger) Wetland enhancement, preservation, and protection act of 1991.

HF0040 (Bauerly) Wetland establishment, restoration, and enhancement act of 1991.

12:30 p.m.

JUDICIARY

Basement Hearing Room
State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Kathleen Vellenga

Agenda: To be announced.

Time to be announced

**Subcommittee on Property Tax/
TAXES**

Duluth

Chr. Rep. Edgar Olson

Agenda: The governor's budget.

**Subcommittee on State Taxes & Tax
Laws/
TAXES**

Rochester

Chr. Rep. Ann Rest

Agenda: The governor's budget.

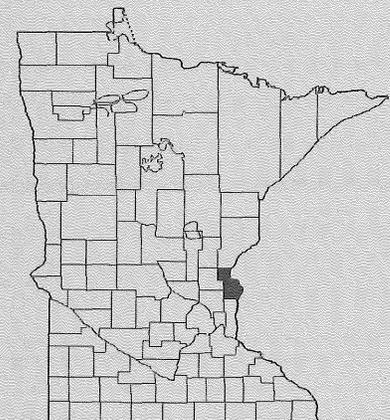
Do you know?

Somebody who misspelled, oops, misspelled a word accounts for the naming of Chisago County.

William H.C. Folsom of Taylor's Falls offered the name for the county. It takes the name of the largest lake in the county. In its original form, it was "Ki-chi-sago," from two Ojibway words meaning "fair" and "lovely." To ease pronunciation, the first syllable was dropped.

Problems arose about the county's name when petitioners traveled to St. Paul to address the Legislature. They proposed "Chisa-ga," but that name was ridiculed and the names of Hamilton, Jackson, Franklin, and Jefferson were offered instead.

Legislators debated the name and agreed upon Chisaga. A typographical error, however, was responsible for changing the final "a" to "o" and the mistake was never corrected.



Minnesota House of Representatives
Public Information Office
175 State Office Building • St. Paul, MN 55155-1298
(612) 296-2146 1-800-657-3550

Speaker of the House: Robert Vanasek
Majority Leader: Dee Long
Minority Leader: Terry Dempsey

MINNESOTA INDEX

Minnesota Lottery

Total revenue, instant ticket sales (fiscal year 1990)	\$67,825,593
Number of instant tickets sold per second on first day of sales	62
Amount of instant tickets bought per week, per person	\$1.42
National ranking of per capita sales	2
Fiscal year 1991 advertising budget	\$12,053,613
Revenue to Environment & Natural Resources Trust Fund	\$3,645,910
Total amount of prizes claimed	\$34,334,800
Amount collected by the state from winners who owed delinquent taxes and other court-ordered payments	\$38,360
Number of investigations for fraud, misrepresentation, and ticket theft	171
Number of security cameras at Lottery Division Headquarters in Roseville	23
Average decline, per day, in sales of instant game tickets in two weeks following onset of Persian Gulf War	\$64,583
Number of retailers selling lottery tickets	4,400
Total commission paid back to retailers	\$3,388,000
Number of Minnesota State Lottery employees	180
Annual amount contributed by Minnesota State Lottery to compulsive gamblers hotline service	\$100,000

Sources: *The Minnesota State Lottery 1990 Annual Report; Legislative Briefing, 1991*

For general information, call:
House Information Office
(612) 296-2146 or
1-800-657-3550

FAX: (612) 296-1563

To obtain a copy of a bill, call:
Chief Clerk's Office
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House Index Office
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24-Hour Recorded Information

For up-to-date committee meeting
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House Calls (612) 296-9283

For a report of the day's committee
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