Squeeze Play: The Stadium

Majority Preview
by Sen. Roger D. Moe

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Session Builds on Interim Activity

Editor: Karen L. Clark
Writers: Karen L. Clark
Ron Hebensperger
Layout and Design: Ron Hebensperger
Photographs: David J. Oakes

On the cover: A subdued winter sun illuminates the Minnesota Capitol under a blanket of fresh fallen snow. Photo by David J. Oakes.
The Senate reconvenes for the 1998 Legislative Session. Among the issues facing lawmakers are the bonding bill, the projected budget surplus and construction of a new baseball stadium.

What's Inside This Issue of Perspectives

The second portion of the 80th Legislative Session began Tues., Jan. 20. Traditionally, the even year session is shorter, typically lasting about 10 or 12 weeks, and has a more limited agenda than the odd year session. The primary business before the Legislature is the development of the capital budget, or bonding, bill for infrastructure and building purposes. However, as in most sessions, lawmakers are confronted with a broad spectrum of issues, ranging from dealing with a projected budget surplus to K-12 education reform proposals.

This issue of Perspectives contains articles on one of the more prominent issues facing the Legislature--the construction of a new baseball stadium, a profile of some of the interim's legislative activity and legislative previews by the Senate's majority and minority leaders.

Legislative leaders have set an ambitious series of deadlines for members to meet in order to complete the business of the state this year. The first committee deadline will be Fri., Feb. 13. By that date, all bills, other than those containing appropriations, must be passed out of all policy committees in their house of origin. The second deadline, Fri., Feb. 20, is the date by which all bills, other than those containing appropriations, must be passed out of all policy committees in the House and Senate. The third deadline, Fri., Feb. 27, is the date by which all appropriations bills must be passed out of policy committees.

To help citizens of Minnesota stay better informed of Legislative happenings, new electronic information services are available for the 1998 Legislative session. These new services allow people to find and receive information that is specific to their interests. Among the new services are pages on the Senate World Wide Web site for each of the Senate's committees. In addition, most committees now use a schedule listserv. A listserv is an automated distribution system that can send out information, such as committee meeting schedules and agendas, via e-mail. Instructions for subscribing to a committee listserv can be found on that committee's web page. General committee schedules are still available from the Senate's web site and listserv for those who wish to stay abreast of all Senate activities. To view the Senate website, point your browser at http://www.senate.leg.state.mn.us and follow the links to the information you are seeking. The website has the latest and most accurate bill status and schedule information.
The Senate tries to keep professional baseball in Minnesota without using public money.

by Ron Hebensperger

To build or not to build, that is the question. Or more accurately, should the state subsidize the construction of a new stadium for the Minnesota Twins. The question has remained a hot topic since the Twins management announced their intent to sell the team to an out of state buyer if the state didn't help finance the construction of a new stadium. Almost as soon as the Twins made their announcement, the public made their voices heard on the issue with an overwhelming majority against the use of public funds for a new ballpark. Yet, a similar percentage said they didn't want to see the two-time World Series Champions leave. This gave the Legislature the unenviable task of trying to resolve two seemingly irreconcilable positions.

During the 1997 regular Legislative Session, Legislators considered the matter but were unable to reach agreement. Although the media kept the public eye on the stadium issue, the Legislature focused its attention on other pressing issues such as welfare reform and the state’s budget for the coming biennium. With limited time resources, the Legislature never formed a consensus on how much, if any, public money to use, or what alternative funding sources could be tapped to fund the project.

So why do the Twins want a new stadium in the first place? What’s wrong with their current home, the Hubert H. Humphrey Metrodome? The answer to those and other questions came in a series of hearings convened by the Legislative Stadium Task Force throughout the summer of 1997. According to the opening presentation, by Senate analyst Patrick McCormack, “The nature of major league sports has changed since the construction of the Metrodome in 1982.” McCormack said that higher players’ salaries have put a greater strain on team budgets for about the last decade. In order to pay the salaries, owners need new sources of revenue.

To meet the need, several major league sports franchises have constructed new stadia in recent years. Built into the design of those stadia were newer and better features that can be sold, rented or licensed for a premium price. These features include luxury suites, club seats, and seats licensed to individuals. More recently the whole stadium has been named for a corporation -- an honor that comes at a hefty price.

Added to the player salary enhancing...
of the Committee on Taxes before the session ended.

At that point the Legislature formed the joint bipartisan Stadium Task Force to examine the issue through the interim. The task force's charge was to make a recommendation in time for a

Sen. Jerry Janezich presents his stadium construction financing bill in committee. Former Minnesota Twins Kent Hrbek (l) and Kirby Puckett (r) flank Janezich in the background.

income from these new features are the traditional revenue sources like ticket sales and concessions, money that in an earlier era was used to pay off the stadium construction costs.

The problem with the Metrodome, the Twins organization said, is that it doesn't have those other money generating features. The other professional sports franchise that occupies the dome, the Minnesota Vikings, receives all the revenue from suite rental. Because of the terms of the Twins' lease, the revenue generating mechanisms used by other baseball teams just aren't available. And no one has suggested changing the name of the Metrodome from a favorite Minnesota political son to a corporation.

To make matters worse, the Metrodome is essentially a football stadium according to the Twins organization. The results of that design bias are sight lines and a seat configuration that aren't well suited for baseball spectators. That, in turn, reduces the attractiveness of the Metrodome as a baseball venue so attendance suffers. In addition, the Twin Cities Metro Area is one of the smallest sports media markets in the nation. As a result, the broadcast rights don't carry the same price tag in the Twin Cities that they do in a larger market like New York or Los Angeles. Putting all these factors together, the Twins say they can't generate the necessary revenues to field a competitive team while playing in the Metrodome. That's why Twins owner Carl Pohlad issued his ultimatum to the Legislature to either build a new baseball stadium or the Twins were leaving town -- presumably to go to an area that will build a new stadium.

The Senate's first attempt to answer the ultimatum came during the 1997 regular Session in the form of S.F. 1140, sponsored by Sen. Jerry Janezich (DFL-Chisholm). Janezich's bill authorized a $225 million bond sale to pay some of the construction costs. The bonds would be repaid from various sources, collectively called user fees, such as ticket taxes and income tax on players' salaries.

Janezich said he sponsored the bill because he "saw it as infrastructure for the Metropolitan Area and for the state." He says that many facilities located in Minnesota -- such as the airport and the University of Minnesota -- are part of the infrastructure of the whole upper Midwest, and a new baseball stadium will keep the state competitive and vibrant. Janezich is quick to add that he would limit the state's investment to what it can afford. He said the $225 million "wouldn't have been enough to do everything. The owners would still have to put in a certain amount of money to do the (retractable) roof. I thought that was more than fair."

The bill received a lukewarm reception in the Metropolitan and Local Government Committee, where it was amended and sent to the Committee on Taxes without recommendation. There the bill languished in the face of stiff public opposition to the user fees that critics labeled as public money. In an attempt to deflect that criticism, Sen. Dick Day (R-Owatonna) advocated the use of proceeds from state run video slot machines at Canterbury Park to pay for a stadium. Day's proposal received little support, and the bill never made it out of the Committee on Taxes before the session ended.

At that point the Legislature formed the joint bipartisan Stadium Task Force to examine the issue through the interim. The task force's charge was to make a recommendation in time for a

Twins owner Carl Pohlad explains to a Senate committee why the Metrodome is inadequate as a baseball stadium.
Sen. Martha Robertson confers with colleagues on the Legislative Stadium Task Force. Robertson repeatedly challenged the task force to define the state's role in building a new stadium.

One major advantage Robertson sees with this strategy is that it is geared toward the broad spectrum of economic development and takes the focus off of one particular business like the Minnesota Twins. That way, Robertson said, the Legislature doesn't have to justify a special appropriation for a baseball stadium by saying that baseball is unlike all the other types of businesses. A danger that concerns Robertson is that by making a special baseball stadium appropriation, a precedent is set for all other professional sports teams to come to the state asking for money.

A leading opponent of any kind of publicly financed stadium construction deal is Sen. John Marty (DFL-Roseville). Marty said there are higher priorities for the state and he is philosophically opposed to the idea. He sees a different role for the state to play in keeping the Twins in Minnesota. According to Marty, bringing people to the bargaining table to put together a private financing package is how the state should be involved in the matter. He added that the governor is the “natural authority” to do just that. Marty said he doesn’t want to see the Twins leave and exhorts the state government to show “the leadership necessary to provide alternative means of funding.”

Marty said “you don’t need a bill for private financing.” Instead of the state authorized “user fees” such as a ticket tax, Marty said the ticket price can be raised by the same amount as the proposed tax. Despite calling it unnecessary, Marty introduced two bills, S.F. 1942 in the regular Session and S.F. 7 in the special session scheduled for the Autumn.

“What’s the role of the state in building a new stadium?” is a question asked repeatedly by Sen. Martha Robertson (R-Minnetonka), a member of the task force. Robertson said the question was never adequately addressed by the task force, but offers her own answer. She sees financing a new stadium as part of the state’s legitimate economic development activity, but says the state first needs to define the level of involvement in that activity. Robertson would limit that involvement to no more than the return on the investment. “What I really struggled with was that, as we looked at the Twins situation, the benefits of building a stadium never came back to the taxpayers,” she said. Robertson said that she believes that professional baseball adds to the overall quality of life in Minnesota, but the Legislature should not focus solely on the Twins when considering the financing question. Instead, she suggested the state establish a sports and entertainment infrastructure fund that could be used as an economic development tool. Under her scenario, organizations would apply for grants from the fund but the grants would require a matching contribution. Robertson said this kind of partnership was used before to build the Minnesota Zoo and the Science Museum.

Sen. John Marty opposed state backing of stadium construction deal. He said that a private financing deal can be worked out and baseball needs to take care of its own internal problems.
the Third Special Session, proposing private financing deals. Marty said he authored the bills "to make the point and illustrate how you could do it." Marty is skeptical about the validity of claims that a deal financed with "user fees" is tax free. He said that all the proposals he has seen have required the host city, presumably Minneapolis, to contribute at least $50 million in real estate and infrastructure. "That's tax money," Marty stated.

There is an additional role that Marty thinks the state should play in a larger related issue. That role is pressuring the major leagues to take responsibility for their own problems. Marty said, "We're big on talking about personal responsibilities these days. Let's put our action behind the rhetoric and start telling Major League Baseball 'it's your problem, it's not our taxpayers' problem. We want you to start taking responsibility for your own behavior.'" The problem with Major League Baseball, according to Marty, is revenue sharing. Marty warned that even with the new sources of revenue from a state financed stadium, the Twins "are still going to be clobbered by the Yankees in terms of revenue."

Marty said he believes the federal government may need to get involved in the issue as well. Marty said Major League Baseball has special benefits bestowed on them by government through a coveted anti-trust exemption. With the exemption, baseball team owners are demanding a publicly financed stadium from community after community, stated Marty. "If they pull a team, a whole lot of people are going to put pressure on Congress to take away that special protection," Marty said.

Keeping the Twins in Minnesota was one goal of a special session bill authored by Sen. Roy Terwilliger (R-Edina). The bill, S.F. 25, came to be known as the "community ownership bill. " Supporters of the concept point to the Green Bay Packers as a successful community ownership model.

Under the bill, Pohlad would donate the Twins to a private non-profit foundation. The foundation would in turn sell shares of stock in the team to the community. Theoretically, because the owners would be local or regional, they will want to keep the team in Minnesota. The state would then finance the construction of an open air ball park, although the design would be "roof ready" so that a retractable roof could be added at a later time. The construction costs would be paid off through user fees, including income taxes on players' and management's salaries and taxes on baseball memorabilia.

Terwilliger said he sponsored the bill "to take the wheels off the team and have local ownership continue." That way "some large entity doesn't come in and pick up the team and move it" he said.

Terwilliger explained the state's role in his bill is that of forming a private-public relationship with the Twins. He said "it's the same role the state has in all kinds of endeavors, providing for a balanced quality of life and making it possible for various businesses to conduct their affairs in the state."

The bill made for lively debate on the Senate floor as various amendments were offered, but it never received a final vote. Because of a constitutional requirement, the House must pass any tax related bill first and then send it to the Senate. Upon receiving the bill, Senators could then substitute their proposal and send it back. However, the other body voted down a stadium proposal during the Third Special Session, Nov. 13, and then abruptly ended the session by adjourning sine die. That left the Senate with no opportunity to pass the special session bill.

Terwilliger says he intends to pursue the community ownership plan when the Legislature reconvenes for the 1998 regular Session.

Senate Majority Leader Roger Moe (DFL-Erskine) expressed disappointment that the community ownership bill did not come to a vote in the Senate. He said an ownership structure like that could have been a protocol for sports franchises in the future. Moe said "In order for teams to retain loyalty, their fans are going to have to have an investment." Moe said he believes that stock would have sold in neighboring states where many Twins fans live. "It would have taken on the flavor of the Midwest Twins. I think that would have been good for the team in the long run," Moe said.

Moe is unsure if the bill would have passed had a vote been taken, but admits it would have been close. One thing that is sure is that the stadium issue was one of the most divisive recently considered by lawmakers. Having the task of resolving two divergent wishes of the public -- keeping major league baseball in the state and doing so without the use of public funds -- Legislators found themselves on either
Passion ran high as members of the public on both sides of the issue came to the Capitol to let their Legislators know how they felt.

one side of the schism or the other, with no middle ground in between.

The lack of middle ground resulted from many Legislative candidates taking positions on the issue during the 1996 election campaign, and then being unable to compromise once elected. Robertson advises her colleagues "to have guiding principles, but be careful of how you box yourself in prior to a vote." She explained that during the campaign she promised the voters of her district that she would not raise their taxes but did not commit to opposing public financing. "If there's a lesson, I think you've got to be careful because you don't always know what the package is going to look like before the package is made. You need to have the flexibility to evaluate that package in light of whatever the wishes of the people are," she said.

Janzich agreed, saying "When you're running for public office and you don't know what the deal is going to be, you can't just make a blanket statement that you oppose something. Things have a tendency to change and you should be open to whatever is on the table."

"Early in politics I learned that you don't want to dig yourself a hole because in this job you must have some flexibility and the ability to do some things that aren't restricted," Janzich recalled. He added that he always wants to see a proposal before making a decision on it.

Terwilliger described how earlier commitments affected the debate, "In the beginning, people started out saying 'we're not going to approve any public funds for a stadium.' At the end, when there were no public funds in the stadium and there was no risk to the public whatsoever, it was a user fee driven type of an entity, but they were still stating the same thing, 'we do not wish to put the public at risk.'"

Terwilliger described his proposal as a "common sense solution" and laments that Legislators couldn't give it more consideration. "I hope that Legislators learn from this that you don't make snap judgements before you have all the facts," he concluded.

Legislators can often find themselves faced with what initially appear to be either/or choices. While the temptation may be to vote according to the opinion polls, Senators don't see that as the reason they were elected. Voters don't elect candidates based on them being able to count the number of phone calls on each side of an issue stated Terwilliger. Instead Moe explained "Part of our responsibilities is to look at different options. I think you always have to retain that right to make the judgement based upon the latest proposal. If it doesn't meet with certain guidelines and principals that you've established, then fine vote against it."

As a consequence, not all decisions will be popular with the people back home in the district. "I believe we are sent here to make some decisions for the good of the state that some people aren't going to like," said Janzich, but added, "I believe that our constituents want us to get something done." Janzich said he believes lawmakers shouldn't have to make a hundred calls back home to find out what people are saying on every vote. If that were the case, "I'd say you've got real trouble," he said.

Marty echoes that sentiment. He said that most people want better roads, more funding for schools, a cleaner
environment and more public safety. The problem, he adds, is that "We all want it, but nobody likes to pay taxes." In cases like that, Marty says, Legislators should listen carefully to what the public says, and then use their best judgement to reflect the values of the public.

From a practical standpoint, Terwilliger said that people don't have time, nor the wherewithall, to go to the Capitol in Washington or in St. Paul to make public policy decisions. Instead, our society uses a representative democracy and vests confidence in a lawmaker's judgement. "That means you're not going to always agree with a particular Representative or Senator, but what should be the test is do you agree with the principals upon which they guide their lives and on which they exercise their judgement."

Moe sees an additional lesson to be learned from the special session, "You should never go into a special session without having a prior agreement." He said that, generally, the Legislature does all the preparatory work ahead of time to get a proposal that can be passed. When an agreement is reached, the Legislature then goes into session. Even though the Legislative Stadium Task Force made a recommendation -- financing a stadium with proceeds from state operated video slot machines at Canterbury Park -- the proposal didn't have enough support for passage. Stadium backers were forced to develop other measures if they were going to get anything passed. That led to the prolonged and ultimately unsuccessful Special Session. Trying to enact a deal that way is a messier process said Moe.

Looking ahead, with the return of a National Hockey League franchise to St. Paul and the Minnesota Vikings expressing a desire for a new or improved home field, Terwilliger said that private-public partnerships may be the best solution in each case. Robertson reminded her colleagues that the Legislature first needs to define the state's level of participation in these matters before making any deals, but she admits that's not the most glamorous part of the job. "That's not the sexy stuff to do, to talk about public policy. The sexy stuff is to make the deal happen," she said.

She predicted that "The city of St. Paul's request for $65 million for a hockey arena could be a hard sell given the machinations that we all went through here". Not to be completely pessimistic, she said there is a very generous contribution from the private sector towards the arena which may make Senators more receptive to the request.

Moe doesn't hold out much hope for a St. Paul hockey arena either. "Based on the actions of the Legislature so far, reflecting the public's unwillingness to use public money, I don't see where the general fund of the state is going to be used at all for the hockey arena based on the debates on the Twins stadium. I think it's in for some tough sledding," he said. In contrast, Moe said the Vikings could fare better depending on how much they request. "My guess is that there will be support around here to refurbish the Metrodome, to make it a better football stadium than it is. If they're reasonable in their request to make the Metrodome more user friendly, and help it so it will generate more revenue, then I think they will find a sympathetic Legislature," Moe stated.

In addition to what Minnesota may do to keep the Twins, Moe also sees a need for some action at the national level. He said the action is necessary to stop the bidding off process that pits cities and states against each other as they compete to get a Major League Baseball franchise.

Will the Twins move to North Carolina? Will Minnesota build a new baseball stadium? Will the issue be decided during the 1998 Legislative session? Has the final deadline for state action come and gone? Will any of these questions be answered with any finality in the foreseeable future? We'll just have to wait and see. As Yogi Berra said, "It ain't over till it's over."
Majority Preview

by Sen. Roger D. Moe

Even-year legislative sessions typically feature relatively minor budgeting decisions, but 1998 presents a pleasant challenge to the Legislature. State revenues are projected at nearly $1.3 billion ahead of expenditures for the current biennium ending in mid-1999. The major challenge to lawmakers will be how to return those dollars to taxpayers and make prudent investments in the future without making long-term budget commitments.

Reflecting our state's current and future economic strength, Minnesota has achieved a Triple A bond rating with all three major national bond houses. The governor is seeking $1 billion in budgeting decisions, but it would be more prudent to borrow less now when we have a healthy surplus and reserve some bonding capacity until the day comes when the economy needs a jump start. The University of Minnesota system is seeking $249 million in capital improvements, and the state college system is expected to make a similar request. Several state prison improvements are planned and a major Department of Natural Resources request aims at bolstering parks, trails, wildlife habitat and the Reinvest in Minnesota program. A large number of bridges around the state are suffering from structural degradation and would be candidates for funds from a bond sale.

Several high-visibility crime prevention issues will be on the agenda. Concern is mounting over judicial sentencing resulting in no prison time served by offenders who normally would be incarcerated under sentencing guidelines. A better-coordinated Crime Victim Services system meeting the needs of victims of domestic abuse, sexual assault and general crimes has been recommended and will receive serious consideration. Measures to improve pre-trial release procedures and probation supervision are also likely.

After several years of study, the Legislature is expected to pass recodification of criminal statutes, including traffic violations. These changes are intended to clarify the statutes and eliminate any inconsistencies in penalties.

With up to $200 million in federal funds available to Minnesota, both light rail transit (LRT) and commuter use of existing heavy rail tracks are leading candidates for state matching funds.

As the number of snowmobile-related fatalities has risen in recent years, the Legislature is certain to consider improved snowmobile trail funding along with mandatory liability insurance for snowmobile operators.

The noise and lake traffic generated by highly popular personal watercraft have resulted in support for restrictions on their use. Proposals for state standards could involve restricted hours of use or allowing local authorities to impose stricter rules.

The practice of adding charges for use of bank cash machines has spread quickly. Efforts to regulate or eliminate the surcharges will get serious consideration this year.

With the immediate concerns resulting from the 1997 floods behind us, we can begin to make decisions that will have a lasting economic impact on the Red River Valley and other areas of the state that sustained heavy losses. The state will be involved in some flood diversion projects that are now in the planning stages. Mandating inclusion of flood insurance coverage in all homeowner's insurance policies sold in Minnesota is likely to be discussed.

The lack of affordable housing is a concern throughout Minnesota. Despite significant state efforts in recent years to expand rural housing, the continued strength of the state economy aggravates the housing shortage problem.

In addition, continuation of low-cost financing for senior housing is needed throughout the state to keep senior housing affordable and widely available. State funds will be used to extend existing senior housing loan terms and leverage federal participation.

The statewide community-based land use planning process involving counties, cities and townships will continue to be studied during 1998. An advisory council on community-based planning is expected to make some relatively minor changes to the 1997 framework legislation, including broadening membership in the advisory council. The advisory council is expected to make detailed recommendations on implementation of the community-based planning process in time for the 1999 Legislative Session.

The difficult task of weighing state, county and township responsibilities in the environmental and zoning regulation of feedlots will be reviewed by legislators. This controversy has emerged in recent years as manure lagoons have grown in size around the state.

In 1997, the Minnesota House authorized a Constitutional ballot question rededicating the 40 percent of lottery proceeds to the Environmental Trust Fund used for environmental programs until the year 2020. The current dedication is due to expire Jan. 1, 2001. If the Senate approves the measure, the question of extending the dedication 20 years will appear on the 1998 general election ballot.
The 1998 legislative session will be short, but it will not lack the drama of significant public policy decisions. Specifically, the legislature will be asked to reform its taxing practices which have, in recent years, resulted in taking from its citizens billions of dollars more than it needs.

Although the details have yet to be determined, Senate Republicans will support initiatives aimed at the permanent reduction of taxes totaling at least $1 billion.

Almost certainly, Republicans will be looking at property tax relief coupled with income tax rate cuts aimed at the middle class. Additionally, Republicans are also talking about actually eliminating an entire, specific tax, that being the yearly tax imposed for the renewal of license plate tabs for Minnesotans' motor vehicles.

Most importantly, I have been pleased to see that this debate is shaping up to be one of how and not if we should finally take steps to reduce the suffocating tax burden experienced by most hard working Minnesotans. However, I continue to be wary when I hear my colleagues from the DFL side of the aisle begin to hint about expanding current spending plans. Whether it is for pleasant sounding program areas such as education or child care, the point is that our tax collections continue to set record highs, and the people deserve that surplus back.

The other main topic at this year's 'short' session will be our biennial ritual of addressing local infrastructure needs in a bonding bill. Prominent issues reportedly in Governor Carlson's proposal will include environmental initiatives, higher education and new civic/convention centers in St. Paul and St. Cloud. While these and other elements of the anticipated package will attract the responsible consideration of Senate Republicans, we are concerned about its astounding $1 billion price tag. Remember, we are currently looking at a budget surplus that could rise as high as $2 billion within the next few weeks. I cannot stress enough that this should not be viewed as a license to spend.

Government spenders ought not be walking around with hypnotic grins humming "We're in the Money" and "Happy Days are Here Again." Every proposal for this bonding package must be carefully evaluated and represent an actual need with some reasonable sense of urgency to earn the support of Senate Republicans. For our part, we take that responsibility very seriously.

Amid the broad context of this debate over taxes and spending, it is almost certain that we will again discuss the future of the Minnesota Twins. To cut right to the chase, Senate Republicans remain willing to contemplate legislative stadium solutions which do not depend upon the broad confiscation of taxpayer funds.

We have said from the beginning that any stadium solution must, at the very least, include a significant private contribution and that the citizens and taxpayers of Minnesota should only pay a portion of the costs if they voluntarily and individually choose to do so. In our view, no Minnesotan who does not want to contribute to this new baseball stadium should be forced by this legislature to do so.

Other issues which Republicans expect to be prominent include the restructuring of the public electric utility industry, the proposed abolition of the State Board of Education, measures aimed at strengthening Minnesota families and the excessive costs associated with prevailing wage requirements in public school construction. It is also likely that we will closely examine the propriety of continuing to allow labor unions to use members' dues to assist political candidates without the express permission of those members.

In all likelihood, we will also contemplate several proposed changes to the Minnesota Constitution with, perhaps, the most provocative one being an initiative to change our legislature from bicameral to unicameral. In plain English, that just means that we would eliminate either the existing House of Representatives or the Senate and debate and enact laws through a single body. I like this idea because I believe it will make the process less expensive, more efficient and, probably most importantly, more responsive to the demands of Minnesotans.

Finally, it is my hope that the legislature takes some time to consider the issue of public safety. On that score, I expect to see tough proposals from Senate Republicans aimed at keeping violent criminals in custody longer, both before trial with bail reform and after conviction, perhaps with lifetime incarceration or at least strict supervision of repeat offenders. In particular, I continue to be very concerned about repeat, violent sexual predators who victimize women and children in our communities. If we can just bring a small dose of common sense to bear in this year's debate, maybe we will finally do something real and effective to stop these animals dead in their tracks. Then we will be able to honestly say it was a very successful legislative session.
Session Builds on Interim Activity

by Karen L. Clark

in-ter-im (in' ter im) n [L., meanwhile < inter: see INTER-] the period of time between; meantime --adj. for or during an interim; temporary; provisional [ an interim council]

Although Senators meet in formal Legislative Sessions for just a portion of each year, that doesn’t mean that legislative activity comes to a complete halt for the rest of the year. On the contrary, the months between Legislative Sessions are increasingly filled with legislative commission meetings, subcommittee hearings and committee meetings focused on a broad range of topics. In addition, Special Sessions concerning a variety of issues serve to call Senators back to the Capitol for additional work during the non-session portion of the year.

This time between the two portions of a regular Legislative Session has come to be called the “Interim.” It is not uncommon, during the regular session, to hear that bills have been referred for “interim study” or that special interim subcommittees have been formed to deal in-depth with a particular issue. This interim has been no exception. In fact, the period between May 1997 and the beginning of the second portion of the 80th Session, has been crowded with all sorts of interim activity.

Three Special Sessions have been held. The first, in early June, was called to work out an agreement for K-12 education funding. The second, held in July, was aimed at finalizing plans for flood relief for areas devastated by last Spring’s heavy floods. Finally, in October, the third Special Session was called to attempt to find a funding mechanism for a new baseball stadium.

The three Special Sessions were something of a rarity and as such generated a lot of media attention. However, the normal course of interim work was also proceeding with little fanfare but with a great deal of thoughtfulness and deliberation.

Interim meetings encompass a broad range of topics. Legislative commissions, with members appointed from both bodies of the Legislature, are charged with specific areas of responsibilities and help speed the committee process. For instance, the Legislative Commission on Pensions and Retirement examines issues relating to public employee pensions and considers specific proposals that are in bill form before the measures go before the appropriate Senate and House committees. The Legislative Commission on Minnesota Resources (LCMR) often holds day-long meetings throughout the interim to consider various work programs and proposals relating to environmental issues. In addition, the LCMR has conducted a number of tours this interim so that members can gain first hand knowledge of the projects under consideration.

Special task forces, created during the regular session to deal with specific issues also meet throughout the interim. The Electric Energy Task Force was created as part of the legislation dealing with dry cask storage of nuclear waste. The task force has been working for several years to deal with issues ranging from energy policy to electric industry restructuring to nuclear waste management policy. The Legislative Stadium Task Force met throughout the late summer and early autumn to develop a workable proposal for funding a new baseball stadium. The Information Policy Task Force was created last session in the omnibus data privacy bill to consider issues surrounding the classification of data held by government entities.

In addition to commissions and special task forces, joint meetings between Senate committees or between Senate committees and their House counterparts are often held during the Interim. The summer and autumn meetings allow members, who might otherwise have conflicting schedules to meet with one another to study a particular issue. For instance, the Human Resources Finance Committee and the Health and Family Security Committee met to hear an overview of Medicare in Minnesota and an update on the Medicare reform provisions of the federal Balanced Budget Act of 1997. Similarly the Senate Jobs, Energy and Community Development Subcommittee on Electric Utility Deregulation and the House Regulated Industries and Energy Subcommittee on electricity Deregulation met to discuss Minnesota’s tax policies effect on local government
Such joint meetings also allow members to coordinate various parts of legislation considered by the individual committees.

Interim is also the time that subcommittees come into their own. Often, special subcommittees are appointed to focus on a single issue. Subcommittee meetings, typically with a smaller number of members than a full committee, allow Senators to study an issue in-depth and to have a full discussion of various legislative proposals. This interim, the subcommittee process has been much in evidence.

One such special subcommittee is the Joint Commerce and Health and Family Security Subcommittee on Occupational Licensure. The panel, co-chaired by Sen. Deanna Wiener (DFL-Eagan) and Sen. Sheila Kiscaden (R-Rochester) has devoted a number of hearings to the issue of occupational licensure in Minnesota. Wiener and Kiscaden said that the issue warranted interim study because they became aware that the Legislature needed to become more consistent in the way it regulated various occupations. “What we are doing,” said Kiscaden is trying to improve the Legislature’s decision making processes around the issue of occupational licensure—who is licensed, who is not licensed and then, what kind of regulatory boards are in place.” As a Legislature we get a lot of requests to make changes in the way occupations are regulated, Kiscaden said. “Often times we have occupations asking for licensure and seldom are the consumers pushing for the legislation,” Wiener added. As a result, Kiscaden said, we have ended up with a lot of fragmentation in the system. “We are looking at a way to get more uniformity into our decision making,” Kiscaden said.

Both Senators also said that “scope of practice” issues are a key area for the subcommittee to study. Another issue on which we spend a lot of time as a Legislature is when a particular group’s authority or scope of practice is defined, they said. What is the scope of practice, say, in the kinds of procedures performed by chiropractors vs. physicians vs acupuncturists vs therapists, Kiscaden said. “There is a lot of conflict, particu-
larly in the health care area, around scope of practice issues at the very time when we are moving more and more toward team delivery of health care, “Kiscaden said. Wiener said that a key concern is consumer protection, “How do they (the consumers) wade through all these changes, what protections do they have and what assurances do they have that they are getting good health care in the most efficient way?”

The subcommittee got its impetus from a proposal of Kiscaden’s last session to undertake a study of licensure issues and from the number of requests for either new licensure, or changes in board relationships or changes in scope of practice. These two events led to both the Health and Family Security and the Governmental Operations and Veterans Committees’ members realizing that we needed to step back and look at the issue in depth, Wiener said. “We are trying to balance equity and good decision making,” Kiscaden said, “we want good decision making by the Legislature, we want consistency in how we regulate professions and we want to be sure we are really focused on consumer protection, not professional protection.”

Both Senators also remarked on the fact, that as a result of the subcommittee’s work, they had become aware of emerging issues that also have to be taken into consideration. “Differences between states also have to be considered because of emerging concepts like ‘telepractice,’” Kiscaden said. She said that numerous disciplines are beginning to use electronic means to practice their professions and that the differences in how one state or another licenses a profession becomes an issue. A second emerging issue, according to Wiener, is what kind of right do consumers have to information about the practitioners of a particular profession. “Information about complaints filed against any individual professional is a very controversial thing nationally,” Wiener said. Kiscaden also said that determining access to such information is a second element of that particular emerging issue.

Wiener said, “This is something we found to be much more complex than even we thought it would be. There is no easy or quick answer for this coming session but we hope to have, by the time session starts, at least a start on the path to answer some of the questions that we’ve posed.”

Another special subcommittee formed to study a particular issue is the Crime Prevention Subcommittee on the Non-felony Enforcement Advisory Committee (NEAC). According to subcommittee chair, Sen. Ellen Anderson (DFL-St. Paul), the subcommittee is charged with studying the criminal code to see if there were some ways it needed to be improved, updated and streamlined. A bill was passed a couple of years ago that called for a task force to study the criminal code dealing with misdemeanors and petty misdemeanors, she said, and that task force became the NEAC. “After a couple of years of hard work, NEAC has come up with a proposal for recodifying the criminal code, except for felonies,” Anderson
Sen. Allan Spear (DFL-Mpls.), chair of the full Crime Prevention Committee, is carrying the bill that contains the proposal and, because it is such a massive document, numbering into the hundreds of pages, created the subcommittee to review the measure in depth. "The bill deals with all non-felonies in our criminal code. It is a proposal for recodifying it and rewriting it that ranks offenses in a more rational way, puts some proportionality back into the code that's been lost over time and to streamline the code and put things in a more logical order," she said.

Spear wanted to have the subcommittee review the bill because it is such a comprehensive piece of legislation and would take a substantial amount of time to go through it and hear all the justification for the different pieces, Anderson said. The subcommittee has met several times during the interim to hear testimony and response from the public and from interested parties. "The scope of the bill is pretty far reaching," Anderson said, "and also includes provisions relating to the DNR and traffic violations. Pretty much every area of law has some penalties in it so potentially there could be hearings in a lot of different committees to really consider those changes." According to Anderson, the subcommittee will meet early in the session to consider amendments and, probably, remove some of the most controversial provisions. "We want to have something that we can pass on to the full committee," Anderson concluded.

Sen. Lawrence Pogemiller (DFL-Mpls.), chair of the K-12 Education Budget Division, has appointed a variety of special subcommittees this interim. The subcommittees have been dealing with issues ranging from special education to facilities and infrastructure, to equity funding, tax rates and revenue for property poor suburban and rural districts. The panels have been functioning as working groups to grapple with issues introduced, either during division discussion last session or in the omnibus K-12 funding bill. Sen. Linda Scheid (DFL-Brooklyn Park), chair of the K-12 Education Budget Division Subcommittee on Income, Race, Results and Graduation Rule, said that the purpose of her subcommittee was to hear feedback on the various issues, particularly on compensatory aid, in order to expedite the committee process once session begins. Pogemiller said he created the subcommittees to concentrate on "areas that were of interest to division members that dovetail with emerging key issues." The special education subcommittee was created because House members wanted to work on it, the tax credits issue arose during the special session and a subcommittee was appointed to deal with that issue, equity has been a long running issue and poverty and results is the key issue in my view of public education, he said. "We wanted to get a leg up on the session and these are areas members think are significant," Pogemiller said.

Pogemiller has also taken the unusual step of appointing Senators from the minority caucus as chairs of some of the subcommittees. "Most important issues are not partisan, and the key was to find members with the background and expertise" to tackle the issues he said. "I would hope that significant legislative proposals will be an outcome of the process," Pogemiller concluded.

The 1998 portion of the Legislative Session will be the proving ground for much of the activity that happened over the course of the Interim. The number of legislative panels, and their variety, have all been geared toward providing innovative and effective solutions to issues, both short term and long range, confronting the state and its citizens. Some issues will continue to require additional study and debate, however some of the issues confronting the Legislature will have their resolution as a result of the time and effort directed toward them by work done throughout the Interim of the 80th Legislative Session.
1998 Senate Committee Assignments

Policy Committees

Agriculture and Rural Development (15)
Chair: Sams  Vice Chair: Hanson
Office: 328 Capitol  Phone: 296-4205
Meet: Tues., Thurs., 2-3:45 p.m.; Room 107
Members:
Beckman     Johnson, D.E.    Morse    Vickerman
Berg        Leszewski        Murphy    Solon
Dille       Lessard          Piper     Ten Eyck
Fischbach   Lourey           Scheevel  Sym

Children, Families and Learning (32)
Co-Chair: Piper, Pogemiller, Stumpf
Meet: Tues., Weds., Fri., 8-9:45 a.m.; Room 15
Members:
Foley       Knutson          Neuvile   Solon
Hanson      Krentz           Olson     Ten Eyck
Higgins     Langseth         Pappas    Terwilliger
Janetich    Larson           Ranum     Wiener
Junge       Leszewski        Robertson  Wiger
Kelley, S.P. Lourey           Robling   Krentz
Kiscaden    Marty            Scheevel  Larson
Kleis       Murphy           Sied     Limmer

Commerce (16)
Chair: Solon  Vice Chair: Wiener
Meet: Tues., Thurs., 2-3:45 p.m.; Room 112
Office: 303 Capitol  Phone: 296-5776
Members:
Belanger    Kleis             Novak     Sied
Cohen       Larson            Oliver    Spear
Day         Marty             Runbeck   Foley
Hottinger   Metzen           Samuelson  Limmer

Crime Prevention (17)
Chair: Spear  Vice Chair: Johnson, D.H.
Meet: Mon., Weds., Fri., 2-3:45 p.m.; Room 15
Office: 120 Capitol  Phone: 296-4191
Members:
Anderson    Foley            Knutson   Neuvile
Beckman     Krentz           Larson    Ranum
Belanger    Kelly, R.C.      Laidig    Ten Eyck
Berglin     Kleis            Limmer    Krentz

Election Laws (11)
Chair: Marty  Vice Chair: Junge
Meet: Mon., Weds., 12 noon-1:45 p.m.; Room 112
Office: 326 Capitol  Phone: 296-5712
Members:
Flynn       Johnson, D.J.    Oourada   Johnson, D.E.
Frederickson Larson       Samson    Metzen
Johnson, D.E. Moe, R.D.    Scheevel  Fischbach

Environment and Natural Resources (19)
Chair: Lesard  Vice Chair: Anderson
Office: 111 Capitol  Phone: 296-1113
Meet: Mon., Weds., Fri., 12 noon-1:45 p.m.; Room 107
Members:
Berg        Krentz           Pariseau  Stumpf
Dille       Laidig           Pogemiller  Vickerman
Frederickson Morse        Price     Samson
Higgins     Novak            Samuelson  Stevens
Johnson, J.B. Olson        Solon     Spears

Governmental Operations and Veterans (15)
Chair: Metzen
Office: 303 Capitol  Phone: 296-4175
Meet: Tues., Thurs., 12 noon-1:45 p.m.; Weds., 10-11:45 a.m.; Room 15
Members:
Berg        Morse            Runbeck   Solon
Betzold     Pogemiller      Stevens   Spears
Cohen       Price            Stumpf    Solon
Fischbach   Robertson       Terwilliger  Spears

Health and Family Security (17)
Chair: Rohrman  Vice Chair: Lourey
Office: 120 Capitol  Phone: 296-1293
Meet: Tues., Thurs., Fri., 10-11:45 a.m.; Room 15
Members:
Berglin     Foley           Robertson  Stevens
Betzold     Kiscaden        Samson    Ten Eyck
Dille       Morse           Samuelson  Terwilliger
Fischbach   Piper           Solon     Ten Eyck

Jobs, Energy and Community Development (20)
Chair: Novak  Vice Chair: Kelley, S.P.
Office: 322 Capitol  Phone: 296-1767
Meet: Tues., Thurs., Fri., 10-11:45 a.m.; Room 107
Members:
Anderson    Johnson, D.H.   Limmer    Pariseau
Beckman     Johnson, D.J.   Metzen    Runbeck
Frederickson Johnh, J.B. Murphy   Solon
Higgins     Kelly, R.C.    Oliver
Janetich    Kiscaden        Oourada

Judiciary (1)
Chair: Ranum  Vice Chair: Betzold
Office: 306 Capitol  Phone: 296-6249
Meet: Mon., Weds., Fri., 12 noon-1:45 p.m.; Room 15
Members:
Berglin     Kiscaden        Ten Eyck
Cohen       Knutson         Spear
Foley       Limmer          Sied

Local and Metropolitan Government (17)
Chair: Vickerman  Vice Chair: Higgins
Office: 226 Capitol  Phone: 296-4150
Meet: Mon., Weds., Fri., 2-3:45 p.m.; Room 107
Members:
Day          Langseth        Olson     Robling
Flynn        Lessard         Pappas    Scheevel
Hottinger    Lourey          Pariseau  Wiger
Kelley, S.P. Oliver         Price

Rules and Administration (22)
Chair: Moe, R.D.  Vice Chair: Junge
Office: 208 Capitol  Phone: 296-2577
Meet: On call
Members:
Belanger    Johnson, D.E.   Lessard   Pogemiller
Berglin     Johnson, D.J.   Metzen    Samuelson
Cohen       Laidig          Novak     Solon
Day         Langseth        Olson     Spears
Frederickson Larson       Piper     Stumpf
Transportation (16)
Chair: Flynn
Office: 205 Capitol Phone: 296-5285
Meets: Mon., Tues., Weds., Thurs., Fri., 1-2 p.m.; Room 112
Members:
Belanger Johnson, D.H. Laidig Robling
Day Johnson, D.E. Langseth Sams
Hanson Johnson, J.B. Ourada
Janezich Kelly, R.C. Pappas

K-12 Education Budget Division (15)
Chair: Pogemiller
Office: 235 Capitol Phone: 296-7809
Meets: Tues., Weds., Fri., 9-9:45 a.m.; Room 112
Members:
Hanson Krentz Langseth Ourada Pappas Scheid
Janezich Langerth Runbeck
Junge Neufville Robertson
Knutson Olson Scheevel

Budget Divisions
Crime Prevention and Judiciary Budget Division (13)
Chair: Kelly, R.C.
Office: 204 Capitol Phone: 296-5285
Meets: Mon., Weds., Fri., 12 noon-1:45 p.m.; Room 15
Members:
Anderson Junge Neufville Ten Eyck
Beckman Knutson Ranum
Belanger Laidig Spear
Betold Limmer

Property Taxes and Local Government Budget Division (13)
Chair: Pappas
Office: 202 Capitol Phone: 296-1802
Meets: Mon., Tues., Weds., Thurs., Fri., 4-6 p.m.; Room 15
Members:
Day Kelley, S.P. Kelley, D.E. Price
Flynn Novak Olsen
Hottinger Oliver Pogemiller
Transportation Budget Division (10)
Chair: Johnson, J.B.
Office: 208 Capitol Phone: 296-5419
Meets: Tues., Thurs., 12 noon-1:45 p.m.; Weds. 10-11:45 a.m.; Room 112
Members:
Belanger Hanson Langseth
Flynn Johnson, D.H. Ourada

Economic Development Budget Division (14)
Chair: Beckman
Office: 220 Capitol Phone: 296-5313
Meets: Mon., Tues., Weds., Thurs., Fri., 8-9:45 a.m.; Room 15
Members:
Anderson Kelly, R.C. Novak Wiener
Higgins Larson Oliver
Janezich Lesewski Ourada
Johnson, D.H. Murphy Runbeck

Taxes and Finance Committees
Committee on Taxes (23)
Chair: Johnson, D.J.
Office: 204 Capitol Phone: 296-5649
Meets: Mon., Weds., Fri., 12 noon-1:45 p.m.; Room 107
Members:
Berg Johnson, J.B. Lesard Stumpf
Dille Krentz Lesard Vickerman
Frederickson Laidig Price

Education Finance Committee (13)
Chair: Langseth
Office: 202 Capitol Phone: 296-9612
Meets: Mon., Tues., Weds., Thurs., Fri., 4-6 p.m.; Room 123
Members:
Foley Johnson, D.E. Piper Scheevel
Hanson Larson Robertson
Higgins Moe, R.D. Robling

Environment and Agriculture Budget Division (12)
Chair: Morse
Office: G-24 Capitol Phone: 296-5649
Meets: Mon., Weds., Fri., 12 noon-1:45 p.m.; Room 107
Members:
Berg Johnson, J.B. Lesard Stumpf
Dille Krentz Lesard Vickerman
Frederickson Laidig Price

Human Resources Finance Committee (15)
Chair: Berglin
Office: 209 Capitol Phone: 296-4151
Meets: Mon., Tues., Weds., Thurs., Fri., 4-6 p.m.; Room 112
Members:
Beckman Kleis Samuelson Terwilliger
Johnson, D.H. Lourey Spear
Kelly, R.C. Neufville Stevens
Kiscaden Ranum Ten Eyck

Family and Early Childhood Education Budget Division (9)
Chair: Piper
Office: G-9 Capitol Phone: 296-9248
Meets: Tues., Weds., Fri., 8-9:45 a.m.; Room 15
Members:
Higgins Lesewski Marty Terwilliger
Janezich Lourey Robling

State Government Finance Committee (16)
Chair: Cohen
Office: 215 Capitol Phone: 296-5308
Meets: Mon., Tues., Weds., Thurs., Fri., 4-6 p.m.; Room 107
Members:
Dille Junge Metzen Stumpf
Fischbach Laidig Morse Wiener
Frederickson Lesard Ourada
Johnson, J.B. Limmer Solon

Governmental Operations Budget Division (11)
Chair: Price
Office: 225 Capitol Phone: 296-5308
Meets: Mon., Tues., Weds., Thurs., Fri., 8-9:45 a.m.; Room 15
Members:
Betold Marty Runbeck Wiger
Cohen Metzen Scheevel
Frederickson Robertson Stevens

Health and Family Security Budget Division (14)
Chair: Samuelson
Office: 214 Capitol Phone: 296-4875
Meets: Mon., Tues., Weds., Thurs., Fri., 10-11:45 a.m.; Room 15
Members:
Berglin Hottinger Piper Terwilliger
Dille Kiscaden Solon
Fischbach Lourey Solon
Foley Morse Stevens

Higher Education Budget Division (9)
Chair: Stumpf
Office: G-24 Capitol Phone: 296-8660
Meets: Tues., Weds., Fri., 8-9:45 a.m.; Room 107
Members:
Kelley, S.P. Kleis Murphy Wiener
Kiscaden Larson Solon

Human Resources Budget Division (11)
Chair: Price
Office: 225 Capitol Phone: 296-5308
Meets: Mon., Tues., Weds., Thurs., Fri., 8-9:45 a.m.; Room 15
Members:
Betold Marty Runbeck Wiger
Cohen Metzen Scheevel
Frederickson Robertson Stevens

Health and Family Security Budget Division (14)
Chair: Samuelson
Office: 214 Capitol Phone: 296-4875
Meets: Mon., Tues., Weds., Thurs., Fri., 10-11:45 a.m.; Room 15
Members:
Berglin Hottinger Piper Terwilliger
Dille Kiscaden Solon
Fischbach Lourey Solon
Foley Morse Stevens

Higher Education Budget Division (9)
Chair: Stumpf
Office: G-24 Capitol Phone: 296-8660
Meets: Tues., Weds., Fri., 8-9:45 a.m.; Room 107
Members:
Kelley, S.P. Kleis Murphy Wiener
Kiscaden Larson Solon

Local Government Budget Division (13)
Chair: Berglin
Office: 212 Capitol Phone: 296-9612
Meets: Mon., Tues., Weds., Thurs., Fri., 4-6 p.m.; Room 123
Members:
Foley Johnson, D.E. Piper Scheevel
Hanson Larson Robertson
Higgins Moe, R.D. Robling

Local Government Budget Division (13)
Chair: Berglin
Office: 212 Capitol Phone: 296-9612
Meets: Mon., Tues., Weds., Thurs., Fri., 4-6 p.m.; Room 123
Members:
Foley Johnson, D.E. Piper Scheevel
Hanson Larson Robertson
Higgins Moe, R.D. Robling

Transportation Budget Division (10)
Chair: Johnson, J.B.
Office: 208 Capitol Phone: 296-5419
Meets: Tues., Thurs., 12 noon-1:45 p.m.; Weds. 10-11:45 a.m.; Room 112
Members:
Belanger Hanson Langseth
Flynn Johnson, D.H. Ourada

Environment and Agriculture Budget Division (12)
Chair: Morse
Office: G-24 Capitol Phone: 296-5649
Meets: Mon., Weds., Fri., 12 noon-1:45 p.m.; Room 107
Members:
Berg Johnson, J.B. Lesard Stumpf
Dille Krentz Lesard Vickerman
Frederickson Laidig Price

Human Resources Finance Committee (15)
Chair: Berglin
Office: 209 Capitol Phone: 296-4151
Meets: Mon., Tues., Weds., Thurs., Fri., 4-6 p.m.; Room 112
Members:
Beckman Kleis Samuelson Terwilliger
Johnson, D.H. Lourey Spear
Kelly, R.C. Neufville Stevens
Kiscaden Ranum Ten Eyck

State Government Finance Committee (16)
Chair: Cohen
Office: 215 Capitol Phone: 296-5308
Meets: Mon., Tues., Weds., Thurs., Fri., 4-6 p.m.; Room 107
Members:
Dille Junge Metzen Stumpf
Fischbach Laidig Morse Wiener
Frederickson Lesard Ourada
Johnson, J.B. Limmer Solon

Property Taxes and Local Government Budget Division (13)
Chair: Pappas
Office: 202 Capitol Phone: 296-1802
Meets: Mon., Tues., Weds., Thurs., Fri., 4-6 p.m.; Room 15
Members:
Day Kelley, S.P. Kelley, D.E. Price
Flynn Novak Olsen
Hottinger Oliver Pogemiller

Transportation Budget Division (10)
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Office: 208 Capitol Phone: 296-5419
Meets: Tues., Thurs., 12 noon-1:45 p.m.; Weds. 10-11:45 a.m.; Room 112
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Kelly, R.C. Neufville Stevens
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Members:
Dille Junge Metzen Stumpf
Fischbach Laidig Morse Wiener
Frederickson Lesard Ourada
Johnson, J.B. Limmer Solon

Local Government Budget Division (13)
Chair: Berglin
Office: 212 Capitol Phone: 296-9612
Meets: Mon., Tues., Weds., Thurs., Fri., 4-6 p.m.; Room 123
Members:
Foley Johnson, D.E. Piper Scheevel
Hanson Larson Robertson
Higgins Moe, R.D. Robling

Higher Education Budget Division (9)
Chair: Stumpf
Office: G-24 Capitol Phone: 296-8660
Meets: Tues., Weds., Fri., 8-9:45 a.m.; Room 107
Members:
Kelley, S.P. Kleis Murphy Wiener
Kiscaden Larson Solon
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**Capitol address:** 75 Constitution Avenue  
**State Office Building address:** 100 Constitution Avenue  
**St. Paul, MN 55155**  

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