

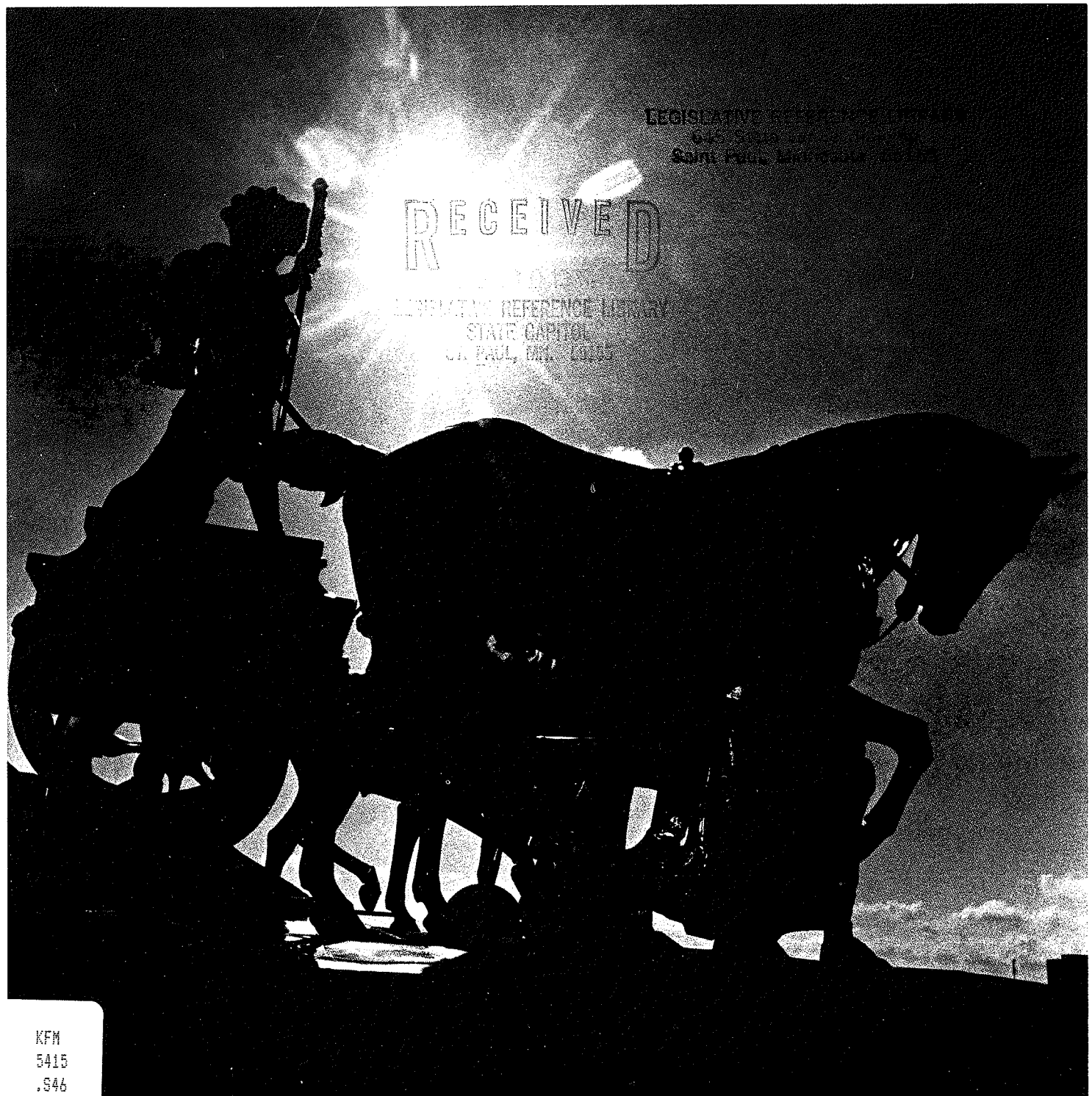
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Session '84 ~ New Laws

Minnesota House of Representatives



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August 1984

The Quadriga (gold horses) atop the Minnesota State Capitol, St. Paul



***T**his issue of *SESSION* reviews new laws that came out of the 1984 legislative session and looks at issues, opinions, and debates that will go on into 1985.*

It also calls our attention to the proposed constitutional amendments we'll be voting on in November. It gives us an overview of what Minnesota's done about the nationwide problem of child abuse and missing children and how we've toughened illegal gambling laws. And it reminds us of the need to save energy.

Statistics show that we may some day again face the long gas lines of a few years ago, and other energy shortages, unless we get back to our saving ways. The Energy Division of the Department of Planning and Economic Development says we can save dollars if we tighten things up around the house and let energy conservation begin at home (see page 25).

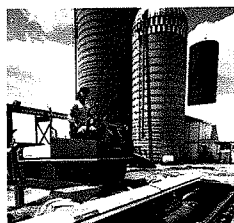
SESSION includes brief summaries of all '84 legislation, a listing by chapter numbers of bills that became law, and a bill index to help you find legislation of special interest to you. If you have questions, or need more information, call the House Information Office (612) 296-2146.

Session 1984 New Laws: an information service of the Minnesota House of Representatives • Information Officer/Editor: Jean Steiner • Publications Coordinator: Nancy J. Miller • Staff Writers: Bonnie Kollodge, Lisa Lissimore, Gary Phelps, Wendy Tai • Design and Production: Donna J. Lyons • Staff Assistants: Terri Hudoba, Dorothy Sawyer • Photos: Paul Battaglia, Tom Olmscheid, Larry Salzman

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New construction dwarfs the Foshay Tower (at left), once the tallest building in the Twin Cities

photo by Larry Salzman



THE TAX DEBATE

Some business groups and legislators think the 1984 Legislature improved Minnesota's business climate. Some don't.

by Wendy Tai

The session ended but the tax debate goes on with legislators and businesspeople looking to 1985.

"To look at Minnesota in tax terms, I would say people are encouraged," says John Cairns, executive director of the Minnesota Business Partnership (MBP is an organization of 68 companies).

The Greater Minneapolis Chamber of Commerce, other business interests, and legislators, see the 10 percent surtax repeal as a victory for businesses and taxpayers. But John Herman, president of the Independent Business Association of Minnesota, calls it "a small step."

And Cairns says repeal of the surtax doesn't mean Minnesota has solved all the problems. He says the state can't overlook the fact that it still has the highest income tax in certain categories.

The surcharge on personal income tax began at seven percent in January 1982 in response to a downturn in the economy. It increased to 10 percent a year later and was due to expire July 1, 1985, if the Legislature took no action this past session. Repeal of the tax, retroactive to Jan. 1, means a revenue loss to the state of about \$340 million.

Rep. John Tomlinson (DFL-St. Paul), chair of the House Taxes Committee, says the surtax ▶

repeal was the major request from businesses, and the Legislature passed it.

Legislators review business legislation

Does Minnesota have a bad business climate? "I don't think so," Tomlinson responds. "The way to judge it is to look at the results, such as the state's lower unemployment rate, growth in personal income and in the number of jobs. But we can always try to do better," he adds.

Tomlinson and other legislators, and business people, also mention other pro-business legislation that passed, such as:

- reduction of sales tax from 6 to 4 percent on special tooling and on capital equipment for expanding or building new manufacturing facilities. The reduction means a state revenue loss of \$6 million in fiscal year (FY) 1985, \$10.5 million in FY1986, and \$12.1 million in FY1987;
- lowered commercial and industrial property tax by assessing the first \$60,000 of market value at 28 percent instead of at 34 percent. (Commercial-industrial property assessments were 34 percent of the first \$50,000 of market value.) Revenue loss is \$1 million a year;
- exempted foreign dividends and foreign royalties from corporate income tax if the corporation owns at least 80 percent of the voting stock and gets at least 80 percent of its income from the dividends and royalties. State revenue loss is \$1.8 million in 1987 for dividend exclusion and \$3 million each in 1986 and 1987 for royalties exclusion;
- grant of \$3.4 million to industrial firms renovating their operations

Opinions differ

Rep. David Jennings, (IR-Truman), House minority leader, doesn't think business did well this session because of what he says is an on-going problem, "Tax relief measures we pass are invariably targeted at a handful of businesses and not the business community as a whole.

"The problem in Minnesota is that businesses are folding up or leaving. That would preclude any of them from using the reduction since it encourages expansion," Jennings says. He calls the effects of property tax reduction "minimal."

Herman, who heads a group of more than 2,000 small businesses, says legislators are more interested in keeping Minnesota firms happy since the February announcement from Minnesota Mining and Manufacturing (3M) of its plan to expand corporate research in Austin, Texas, instead of in Minnesota.

Several legislators agree that 3M's move may have affected some decisions, but only marginally.

Herman also criticizes most of the legislation that passed as favoring large companies. The only noteworthy pro-small-business measure, in his opinion, is the "prompt payment" bill, which requires state departments and agencies to pay their bills on time or pay a penalty interest.

Legislators and business look to 1985

Rep. Randy Kelly (DFL-St. Paul) says 1985 "holds a great deal of promise to modify the tax structure . . . to look at what tax changes should be made to enhance opportunities for businesses in Minnesota.

"However, overall this past session, I believe business did extremely well," says Kelly, author of the sales tax reduction on capital equipment and several other pieces of business legislation.

As examples, he points to creation of enterprise zones to help economically distressed areas, small business loans and grants, and a sales tax reduction for logging equipment.

The Greater Minneapolis Chamber of Commerce is also looking to next year as the year for major tax reform, now under study by a commission. St. Paul Mayor George Latimer is heading up, according to Nancy Christensen, manager of the chamber's state legislative affairs.

The chamber's major concerns are changes in unemployment compensation, hazardous waste disposal, personal and corporate income tax, and commercial-industrial property, Christensen says.

Tax structure not the only issue

"There are business concerns other than taxes, regulations, and rules."—Ed Hunter

Ed Hunter is executive director of Minnesota Wellspring, a nonprofit group of business, government, education, and agriculture working toward improving the job climate in Minnesota.

He was a member of the Wellspring task force on technology and expansion of employment that examined a variety of issues relating to employment. An area the task force identified is the takeover of one corporation by another, particularly where the targeted company is against the takeover. ▶

"In our investigations we found that takeovers, or even the threat of a takeover, is very disruptive," Hunter says. "One of the things it disrupts is long-term corporation decision-making and planning, and that affects corporate willingness to invest in research and development which is very important for future employment opportunities in the state."

The task force, he says, also became concerned about the effects of a hostile takeover on shareholders, employees, and, in some cases, communities.

Hostile Corporate Takeover Law passes

Because of this concern Rep. Wayne Simoneau (DFL-Fridley) introduced the "Hostile Corporate Takeover" bill in the House (now Chapter 488 in Minnesota Statutes), restricting takeovers. Supporters say the new law gives a voice to the people a corporate takeover affects.

"Some people get clobbered by takeovers, none of whom are directly consulted or have any say about the takeover transaction," Simoneau says. "In one way or another, such transactions involving Minnesota firms threaten jobs or the quality of jobs in Minnesota."

Simoneau's twofold proposal first amends the state's securities law. It requires any acquiring company to file a registration statement with the state that includes complete disclosure of plans to take over a "target" company (a company with substantial assets in the state and 20 percent of its shares belonging to Minnesota residents). The takeover offer is effective upon filing registration statements, unless the Commerce commissioner suspends the offer.

The second part of the law comes into play when an acquiring company seeks to take over a Minnesota corporation with 50 or more shareholders. Some call it a "shareholder approval system," because shareholders of the Minnesota firm must vote on the proposed takeover within 30 to 55 days after receiving a takeover information statement. If the shareholders approve the takeover, the state will permit it.

Minnesota's record is good

Minnesota has had very little experience with unfriendly takeovers. "Because the economy didn't disrupt area businesses as it did in some of the states around us," Simoneau explains. Minnesota first adopted corporate takeover legislation 10 years ago and first amended it in 1981.

"We're trying to protect employers located here and also promoting something national on this controversial topic," he says. Simoneau believes, if the fact that Minnesota has this kind of protection for a company becomes generally known, the state could be a haven for companies that are afraid of a hostile attack by an acquiring company.

Business community supporters of this legislation expect that businesses will use it as a tool when deciding how they want to protect themselves against takeovers. Opponents, however, claim that the measure interferes with the free market system and that it burdens companies seeking friendly takeovers for purely economic reasons.

Legislature repeals Buy Minnesota Law

In addition to amending business laws, the Legislature also repealed the 1983 "Buy Minnesota Law" which required state agencies to favor Minnesota-made products, businesses, and workers when awarding construction and public works contracts.

Lawmakers decided to repeal the law when business groups said it could cause some neighboring states to pass laws that would cutback contracts for Minnesota firms in those states.

The law now requires agencies to give preference to resident bidders when other states give preference to their in-state bidders. ■

photo by Larry Salzman



Workers scale steel beams as new business building rises in downtown Minneapolis

AMNESTY FOR OVERDUE TAXES

by Wendy Tai

More than 77,000 Minnesotans and businesses will get a chance to settle old debts they owe the state during a three-month tax amnesty period, beginning Aug. 1.

The program encourages delinquent taxpayers to clear their debts. It offers a 20 percent reduction in their past-due bills, including interest and penalty for up to \$2,000.

The big stick that adds clout to the plan is that the state and other licensing authorities won't issue or renew a professional or business license to those who owe more than \$1,000 in sales and withholding taxes.

How the amnesty plan works

The amnesty law qualifies any person who has filed a tax return but is late, as of Feb. 1, in paying any type of state tax, including the personal income tax, business income tax, sales and withholding taxes, according to Dorothy McClung, director of legal research and planning in the commissioner's office of the Department of Revenue.

"It's any tax people would pay the Revenue Department," McClung explains. It does not apply, however, to property or unemployment taxes, or delinquent 1983 income taxes.

According to department records, 77,446 individuals and businesses owe a total of nearly \$174.6 million in back taxes. About 75 percent of the delinquents owe less than \$1,000 each.

The department will send them notices beginning the end of July, explaining the amnesty program and how much they owe. The largest group owing income tax are teachers, with 484 delinquents, followed by 412 engineers, 305 attorneys, 296 doctors, and 254 realtors.

"It's an easy group to manage, because we know who they are," McClung said. Those whom the department knows little about, but

who also qualify for amnesty, are those who haven't filed tax returns.

Nonfilers can file

During the amnesty period, nonfilers can file returns and pay back taxes and interest without penalty. McClung said the department has no idea how many nonfilers there are and how much they owe.

The nonfilers can begin submitting owed taxes by June 1. Delinquent taxpayers can begin Aug. 1 and continue through Oct. 31. After the deadline, the Revenue Department will start searching for those the law might deny a renewal of business or professional licenses.

"It's the big stick that follows," McClung said. The largest group of offenders in that category are restaurants and bars, she said.

Responding to possible criticisms from taxpayers who pay their taxes on time, McClung said the amnesty would aid those whose tax payments fell behind during the 1980-82 recession, a time when the amount of delinquent taxes soared. For people to voluntarily come forth to pay their debts also would save taxpayers the expense of hiring more people to collect back taxes, she said.

State stands to gain

Finally, the amnesty will net at least \$5 million the state can spend, she said. "Delinquent amounts on the accounts receivable aren't going to buy anything," she said.

Legislators made a conscious choice in opting for an amnesty program, which four other states have used, McClung said. "Legislators had a choice. We can either have an amnesty program, people can come in voluntarily, or they can give us the money and people to go out and get the money."

The law will not allow another amnesty for 10 years. The license enforcement is effective for two years. ■

photo by Larry Salzman



FARMING AND FINANCES

Problems are serious.
Solutions aren't simple.
Looking to 1985, farmers
push for production and
market improvements, higher
farm income, a decent federal
farm bill, and cash-flow plans
for coming years.

by Lisa Lissimore

Running complex machinery is all in a day's work for this farm youth

Farm debt, experts and economists say, is the major agriculture issue in 1984 and will be in 1985. They say, if the level of unpaid debts facing farmers continues, many farms will go out of business in the next couple of years.

And the grim forecast applies to Minnesota. Of the state's 100,000 farmers, 25 percent are in serious financial trouble. The current farm debt stands at almost \$12 billion with an interest bill of \$1.5 billion.

Interest is farmers' biggest expense

"It's not unusual for a farmer to be paying \$100 a day for interest costs," says Commissioner of Agriculture Jim Nichols. "Interest cost is the biggest expense for farmers today."

For Rep. Merlyn Valan (IR—Moorhead) this fact holds true. He and his son run a rather typical family farm—raise soybeans, corn, and wheat. They've managed quite well, trying to keep debts low, but Valan says, "it's the high interest rates that are killing us."▶

A firm believer in generation farming, Valan says, when he first started farming, he could borrow money for 3 to 5 percent. "Farm mortgages were only 3.5, operating money was 5. Now it's up to 16.5 and they (economists) say it's creeping up every day."

Farm loans carry variable rates

The average commercial lending rates have soared from 9 percent in 1977 to 13 to 16 percent today, says Nichols who farms 520 acres on weekends. He says most farm loans are on a variable rate of interest that can go up or down depending on the economy. In the '70s, the economy was such that interest rates were reasonably low and there was cash flow. Farmers borrowed a lot of money to expand their operations and to increase production.

But, a tight economy in the '80s caused rates to increase, leading to low crop prices, a drop in land values and farm equipment, and reduced farmers' ability to borrow money. And this cash-flow crunch is what's hurting most farmers today.

"It's a double-edged sword that cuts farmers with both sides of the blade," says Nichols. "We have to get low interest money out to farmers. It's what they need, and the state is trying to do that through the Family Farm Security Act and two pieces of legislation passed this session—the ag bonding bill and agri-processing program.

Family Farm Security Act has helped

The Family Farm Security Act dates back to 1976. Its purpose is to help farmers who can't get credit to buy farm real estate. "The young farmer's program, as we refer to it, is a good program. It guarantees up to 90 percent of the farmer's loan and defers the interest payments on the loan for 10 years," Nichols says.

This year, under the Family Farm Security Act, legislators tried to extend loan payments. "We recognized the inability for these people to repay their current loans and wanted to offer them an extension," says Valan, a co-sponsor of the bill. "Unfortunately, the bill died in the final days of the session."

The ag bonding bill authorizes the Energy and Economic Development Authority, which manages several loan programs, to issue bonds for farm loans. "This bill makes \$18 million available for farmers at a lower rate of interest than the market rate," Nichols adds. These loans however will be available only when other financing is not.

"The state has made a good commitment to agriculture," Nichols says. "But there are things that we can't control such as the federal deficit."▶

photo by Larry Salzman



The young farmer also works a tractor on his family's farm



One of Minnesota's family farms

State needs to promote ag-processing

"Basically, we need to do a better job of promoting and selling. To do this, we need more processing of agricultural products in Minnesota to sell to our foreign customers. This is where the agri-processing bill ties in. It permits the state to guarantee up to 90 percent of a loan to build an agricultural resource project, with the loan limited to 80 percent of the total project cost," he says.

Since the mid '70s, Minnesota has become dependent on exports. Generating almost \$2.5 billion in export sales, 50 percent of the grain crops now go into the export market, according to "Minnesota Agricultural Statistics 1983."

Still, there are other issues and challenges that have a profound effect upon the economic condition of agriculture. They include the erosion and loss of agricultural land, farm property taxes and federal farm policy, Nichols says.

New laws target farmland and taxes

Nichols lists several programs the Legislature established in the '84 session to save the state's 30 million acres of farmland, such as: an agricultural land preservation and conservation awareness program; a pilot county agricultural land preservation project for 7 counties outside

the metropolitan area; an exclusive agricultural-use zone whereby farmers will pursue and adhere to sound land conservation practices; and an agricultural land preservation and conservation assistance program.

Farm tax incentives the 1984 Legislature passed were:

- repeal of revenue equity for agricultural school districts
- a 10 percent income tax credit for purchases of conservation tillage planters, with an unused credit to go back 3 years and forward 3 years
- increase in the maximum agricultural aid from \$2000 to \$4000 retroactive to taxes payable in 1984
- agricultural aid percentage increase from 29 to 33 percent on the first 320 acres of ag non-homestead and on seasonal recreational houses

Farm tax bill will be '85 issue

"The farm property tax bill, which is going to be a big issue next session, is little relief for area farmers," Nichols says. "We have to change the whole property tax system."

"Farmers are upset about the great unfairness that exists between property taxes farmers, businessowners, and homeowners pay. They want the Legislature to do something about it, ▶

and, if the Legislature doesn't, some have threatened to withhold their property tax payments by way of protest." Nichols says farm leaders are lobbying Congress right now to pass a tax provision in the 1985 federal farm bill that will be good for agriculture.

"The federal farm bill has a lot to do with how well the state's going to fare," he says. "There are three federal policies severely impacting Minnesota producers at this very moment. One is the compromise dairy stabilization act of 1983. Our dairy farmers are going to continue losing money if we don't reform this act. Dairy is the state's largest single industry, annually generating about one-fifth of the state's \$7 billion in farm cash receipts."

Federal lending policies affect farmers

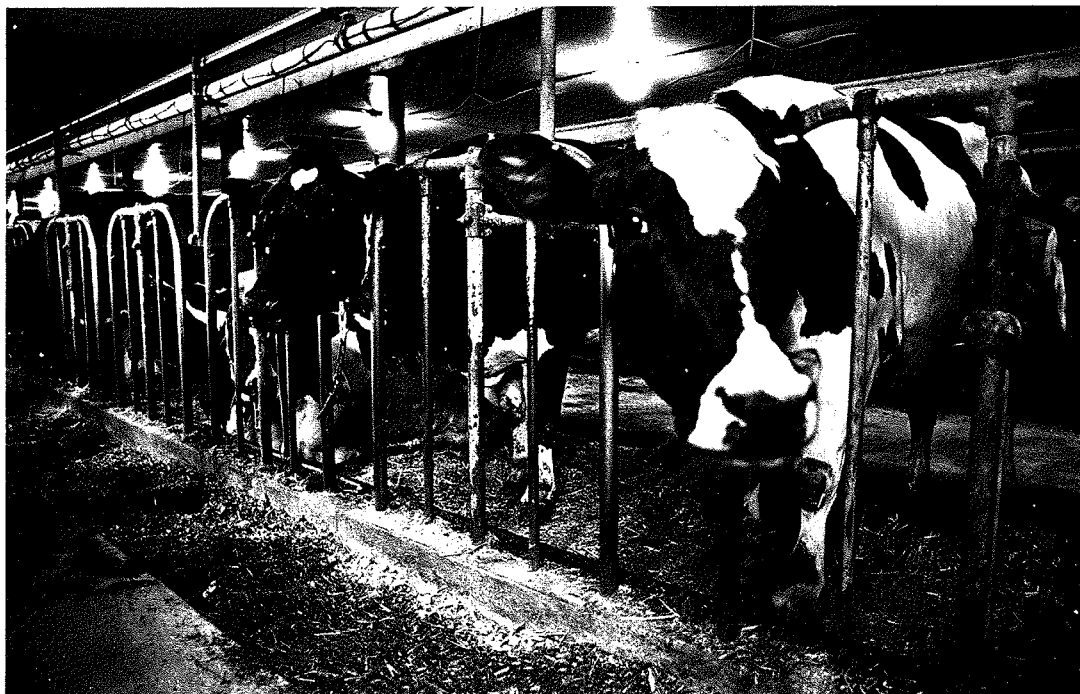
The federal lending policies of FmHA (Farm Home Administration) also affect farmers in the Northwestern part of the state and other farmers who've turned to this agency for loans because commercial lenders will no longer lend to them, Nichols said.

"The national administrator has made changes to the emergency loan program to help farmers in agricultural disaster areas, which includes the nine Minnesota counties that most of these farmers come from. The Minnesota congressional delegation and the Agriculture Department is working with the federal administration and the FmHA to make loans available to these farmers," he says.

Finally, Nichols says, farmers need a fair price for commodities. To address this problem, the Legislature considered a minimum price bill in the 1984 session. It required the commissioner to set a minimum price for any agricultural commodity other than sunflowers. The bill passed the Senate, but lost out during negotiations in the House.

"The federal farm bill will continue to be a major concern, Nichols concludes, "but what can the state do after the lobbying is done? The bill is written and passed in Washington." ■

photo by Larry Salzman



Dairy cow, at home on a modern dairy farm, gives the camera a curious look.



Recycling could reduce collections of waste tires

WASTE DISPOSAL: Costs and Cures

Trash and hazardous waste disposal is turning away from the dump-and-bury method which most likely will mean higher garbage bills for all Minnesotans.

by Wendy Tai

"The cost (of trash and waste disposal) is going to go up," says Sandra Gardebring, former director of the Pollution Control Agency. "Spaces in landfills will get dearer and dearer."

The problem with trash is more than availability of space, Gardebring and other officials say. It's an issue of what is the safest way to dispose waste, both hazardous and nonhazardous types. ▶

"The experience in the last four years has been that everything that goes in the ground comes up something horrible," said Rep. Gordon Voss (DFL-Blaine).

In the last few days of the legislative session in April, Voss sponsored legislation that suspends for two years the search for a hazardous waste site in the state and requires the Waste Management Board to report to the 1986 Legislature on the need for a site.

The bill, HF1577, also includes provisions that limit the building of more dumps for nonhazardous waste and imposes a fee for trash that haulers take to dumps.

"We are going in a new direction," Rep. Willard Munger (DFL-Duluth), chairman of the House Environment and Natural Resources Committee, said during House debate on the bill April 24. "We're not going to put poisons in the ground anymore until we find a way to take care of it above the ground."

photo by Larry Salzman



New laws will affect the cost of dumping waste into landfills in the seven-county metropolitan area

Halt of search for waste site stirs debate

The 1980 Waste Management Act directed the Waste Management Board to search out a hazardous waste site. The provision in Voss's bill to stop that search stirred several hours of debate on the House floor.

Rep. Dee Long (DFL-Mpls), original chief author of HF1577, opposed the provision as one she said, "begged people to believe in magic, that our hazardous waste problems will go away because we wish that they will."

Business groups also say that the moratorium only delays what is needed and keeps businesses dependent on disposals in other states.

Supporters of the suspension, however, believe it doesn't impose an immediate hardship on the 3,000 Minnesota industries that ship about 174,000 tons of hazardous waste each year to disposal sites in other states. Halting the siting process also forces the state to look at alternatives, they say.

Bury-the-trash methods won't work

"It's the thing of the future," Robert Dunn, chairman of the Waste Management Board, said. He and other officials say waste disposal no longer can rely on the traditional burial method because that poses pollution hazards.

Contrary to recent apparent popular belief, the new legislation doesn't indicate a shift in direction of waste management, Dunn said. The 1980 Waste Management Act, which created his Waste Management Board, stressed the need for alternative disposal methods for hazardous and nonhazardous wastes.

"The big thrust of what we're doing is waste reduction and treatment," Dunn said. "Disposal is only the last resort . . . the emphasis on disposal was never a driving force of what we're doing, but people perceived it to be."

The 1980 act directed the board to find four candidate sites for hazardous waste disposal, and choose one by the end of 1985 or early 1986. Four selected potential sites were in Marshall, Aitkin, Scott and Carver counties. The board has stopped the environmental impact studies on them that were to begin this spring, he said.

Board's suggestions are in new law

The new law strikes out the requirement for four candidate sites. Instead, it states that more than one is necessary. It also includes appropriations of \$150,000 to fund grants for industries to develop ways to reduce their waste, \$700,000 to help developers proposing processing, collecting, and transporting hazardous waste—programs that the board suggested in its waste management plan last December.

Dunn said the board already has received inquiries from developers interested in the grants.

The key difference between the 1980 act and the new provisions is that the new law allows the board to study whether Minnesota needs a hazardous waste disposal site. It also allows the ▶

board to continue to consider out-of-state sites as possibilities.

"It's still a matter accepted by experts in the field, no matter how extensive you process the waste, there's going to be a residue from that process . . . that has to be disposed of somewhere," Dunn said. The assumption has been that Minnesota needs to develop a site for the residue, instead of continuing to ship it out of state, he said.

"The volume of residue may be so low that it's below the level that would interest any private operator in operating a site," which means Minnesota would still have to depend on out-of-state sites, Dunn said.

Growing awareness of potential pollution hazards from land disposal of waste may make other states reluctant to take Minnesota-generated waste, possibly resulting in more roadblocks and higher costs, Dunn and others say.

Social conscience is a concern

"There's the social conscience concern also," Dunn adds. "If we benefit from the manufacturers, jobs, payroll, do we have some kind of a social responsibility to deal with the bad stuff that comes out, instead of dumping it in another state?"▶



Waste barrels pile up in areas throughout Minnesota

photo by Larry Salzman



Two Minnesotans use an open dump for waste materials, a system environmentalists hope to replace with a better method

After the two-year suspension, the Legislature may still decide building a site in Minnesota is the best way to handle waste residue, Voss said. "We've not shut anything off," he said. "We wanted to change the thinking (toward waste disposal). That was tough."

For Minnesotans, the argument is simple, he said. "There's nobody in Minnesota who wants their water poisoned."

Regardless of whether Minnesota builds a hazardous waste disposal site, or builds more sites for nonhazardous waste, Minnesotans will see a higher cost for getting rid of their trash, officials predict.

"New facilities anywhere in the country will probably cost more to build than the existing ones," said Dale Wickre, director of the solid and hazardous waste division of the PCA. He and others say future landfills probably would have to have many more built-in safeguards, and that cost would pass onto the users.



A sign spells out what people may not put into a landfill

Costs to trash haulers goes up

The bill that passed this year also includes a provision that imposes a fee of 50 cents per cubic yard of trash haulers take to dumps in the metropolitan area. The projected \$2 to \$3 million to come from this will go equally into two funds: one for landfill abatement; another for pollution costs, such as water supply monitoring, closure and post-closure case and clean-up expenses.

On top of that fee, counties and cities or towns may impose an additional charge on garbage going into their landfills. Metropolitan counties have a cap of 25 cents per cubic yard, while other counties have no limit. The fee at any city or town is up to 15 cents per cubic yard.

The PCA estimates that the 50-cent-per-cubic-yard fee would translate to between 23 cents and 28 cents more for trash for the average Minnesota household of 2.57 persons.

The cost to bury nonhazardous trash in dumps will continue to increase, officials speculate. Gardebring estimates landfill cost will increase 100 percent in the next 15 years.

A new landfill would have to meet much stricter guidelines, said Gardebring, who now heads the Metropolitan Council. It would have to have safety features to prevent leakage and other pollution hazards, more intensive monitoring of groundwater supply, estimated post-closure costs—all of which would "start to reflect the true cost of disposal," she said.

Chemicals in groundwater on the increase

PCA estimates that the state generates 10 million cubic yards of solid waste each year and has 110 permitted landfills. The agency has found that groundwater under 13 of the 15 landfill sites in the metro area has shown an increasing amount of various chemicals. "We're just beginning to see an increase in certain chemicals" Wickre said.

The new law makes it more difficult to have more landfills or to enlarge landfills in the state. Approval requires a "certificate of need," and operators must show that landfilling is the only "feasible and prudent" way to dispose of waste. (The law already requires the Metropolitan Council to approve a certificate of need for new landfill in the metropolitan area).

"Public opinion on groundwater contamination gets stronger and stronger every year," Gardebring said. "When it becomes clear it's the choice between contaminated groundwater and higher-cost landfills, I don't think people are going to choose contaminated groundwater." ■

INSTITUTIONS—Moving

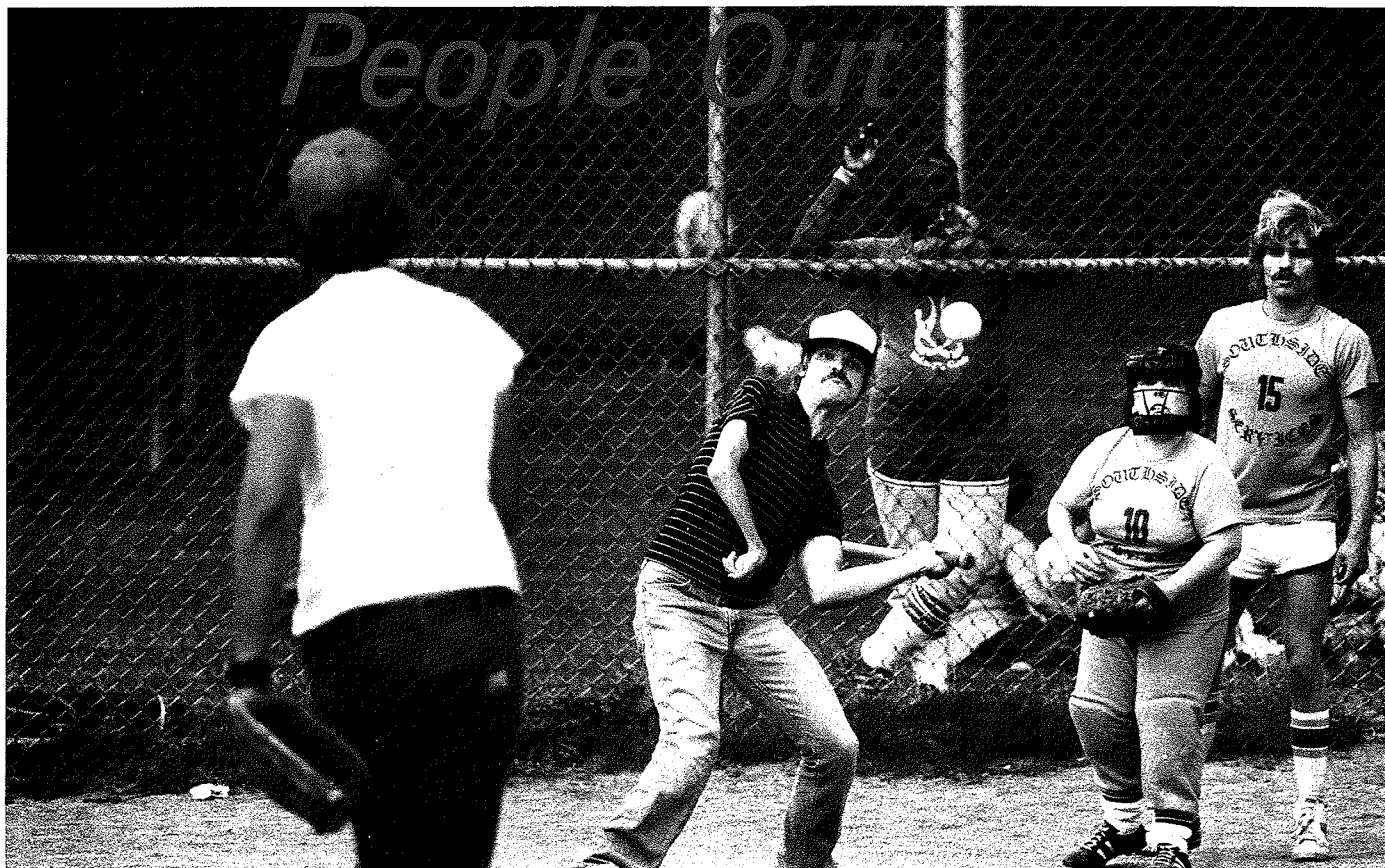


photo by Paul Battaglia

The days of caring for mentally retarded citizens in state hospitals are fading. Minnesota hopes to feel better in the pocketbook and bring retarded citizens closer to living like the rest of us.

by Nancy J. Miller

You may greet each other on the bus, chat in the checkout line, or see one another at a neighborhood park. Perhaps you'll talk about the weather, mosquitoes, work, or the price of groceries going up. And, you may realize you have more in common with retarded citizens than you thought.

More retarded people have joined their communities since Minnesota opened the doors of institutions housing mentally retarded people

in the 1960s. It was then that local, state, and federal lawmakers looked into large institutions that housed the handicapped and decided they didn't like what they saw.

As the deinstitutionalization movement began, Minnesota and other states started to upgrade state hospitals. But long-term solutions to house and serve the handicapped in communities developed as a cost-effective, and, some say, a more humane approach to the special needs of the handicapped.

Intermediate care not the whole answer

In the 1970s communities built Intermediate Care Facilities, group homes for the Mentally Retarded (ICF-MRs), as alternatives to large institutions. Here residents live on supervised premises but attend sheltered workshops or developmental achievement centers during the day.

But ICF-MRs alone weren't the answer. A recently released Citizens League report says that "Despite Minnesota's efforts to ►

photo by Tom Oimscheid



Employee works at his job in a sheltered workshop

deinstitutionalize the mentally retarded, it appears that our state has only reinstitutionalized this population in ICF-MRs and group homes. In fact, there are now more mentally retarded people living in residential facilities throughout the state than there were prior to the deinstitutionalization movement."

The report says that as many as 200 to 1000 ICF-MR residents are ready for placement in less costly, more home-like settings such as foster care or semi-independent living arrangements.

Non-institutional care healthier

Legislators, health care professionals, and friends and relatives of mentally retarded persons agree that allowing most retarded people to live more independently, under appropriate supervision, is healthier than restrictive institutionalization.

"Life in a residential facility is accompanied by an unhealthy degree of dependence on caregivers. Minnesota's over-reliance on institutional forms of care is causing a crisis of sizeable human and economic proportions. The human crisis does not concern the quality of care but rather the quality of life in residential facilities.

"The financial crisis deals with the fact that the cost of treating people in institutions is one of the most rapidly growing portions of the state budget," states the League report.

Medicaid fund waiver bridges care gap

In 1983, the Legislature passed bills to curb the growth of ICF-MR facilities and looked at even less restrictive care options to get funding under Medicaid. The federal government invited states to apply for Medicaid waivers in 1981, when Minnesota was in the depths of a budget crisis, to allow use of Medicaid funds (Medical Assistance federal, state, and county money, but mostly federal dollars) for less expensive alternative care for the mentally retarded.

In 1983, Rep. Ann Wynia (DFL-St. Paul), authored a bill to set the waiver application in motion. July 1, 1983, the Department of Human Services officially began funding waived services.

Wynia admits that some mentally retarded persons will always have to be in institutions. But she says many residents now in state hospitals and group homes could live in less structured environments if the funds were available as they are for institutionalized care. The waiver will allow funding for alternative services.

"We hope to see families with young children being able to keep their children at home with some of the support services that will now be available. And we hope that adults living in institutions, both state hospitals and ICF-MRs, can move to less restrictive living arrangements."

Advocates support the waiver

Getting retarded people into the community is a goal the Association for Retarded Citizens (ARC) has worked toward for years, says Darlene Olson, chair of the Governmental Affairs Committee for ARC.

"In the very beginning there was nothing for people who were retarded. They either stayed at home, with their families, with nothing to do in the community, or they went to state hospitals.

"There is a whole range of services that need ▶

to be developed in Minnesota. There needs to be some fine tuning. We have the group homes (ICF-MRs) and then we jump to semi-independent living (SILs). And that's really a big jump. All of a sudden people are going from a 24-hour supervised living situation to a program where they may be receiving services only a few hours a week.

"There are people who can't make that jump. It's too large. We need services developed in between that will enable people to live more independently and at less cost," says Olson.

Respite care, adult foster care, and supervised living arrangements with case managers are a few of the many alternative services the waiver will develop through funding. Both Olson and Wynia are hopeful.

"We want people to have lives that are as normalized as anyone else. That doesn't mean persons will come out of the state hospitals to sit at home all day. Rather, they will come out of the state hospital, maybe to live at home or in their own apartments, they'll go to work perhaps at an opportunity workshop or a developmental achievement center during the day, or in private employment. It's real exciting.

"Under the waiver each retarded person will have a case manager who has the responsibility to design a total program to meet their (retarded persons) needs," says Wynia.

"They'll be active programs, so that the retarded person is interacting with lots of different people. Also, the waiver will allow us to treat case managers as a reimbursable service under Medical Assistance, so the caseload for these managers will go way down."

State hospitals may close

But the future of deinstitutionalization isn't as rosy as first appears. For many, waived services and deinstitutionalization spell economic trouble. Rep. Dick Welch (DFL-Cambridge) introduced a bill last legislative session to halt the waiver altogether. He represents a legislative district with a state hospital that could face closing or consolidation.

"The fact is there are problems out there," says Welch. "There are three types of groups that need to be addressed, and the state has taken a very active, aggressive role for dealing with the planning, organizing, and changes needed to serve the retarded people in our state.

"But as those changes happen, there are other changes happening in the communities where those state institutions are located and have served those populations for many years. And changes also affect the employees of those

institutions. No one was doing any planning (for these two groups) in an organized systematic manner, and the waiver was expected to accelerate the (deinstitutionalization) process. I think something dramatic had to be done.

"The waiver repeal bill was clearly much stronger than it needed to be," says Welch, "but I was interested in getting the attention of people who are close to the issue."

Welch dropped the waiver repeal language in the bill in favor of provisions to set up a board to study and develop a plan on closing or consolidating state hospitals, which got the Legislature's and the governor's approval.

"It's a system's response to the employees and communities that have served state hospitals. That's what I was looking for. It's inevitable there will be fewer state hospitals 10 and 15 years from now than there are today. We have to acknowledge that and go from there," says Welch.

Employee and community protection

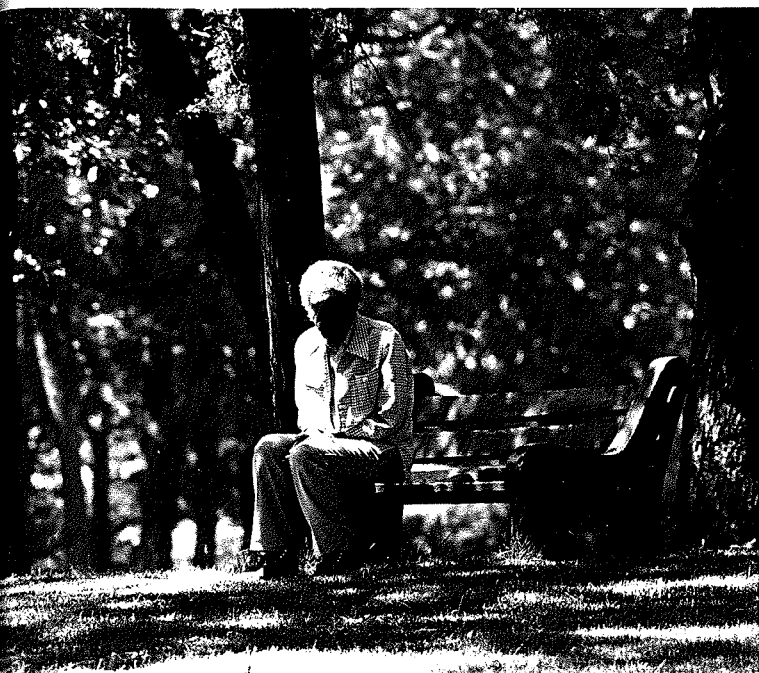
Welch's bill creates an interagency board to study a number of topics including the projected displacement of state hospital employees. The board must also develop a plan to protect the general interests of employees and communities affected by deinstitutionalization in state hospitals. ▶



photo by Larry Salzman

Two women visit outside on a sunny day

photo by Larry Salzman



An elderly citizen finds a moment of solitude in a community park

Colleen Wieck of the State Planning Agency, who is project manager of the study, says the agency is doing economic impact studies for each region potentially affected and collecting written surveys from state hospital workers that ask about their buying and savings patterns, and what kind of future work they might like.

Wieck says the study, which has built-in allowances for public input, will look at whether putting state hospital employees to work in new state-run community services is practical or possible.

Union wants state run services

Moving retarded persons into the community requires many support services, services that former state hospital employees are the most qualified to provide, according to Tom Beers, who represents Minnesota State Employees Union, AFSCME Council 6, AFL-CIO.

"The current state hospital population is by

and large profoundly and severely retarded, many have severe behavioral problems, many are medically fragile. And some are mentally ill. Those sorts of people are not going to be integrated into the community easily without a lot of support staff," says Beers.

He says state employees who are familiar with state hospitalized patients and their unique needs can best care for them in community settings. But whether or not state employees will actually ever work with retarded persons in communities is a question the state can help answer by running the community based services, Beers says.

Traditionally, Beers says, private community facilities hire people at low wages and turnover is high, which impacts on the quality of care residents receive. He proposes that the state operate facilities and services with state staff to ensure high quality care and security for the workers.

"The system is just not developed to make that success story. We're saying, if you want to make it successful, and are serious about deinstitutionalizing, take the state staff and programs out into the community."

Beers points to other states such as Rhode Island and Massachusetts where the state deinstitutionalized the staffs in state hospitals along with the residents. Massachusetts required that the state run and staff a percentage of new community programs when the movement occurred there.

"The state staying in the business makes the most sense from the standpoint of the quality of care issues, employees, and the communities the state hospitals are in," says Beers, who believes the state can monitor standards in state-run facilities better than in privately owned facilities.

"We're saying it's possible to carry out an agenda that's progressive. It's do-able, it's possible, and it's been done in other states," says Beers.

Plan may take time

"Unless we're aggressively searching for new opportunities for state hospitals, we may end up with decisions on some institution without being prepared. It's very difficult for us in the Legislature to discuss closing state institutions.

"But let's look ahead to the future with our eyes open and figure out how we can make this a win-win situation for everyone," says Representative Wynia. "I think it's (deinstitutionalization) going to be slow, but it must begin right." ■

CHILD ABUSE

by Bonnie Kollodge



Do more reports of child abuse to police and welfare authorities mean more child abuse, or just more reporting?

Experts don't know if we have more sex abuse than we used to have or just more reports of abuse. Facts don't exist to make a strong statement either way. But, for whatever reason—increased public attention to and awareness of the problem, educational programs for children, or a greater willingness on the part of adults to listen—reports of abuse are on the rise.

National report rate is way up

"Our records are terrible because we get only about 50 percent of what the counties get," said Fern Sepler-King, sexual abuse treatment specialist for the Minnesota Department of Human Services (DHS). "But, nationwide, there's been close to a 100 percent increase, annually, in the number of reported sexual abuse cases."

Sepler-King said estimates suggest that, nationally, for every reported sexual abuse case 25 go unreported. From her experience, Sepler-King said she would put those figures for Minnesota at between 7 and 10 unreported cases for every reported one.

"Some studies say that as many as 1 of 3 females and 1 of 10 males will be sexually abused by the time they're 18," says Sepler-King, "and estimates are that 75 to 80 percent of all child sexual abuse involves somebody known to the child."

Rates and types of abuse vary

"Of the three types of child abuse," says therapist Bill Seals of Seals and Associates, a private mental health center, "emotional is the one we know the least about, and sexual is the most popular—if that's the right word." According to DHS, physical abuse and neglect are the most-reported types of child abuse.

"Absolutely no one can tell you how big the problem is," says Seals, "because of the complexities of reporting and the unknown quality (of the reports)—we rely on kids for our research."

Seals says with increased awareness he's getting more cases, but attributes that to more kids saying, "Hey, these people finally say they trust us, they believe us, and we can report it."

Is there more abuse or just more reporting of abuse? "I guess it's a little of both," said Seals.

Information lack clouds the issue

"I'm just positive, just as sure as I'm sitting here that it (sexual abuse) is on the increase," says Rep. Janet Clark (DFL-Mpls). "But I don't know how you would ever document it," Clark says, referring to the lack of information on the subject and the secrecy of the issue. "In the past, child abuse was hidden and never admitted to—at all costs to the child."

Clark is author of a new state law that takes another approach to dealing with domestic child abuse. Currently, courts can remove children from their homes in abuse cases and place them in protective custody at a detention center or at a foster home.

New law changes child-removal policy

Clark's bill reverses the remove-the-child policy in some cases, and allows the court to remove the abusing parent or adult from the home.

Prior law provided for removal of an abusing parent/adult when his/her spouse filed a court order for protection or a petition on behalf of the abused child. Clark's bill allows courts to remove an abusive parent at a county's request, taking the responsibility to file a petition away from spouses who may fear abuse themselves.

"This could be used," says Clark, "only where there is a loving and relatively strong parent who can survive if the abuser is removed from the home. Sometimes the dependency the loving



parent has on the abuser is so strong that you have to remove the child."

The court must also see that the remaining family or household members get some social service assistance and may require the abuser to continue financial support.

Clark says for some time she's questioned taking children away from their homes. "Children feel guilty, like it's their fault they're taken away from their brothers and sisters, from their toys, from perhaps a loving parent, neighborhood friends, and their schools.

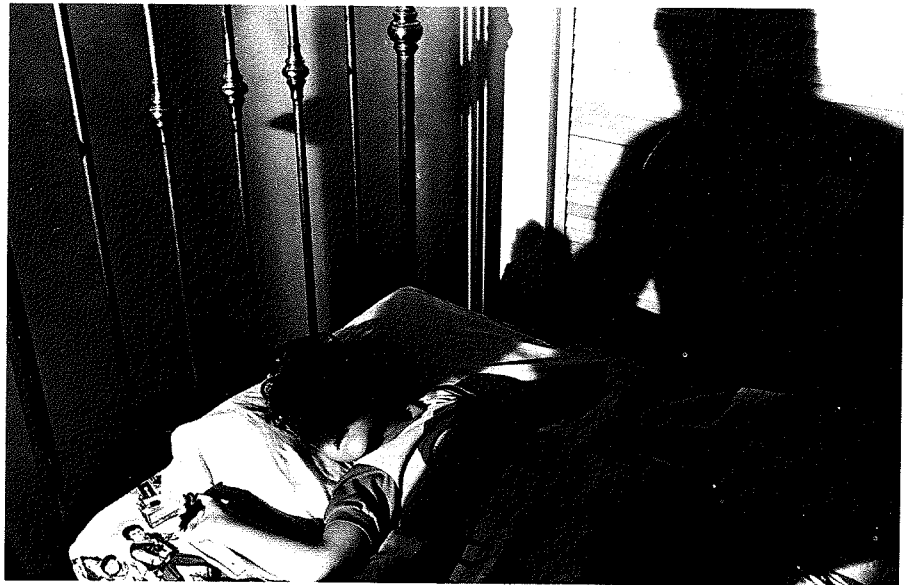
"You weigh rights of the parents against rights of the child, and in the past we've been erring on the side of the parents. What this bill says is, 'No, we're going to protect the child, even if it means removing a parent from the home.' "

"Traditionally, children under age 10 have not been considered credible witnesses, and many children under 10 are victims," says Levi. Supporting the reliability of a child's statement regarding sexual activity Levi says, "Most children couldn't describe a sex act unless it happened to them, because it's otherwise not in their realm of experience."

Levi and others in the child-protection business attribute some of the difficulty in prosecuting child abusers to the nature of the court procedure itself. "Courtrooms are very intimidating places for adults," says Levi, "and they're extremely intimidating for children.

"Many children will get on the stand, see the person charged with the offense, and freeze up, unable to tell what they were able to tell immediately after the incident."

photo by Tom Olmscheid



Minnesota leads in state efforts to erase the shadow of child abuse

"You can't turn your back on it . . . "

"When you see what some people are doing to children, you can't turn your back on it," says Rep. Connie Levi (IR-Dellwood) about her involvement with child protection legislation. Levi says she began looking into the child abuse issue last year when, at the request of a victim, she sponsored a bill that prohibited child pornography.

This year, Levi carried legislation to allow as court evidence, in some cases, out-of-court statements that children under age 10 make about sexual contact someone performed on or with them.

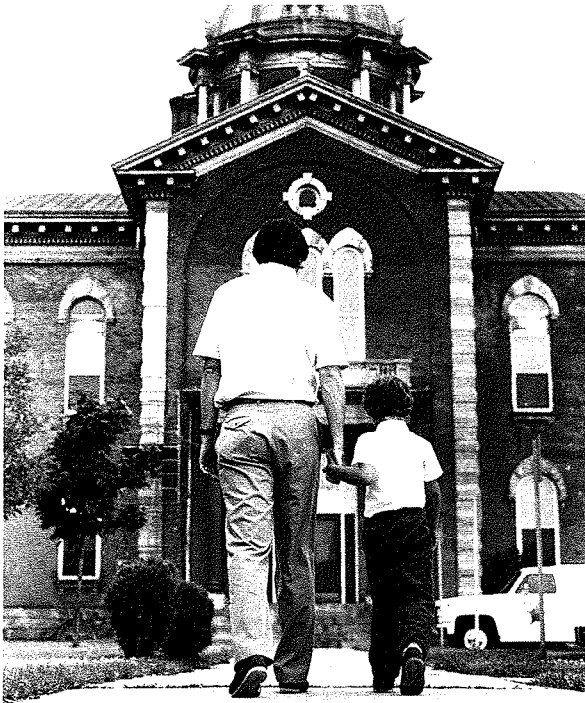
Third-party testimony will count

In addition to allowing a child's videotaped statement as evidence, Levi says the law in some cases will allow as corroborative (supportive) evidence testimony from a person a child talked to about his/her sexual abuse. In the past some courts have dismissed testimony from a third party as either redundant or hearsay evidence, while others have allowed it under certain hearsay exceptions.

"This legislation was designed to get at the truth of the matter rather than get all hung up in court procedures about what is or isn't allowable," says Levi, "... so you don't have these cases being lost simply because children can't tell in court what they were able to tell in a less threatening situation."

Children will still have to take the stand because of the sixth constitutional amendment which says accused persons have the right to face their accusers. This means allegedly abused children must testify, unless they are unavailable but other evidence supports their statement. Other portions of the bill provide that, to be admissible evidence, the court must find the statement reliable, and defendants must receive notice of the statement.

photo by Tom Olmscheid



Abused children take the stand

Victims get more time to press charges

A third child-abuse bill extends the statute of limitations, from 3 to 7 years, during which victims of sex offenses may press charges against the offender in cases where the victim was under 18 years of age at the time of the offense.

Rep. Ann Wynia (DFL-St. Paul) sponsored the legislation as she did when the Legislature passed a law two years ago to increase the statute of limitations for intrafamilial sexual abuse. "It made sense to make the statutes of limitations for sexual abuse (of child victims) consistent," she said.

"The problem we encounter with sexual abuse against children," said Wynia, "is that when it happens to them they may not know and understand that what the adult is doing is a crime. In some cases children are ashamed.

They feel they've done something wrong, and they don't talk about it. It may be years before they gain the confidence in someone to talk about it. By that time, it's not unlikely that the three-year statute of limitations has expired."

The bill, says Wynia, may help to successfully prosecute someone who would otherwise continue to abuse children.

Minnesota has faced the problem

"You can look at Minnesota and say, 'Gee, they have a big problem up there—it's all they talk about.' The other side of the coin is that Minnesota is doing more about it. We're light years ahead of where we were five years ago," said Seals.

"We know most offenders were abused themselves," he said. "We know that the vast majority of child sexual abuse cases are not dirty little men in trenchcoats. They're pretty average people . . . middle class . . . traditional backgrounds . . . good jobs . . . good relationships . . . pillars of the community."

Seals says, if not treated sexual abuse has a damaging psychological effect on children. "They don't forget that stuff," he says, "because the very person they trusted most is the one who messed with them."

However, Seals says, "The vast majority of cases that go through therapy are successful. But, the more serious the crime, the greater the number of offenses, the less the probability of succeeding."

Though Sepler-King says new laws and greater publicity are creating an environment where kids are reporting more, she says protection workers are now left with a system struggling to keep up with providing services.

"Prevention efforts are really having a tremendous impact," says Sepler-King. "Hopefully, later in this generation, or the next, we'll see a reduced incidence because kids are learning to say 'no,' and what to do if it happens. But, in the meantime we're dealing with a huge backlog of cases where kids are saying, 'Yeah, that happened to me too.'"

PARENTAL KIDNAPPING AND MISSING CHILDREN

by Bonnie Kollodge

To intentionally deprive someone of parental, custodial, or visitation rights by taking, concealing, or failing to return a child to the parent or other person who has custodial or visitation rights, is a felony under new law.

The problem with the prior law, according to House sponsor of the legislation, Rep. Gloria Segal (DFL-St. Louis Park), was that the offense became a felony only after 14 days. During the first 14 days the offense was a misdemeanor.

"This meant the police didn't do very much about it," says Segal. "They couldn't get out-of-state cooperation, or access to the FBI or the federal missing children computer unless a felony warrant was issued," she said.

Also, the misdemeanor offense covered only instances where one parent had a court order for custody and the other parent took the child in violation of custody rights. "So when there was no court order for custody, and one parent took the child, the police could do absolutely nothing," said Segal.

Authorities helpless without court orders

"No court order," said Neiman, "often meant parent victims might not see their child again, or at least not for a long time.

"We charged about 20 cases involving parental kidnapping in the last year and a half," said Assistant Hennepin County Attorney Bill Neiman. "At the same time we've had to turn away about 20 cases which would have been charged if there had been a pre-existing court order."

Parental kidnapping, Neiman has observed, has more to do with anger toward the other parent than love for the child.

"It's hard for me to accept someone's argument that the reason they kidnapped their child, disappeared, and tore the child away from the other parent, changing lifestyles, friends, and schools is because it's in the best interests of the child," he said.

State sets up missing-children program

Legislation that goes hand-in-hand with Segal's establishes a state missing children's computer program to collect data on missing children and requires immediate investigation and computer input of missing-child reports.

The problem, according to Rep. Dave Bishop (IR-Rochester), House sponsor of the law, was a matter of when police would put information about missing children into the existing national computer program. (No statewide missing child program existed.)

"Some communities were doing it right away," says Bishop, "while other communities were taking as long as 14 days."

The failure of information about missing children to go into the national computer system at all is another problem, says pediatrician Dr. Daniel Broughton of Mayo Clinic, a board member of Child Find, a national organization that helps in the search for missing children.

"This law sets up an automatic response (to reports of missing children), and an immediate way to notify other jurisdictions that the child is missing," he said.

"The new law requires police to do two things," says Bishop. "Make an immediate investigation as to whether the report has validity; and, if the police make a preliminary conclusion that the child is missing, they must put information (describing the child) into the system right away."

The estimated number of missing children lies somewhere between 1.5 million and 2.0 million nationally. According to Bishop and Broughton, a vast majority are runaways, and most are home within a fairly brief period of time.

"But the number of kids missing at the end of each year," said Broughton, "ranges between 50,000 and 100,000 nationally. Those are kids that are missing—their families and anybody else who knows them do not know where they are." ■



This older house could be one to benefit from an energy saving program

When heat goes out the roof, money leaves Minnesota because the state imports almost all its energy. Whether we're renters or homeowners, we should know how we can save energy and dollars.

ENERGY SAVING BEGINS AT HOME

by Gary Phelps

Home (or residential energy conservation) is a big part of the state Energy Division's program and involving us, the public, is one of its biggest challenges. The division, within the Department of Energy and Economic Development, works at that in a number of ways.

In St. Paul, the Energy Conservation Information Center distributes printed material and answers the public's questions over a toll-free line. Statewide, neighbors educate neighbors on conservation through the Energy Division's local council program. ▶

In the council program, volunteers and private businesses display products and teach about home energy saving at fairs and workshops. And under 1984 legislation, for the first time, community energy councils can submit grant proposals for state funds to keep their grassroots efforts going.

"It's one of the best things we've got going in the state," Paul Wellstone, coordinator of the program, told a legislative committee in the 1984 session.

Costs keep people from trying to stop leaks

"Many people simply can't qualify for loan payments on energy or other investments at current high interest rates," say the Energy Division people. Some can afford high monthly energy bills, or they can spread out their payments like they would for a new car, in a budget plan. But a number of folks just don't have the money to put into a reinsulation job.

To help homeowners get into energy conservation, the Legislature enacted the Minnesota Home Improvement Loan Program in 1976. It encourages borrowers to upgrade conservation when they're making improvements. Between 1976 and Aug. 1, 1981, the program loaned out \$161 million, an estimated \$11 million for energy conservation.

During the same period, the Minnesota Rehabilitation Loan Program granted \$44 million in home improvement loans to very-low-income homeowners. Nine million, or 21 percent, for energy conservation. In 1983, the Legislature appropriated \$5 million to the Minnesota Housing Finance Agency to start an energy conservation loan program. So far, \$10 million has gone out in loans for energy saving improvements at an average interest rate of only 8 percent.

Does energy conservation pay off?

Legislators apparently believe it does. Since 1974 the Legislature has passed legislation to help get information out, to provide money through loan programs, and to support research projects that keep up with modern technology and its effects on energy use and conservation. ▶

photo by Larry Salzman



Control Data's energy-saving solar building in Minneapolis

In 1984 lawmakers appropriated \$1.9 million for energy conservation projects for state buildings. The estimated payback for these projects is 5 years or less, which means they'll pay for themselves within 5 years, through lower energy bills.

Homeowners can save

The 1982 Energy Division's biennial report to the Legislature gives examples of how much homeowners can pocket in savings if they set back the thermostat during the day and lower it again at night. It gives figures on how much they'll save if they plug leaks around windows and doors by caulking and weatherstripping, shading windows—insulating attics, walls, and foundations.

The '84 legislature appropriated \$100,000 for low-income weatherization research. The program authorizes conservation study measures, including air infiltration standards, foundation insulation, and furnace retrofitting in low-income residences. One of its goals is to reduce the number of homeowners that rely on fuel assistance.

For a new home, conservation research includes superinsulation. According to the

division's 1982 biennial legislative report, superinsulated houses are especially suited for cold climates like Minnesota's.

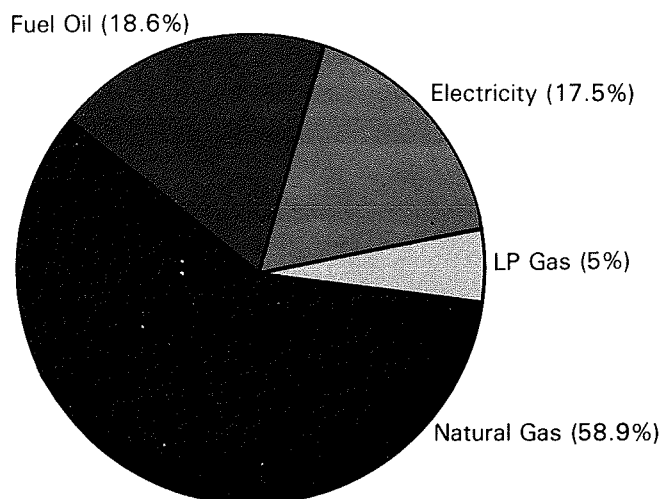
What's a superinsulated home? To quote the report, "A superinsulated house has at least 12 inches of wall insulation, 19 inches of ceiling insulation, and 4 inches of basement wall insulation. Other features include triple or quadruple glazing of non-south facing windows and air-to-air heat exchangers." Heating and cooling costs are typically \$150 per year or less. As of 1982, 200 superinsulated homes in Minnesota were complete or in various stages of construction.

Savings and factors in superinsulation

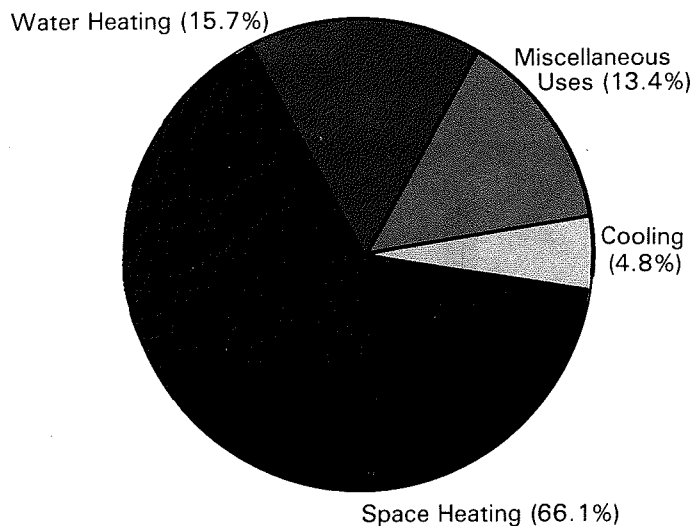
Superinsulating a new home may add over \$6,000 to the total price of construction, and this means higher mortgage payments. The question is whether payments go up at a rate greater than the payback from energy savings.

The Energy Division says that superinsulation is cost effective so long as the value of annual fuel savings exceeds the value of added annual mortgage payments over the life of the insulation or of the house, whichever is shorter. ▶

ENERGY MINNESOTANS USE



WHAT MINNESOTANS USE ENERGY FOR



Department of Energy and Economic Development 1982 Report

Indoor-air quality in superinsulated homes is under study. The tight insulation allows for hardly any air infiltration, so they need controlled mechanical ventilation. This ventilation is therefore a part of new and retrofit superinsulated construction.

A 1981 legislative appropriation helped superinsulation efforts, and the Energy Division was able to:

- begin a superinsulation housing project
- award grants for 20 superinsulated homes and 6 superinsulated remodeling projects
- publish 4 superinsulated house plans for sale to the general public
- develop a superinsulation curriculum and in-service training for 170 area vocational technical institute and high school instructors across the state, and courses for carpenters, builders, the financial community, and consumers.

Rising costs will stimulate conservation

Rising energy costs in a technology age will stimulate home energy conservation, because as prices go up, builders, tradesmen, and designers will become acquainted with new conservation products, and conservation construction will improve.

Because of rising costs and the fact that Minnesota spends \$7 billion on energy annually—much of which goes out of state—Rep. Gordon Voss (DFL-Blaine) expects that legislative support of energy conservation will remain strong. ■

Highlights of Legislative Energy Conservation Action Since 1974

1974	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • created Energy Agency after OPEC threats
1976	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • passed statewide Minnesota Energy Code • created Energy Information Center • passed the Minnesota Home Improvement Loan program
1977	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • banned lawn gas lamps
1978	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • required energy efficient air conditioners • banned gas-forced furnaces or clothes dryers • banned stoves with continuous burning pilot lights • changed statewide Minnesota Energy Code to local option
1980	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • required landlords to caulk/weatherstrip units
1981	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • set up Minnesota Rehabilitation Loan Program
1983	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • funded energy conservation loan program • required energy saving campaign (begins Fall '84)
1984	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • funded rental property conservation enforcement • continued community energy councils and Governor's 1983 Community Energy Program • set new air conditioner standards • continued residential energy audit program with utilities

For answers to energy questions call the Energy Information Center at 296-5175 or toll free at 1-800-652-9747

GAMBLING GAME LAWS

Two new gambling laws spell crackdown and regulation for illegal gamblers in Minnesota

by Nancy J. Miller

A law to clean up problems in bingo parlors and another to keep illegal video gambling out of Minnesota came out of the '84 session. About the "bingo bill," author Rep. Dick Kostohryz (DFL-North St. Paul) says, "The new law won't substantially affect charitable bingo operators who play by the rules.

"In fact," says Kostohryz, "many organizations may make more of a profit under the new law because it will tax bingo earnings after prizes are paid out, not before."

The bingo bill takes licensing and regulating away from local agencies and puts it in the hands of a new state Charitable Gambling Review Board. The board will keep track of bingo and other gambling games, such as pull tabs, by registering and numbering the game paraphernalia. Investigators will monitor gambling operations that show dramatic increases or decreases as a result of stricter reporting laws.

Kostohryz says the new law will up state revenue and discourage cheating and skimming through more enforcement and monitoring. Some of that increased revenue will go to boost the arts in Minnesota, because the law earmarks unspent charitable gambling funds for a new state high school for the arts. The money goes into the general fund, and the Legislature is to determine the amount that would go toward an approved arts school.

Law blocks illegal video gambling

Lawmakers looked into the national problem of hi-tech illegal video machine gambling and moved to prevent it in Minnesota with new legislation. The legislation limits games to liquor establishments only and sets strict registration and licensing requirements to buy, sell, and operate the games.

Also, under the new law, people who use the games illegally are subject to penalties. To help pay for the cost of policing the games, local communities will get back a share of the licensing fees the state collects.

Video gambling games differ from regular video games because they're games of chance, not skill. They operate like slot machines, but are highly sophisticated, often dealing poker hands on the video screen.

Illegal payouts may come from the machine itself or from people who operate them, such as a bartender or restaurant owner. Operators, owners, and players can switch machines from innocent play to gambling and avoid prosecution.

"The bill's designed to restrict and control the use of these games for illegal purposes," says the bill's author, Rep. James Metzen (DFL-South St. Paul).

Legal gambling in Minnesota got a boost this legislative session in part of the omnibus tax bill. People who bet and win on horse racing will now pay less withholding tax at the track, which conforms to federal tax law. Horse industry people will also be exempt from tax withholdings on purses, and jockeys who win purses will be able to take more of their prize money home before paying taxes. ■



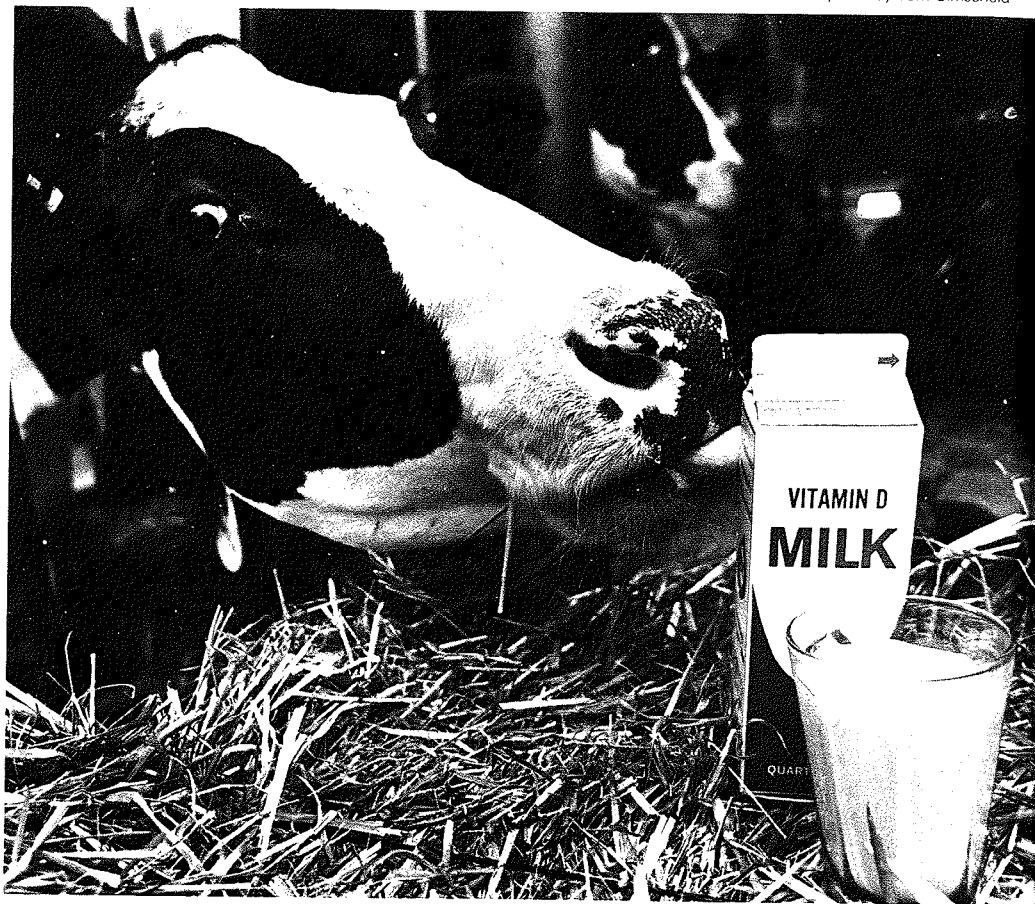
photo by Larry Saltzman

Multiple-card bingo players watch for the lucky numbers

New Laws 1984

*As stated in the following bill summaries, bills are effective one minute past midnight on Aug. 1, 1984, or the day the governor signed the bill (day after enactment). If the effective date is upon local approval**, the law goes into effect after the governing body of the city or local unit the bill affects votes to approve the law change, and files a certificate of approval with the secretary of state, according to Minnesota Statutes. Various effective dates means sections of the law become effective on different dates. Laws that appropriate, or spend, state money are effective July 1, 1984. Call the House Information Office (612) 296-2146 to find out the date the governor signed the bill, or to find out the effective date of a particular section of a bill with various effective dates.*

photo by Tom Oimscheid



Producer meets the product (Chapter 645)

Milk becomes official state drink. Component pricing plan bases milk prices on weight, milk fat, protein, and non-fat solids. New Energy Economic Development Authority loan program to provide farm loans.

**Regulating—bulk sale of food
Chapter 476**

HF1910—K. Nelson

SF1879*—Petty

- establishes standards for selling bulk food
- requires retail food handlers to display bulk food in labeled self-service containers with tight-fitting lids and dispensing utensils
- prohibits local ordinances that conflict with state law
- Effective: Aug. 1, 1984 ■

Apiary law changes

Chapter 517

HF1663*—Fjoslien

SF1649—Samuelson

- makes certain changes in the apiary law and gives the Agriculture commissioner greater flexibility in ordering and enforcing actions to control dangerous honey bee diseases and parasites
- Effective: Aug. 1, 1984

Component pricing bill

Chapter 509

HF1425*—Krueger

SF1450—Wegscheid

- allows processors to pay for milk and cream on the basis of weight, milk fat, protein, and non-fat solids
- allows an additional premium for "quality" milk
- Effective: Aug. 1, 1984

Farm loan authority

Chapter 584

HF2051*—Kalis

SF1457—Stumpf

- authorizes the Energy and Economic Development Authority to issue bonds for farm loans
- provides that financial institutions, authorized to do business in the state, will originate and service these loans
- authorizes loan only when other financing is not available
- Effective: Aug. 1, 1984

Milk—Official state drink

Chapter 645

HF1532*—Krueger

SF1595—Bertram

- designates milk as the official state drink
- Effective: Aug. 1, 1984

photo by Larry Salzman



Farmer readies a field for planting (Chapter 584)

Appropriations

Appropriations for the second year of the biennium included the Capital Budget and the Supplemental Budget. The Capital Budget funds state building and renovation projects from the Administration Department to the Zoo. Education projects, including the U of M, Community Colleges, State Universities, and AVTIs, received the majority of the appropriation.

The Supplemental Budget funds (among other projects) the continuation of a state jobs program, public welfare and health, energy and environmental programs, education and transportation projects, plus a technology corridor project between the U and downtown Minneapolis.

photo by Tom Olmscheid



Capitol Improvements/ Bonding Bill

Chapter—597

HF2314*—Rice no companion

- authorizes \$189,160,000 in bonding for capital improvements for state buildings and programs
- provides for design competition for a judicial building
- authorizes remodeling, equipment replacement, programs, and study of facilities under direction of the Department of Administration
- provides for Capitol and other landscaping, engineering and design for Capitol complex parking; orders a study and report on employee use of van pool program
- funds various construction and development projects within the DNR, for the Iron Range Resources and Rehabilitation Board, and Minnesota Zoo; 7-county pilot energy project for Department of Energy and Economic Development
- provides for improvements in military and veterans' buildings; a study of veterans' residential use of buildings on U of M campus; also funds improvements for the Department of Corrections, Public Welfare, Minnesota Historical Society, community colleges, state universities, and votech schools.
- provides for bond sale expenses and interstate reduction rate
- increases appropriation from MN State Water Pollution Control Fund to the PCA for grants and disbursements for sewage construction projects
- Effective: day after enactment

Claims against the state

Chapter 486

HF1402*—Kalis SF1353—Dahl

- provides payment for various claims against the state
- Effective: day after enactment

Supplemental Budget Bill

Chapter 654

HF2317*—Rice no companion

Article 1: Appropriations Summary

Appropriates \$196,912,800 for State Departments; Agriculture, Transportation, and Semi-State Agencies, Education, Health, Welfare, and Corrections (Human Services) for indicated fiscal years "FY'84" and "FY'85." ▶

Article 2: State Departments

Appropriates \$1,154,700 (FY'84) \$33,330,800 (FY'85) for legislative and judicial branches, various state departments, offices, boards, and agencies.

- **waste disposal**—forbids construction of resource recovery facility within boundaries of a first-class city without 4/5 of city council approval

- **cross-country skiing**—excludes from license requirements trails that don't get state recreational funds; creates new license sticker for ski poles

- **car registration fees**—assesses \$4 first-time registration fee; \$4 for each transfer of title after that; puts proceeds into waste-tire collection program

- **natural energy resources/projects**—instructs commissioner of Energy and Economic Development to design native-energy resource program including solar, wind, hydro-power, peat, fiber fuels, and biomass; develop and administer energy audits; allows loans to municipalities for energy improvement projects

Article 3: Agriculture, Transportation and Semi-State

Appropriates \$27,449,500 (FY'84), \$59,391,800 (FY'85) for departments of Agriculture, Transportation, Public Safety, and Commerce. Also, Minnesota Historical Society, Arts Board, Voyageurs National Park Committee, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Uniform Laws Commission

- **passenger trains**—establishes rail passenger study commission

- **ag land programs**—establishes ag land preservation and conservation awareness program, and aid program

- **Metro Transit (MTC)**—creates Regional Transit Board to do MTC's bus service planning and policy-making functions

- **gas pump fees**—exempts retail petroleum pumps, vehicle and bulk meters from certain inspection fees

- **race horse tests**—instructs U of M to present, by Jan. 1, 1985, a plan for medical lab test services for race horses

- **livestock weighing**—changes weighing procedures; clarifies licensing; defines other regulations

- **public transit**—establishes in-state transit assistance program

- **video gambling games**—requires licensing distributors and operators; license sticker on games; license fee distribution to cities and counties for enforcement costs; operator and owner location agreements; prohibits municipality license fees; allows two games per location; prescribes penalties; establishes laws on seizing and disposing of video gambling property

Article 4: Education

Appropriates \$10,413,000 (FY'85) \$50,000 (FY'84) to the Department of Education; Board of Vocational-Technical Education; Higher Education Coordinating Board; University of Minnesota

- **votech non-resident tuition**—allows MN '84-'85 resident tuition for residents from bordering states that didn't require non-resident tuition for votech programs in '83-'84

- **retailing institute; school of business**—asks U of M to prepare plans and specifications for Institute of Contemporary Retailing, and with the State University System ready plans for International School of Business for inclusion in '85 budget requests

- **senior board members**—requires state boards, commissions, advisory councils, task forces, or committees to have at least 1 member 60 years or older, with at least 1 older member not active in, or retired from, an occupation, profession, or industry the group regulates

- **AVTI teaching requirements**—changes number of hours unlicensed instructors in AVTI extension programs can teach

- **tuition revenue use**—specifies '85-'87 tuition revenue percentages for the U of M, State University System, Community College System, and AVTIs; bases appropriations for 2nd biennial year on latest enrollment

- **instruction costs**—specifies average cost of instruction to include only costs chargeable to academic or vocational programs

- **student fees/services**—allows State University Board to charge fees for student unions; directs the board to offer student health services; allows fees for services

- **gifts/grants**—eliminates requirements that gifts or grants to state universities go into the state treasury and that grant-in-aid applicants

must complete 1 year at a 2-year institution and be transferring to a 4-year school

- **senior citizen tuition**—specifies tuition exemptions don't apply to noncredit courses the U of M, state universities, community colleges, and AVTIs designed and offered exclusively for senior citizens

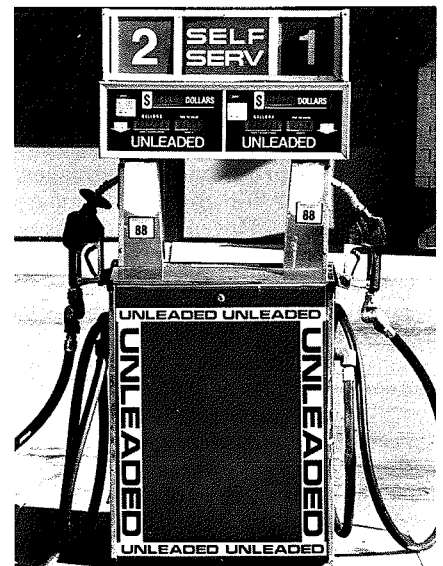
Article 5: Health, Welfare, and Corrections

Appropriates \$33,944,000 (FY'84), \$31,229,000 (FY'85) to fund departments of Public Welfare, Economic Security, Corrections, State Planning Agency for programs such as long-term care, nursing homes, child care, chemical dependency services, medical and general assistance, employment and rehabilitation, probation services, crime victim centers.

- **breast cancer**—requires physicians to inform breast cancer patients of treatment methods and risks

- **health services credentials**—re-establishes Health Department's Manpower Credentialing Service and a streamlined policy advisory council ▶

photo by Paul Battaglia



New fee regulations affect retail gas stations (Chapter 654)

- **battered women**—removes mandate for information collection by health and social service professionals
- **patient removal**—establishes plan to study removal of patients from state hospitals and continues Community Work Experience Program another year
- **reduction in General Assistance**—lowers GA grants by considering household income in shared residences; includes adult students with parental/relatives support; limits work-registration exemption for full-time students
- **jobs program (MEED)**—makes farmers eligible for MEED program; requires Economic Security commissioner to send names of people required to register for work to MEED; targets MEED funds to high unemployment areas; increases goal for private sector placement; phases out MEED program: allowance deadline—Sept. 30, '84 (GA phase-in begins), program ends—Jan. 1, '86
- **added GA/Medicaid coverage**—includes under GAMC coverage equipment/supplies for treating diabetes, hearing aids, prosthetic devices, and lab and X-ray services; allows GA recipients in state hospitals, or nursing homes, to get personal allowances
- **childcare and the homeless**—requires county boards to provide low-income people with child-care services from Community Social Services block grants; establishes a short-term program for qualifying persons and agencies to house the homeless and explore permanent housing
- **women's programs**—establishes revenue fund for displaced homemaker and battered women programs, from part of divorce and marriage fees
- **construction ban**—establishes moratorium until June 30, 1987 on hospital and outpatient surgical center construction and expansion, with certain exceptions; establishes enforcement requirements
- **department name change**—changes name of Department of Public Welfare to the Department of Human Services
- Effective: various effective dates

Banks or trust companies can offer trust services in any bank. Industrial loan and thrift companies may be trustees for IRA accounts. Credit unions can offer various classes of shares, charge annual dues, and set up out-of-state services. Businesses can fine bad-check writers \$15 a check.

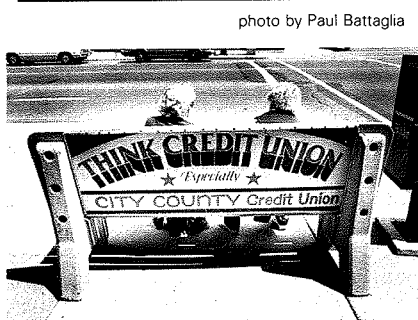


photo by Paul Battaglia

Credit union sign encourages membership (Chapter 512)

African Development Bank
Chapter 382
HF1944*—Metzen
SF1827—Freeman

- qualifies the African Development Bank for public and financial institution investment
- Effective: Aug. 1, 1984

Credit union changes
Chapter 512
HF1481*—Simoneau
SF1539—Wegscheid

- authorizes credit unions to offer various classes of shares, share certificates, deposits, or deposit certificates
- gives board of directors various powers regarding shares and institutions to deposit certain funds
- allows an annual membership fee
- Effective: Aug. 1, 1984

Credit union reciprocity
Chapter 500
HF1771*—Norton
SF1637—Petty

- allows credit unions from another state to do business in MN if that state allows MN credit unions to operate there
- Effective: day after enactment

Expanded authority—financial institutions
Chapter 473
HF1923—Quinn
SF1732*—Wegscheid

- allows industrial loan and thrift companies to act as trustees for IRA accounts
- allows financial institutions to authorize open-ended loans to individuals using a home mortgage as security under certain circumstances
- Effective: day after enactment

Financial institutions omnibus bill
Chapter 576
HF1655*—Brinkman
SF1758—Solon

- reinstates the \$15 fee merchants may charge a writer of a bad check
- extends the removal of usury limits on home mortgages for another 3 years, from August 1984 to August 1987
- requires the underwriter of a bond or contract of insurance to give advance written notice on the termination or cancellation of a fidelity bond to a bank
- allows, until Jan. 1, 1985, Wisconsin residents to open checking accounts in MN without a picture ID
- conforms to federal regulations on loan limits to bank directors, officers, or employees
- Effective: day after enactment

Trust service offices
Chapter 506
HF1352*—Skoglund
SF1306—Petty

- allows banks or trust companies to set up trust service offices in other banks anywhere in the state upon filing a notification of intent and paying a fee
- Effective: day after enactment

Shareholders, employees, and communities get a voice in corporate takeovers. Export Finance Authority gets okay to insure Minnesota exports. Legislature repeals the Buy Minnesota Law.

photo courtesy of Dahlberg Inc., Miracle-Ear Center



New consumer law on hearing aids (Chapter 418)

Ag production input liens

Chapter 467

HF1601—B. Anderson

SF1451*—DeCramer

- allows suppliers of agricultural production products to notify lenders of their intent to file an agricultural production input lien
- requires lenders to respond to a lien notification statement
- Effective: July 1, 1984, except that no one may attach liens attach to crops planted before Dec. 1, 1984

Buy Minnesota repeal

Chapter 440

HF1939*—Beard

SF2153—Chmielewski

- repeals preference for Minnesota-made materials
- removes 10 percent preference for public contracts
- clarifies provision requiring state agencies to give preference to resident bidders when states of non-resident bidders give preference to their resident bidders
- Effective: day after enactment

Commerce Department—miscellaneous changes

Chapter 552

HF1632—Segal

SF1750*—Wegscheid

- modifies and clarifies certain provisions of the securities, real estate, and unclaimed property statutes, which the Commerce Department administers
- Effective: various effective dates

Construction—

indemnification agreements

Chapter 598

HF2151—Norton

SF1974*—R. Peterson

- makes technical corrections to 1983 legislation that prohibited the enforcement of indemnification agreements governing injury liability between contractors and subcontractors in construction contracts
- Effective: Aug. 1, 1984 ▶

Cooperatives—distribution of assets

Chapter 423

HF1884—Graba

SF1351*—C. Peterson

- provides that any undistributed property after the voluntary dissolution of cooperative associations could go to non-profit corporations or organizations
- Effective: Aug. 1, 1984.

Corporations—hostile takeovers prohibited

Chapter 488

HF1422*—Simoneau

SF1975—R. Moe

- requires any acquiring company to file a registration statement with the state that includes complete disclosure of plans to take over "target" companies
- provides that takeover offers are effective upon filing registration statements, unless the Commerce commissioner suspends takeover offers
- provides that when an acquiring company seeks to take over a Minnesota corporation with 50 or more shareholders, the Minnesota firm's shareholders must vote on the proposed takeover within 30 to 55 days after receiving a registration statement
- Effective: Aug. 1, 1984

Export Finance Authority—clarification

Chapter 461

HF2085—Eken SF1977*—Novak

- clarifies that the Export Finance Authority may insure and guarantee Minnesota exports for the time period between shipment and payment
- Effective: Aug. 1, 1984

Fine prints requirements

Chapter 450

HF585*—Murphy SF811—Spear

- requires advertisers and sellers of fine prints to disclose certain information about certain fine print editions
- sets penalties for noncompliance
- Effective: Aug. 1, 1984

Franchise definition

Chapter 596

HF2141*—Ogren

SF1805—Wegscheid

- changes the definition of "franchise"
- exempts from the definition of franchise businesses operating under a license or lease where the business is not the major one on the premise
- Effective: Aug. 1, 1984

Hearing aid guarantees

Chapter 418

HF1819*—Segal

SF2002—Berglin

- requires hearing aid sellers to give buyers a 30-day written money-back guarantee, issue receipts, and make refunds under certain circumstances
- Effective: Aug. 1, 1984

Indirect purchasers—right to sue

Chapter 458

HF1843—Rodosovich

SF1807*—Donna Peterson

- clarifies that persons who suffer financial loss because of Minnesota Antitrust Law violations may sue indirect product suppliers for triple the damages
- Effective: Aug. 1, 1984

Legal newspaper—suspension

Chapter 439

HF2150*—Waltman

SF2007—Mehrkens

- provides for the temporary suspension (maximum 3 months) of legal newspaper publications having financial difficulties
- Effective: day after enactment

Limited partnerships—changes

Chapter 448

HF1058*—Bishop no companion

- allows individuals who mistakenly believed themselves to be limited partners in a business enterprise, but find they are general partners, to file a certificate declaring withdrawal with the secretary of state
- specifies liabilities of general partners of limited partnerships under the 1976 Uniform Limited Partnership Act
- Effective: Aug. 1, 1984

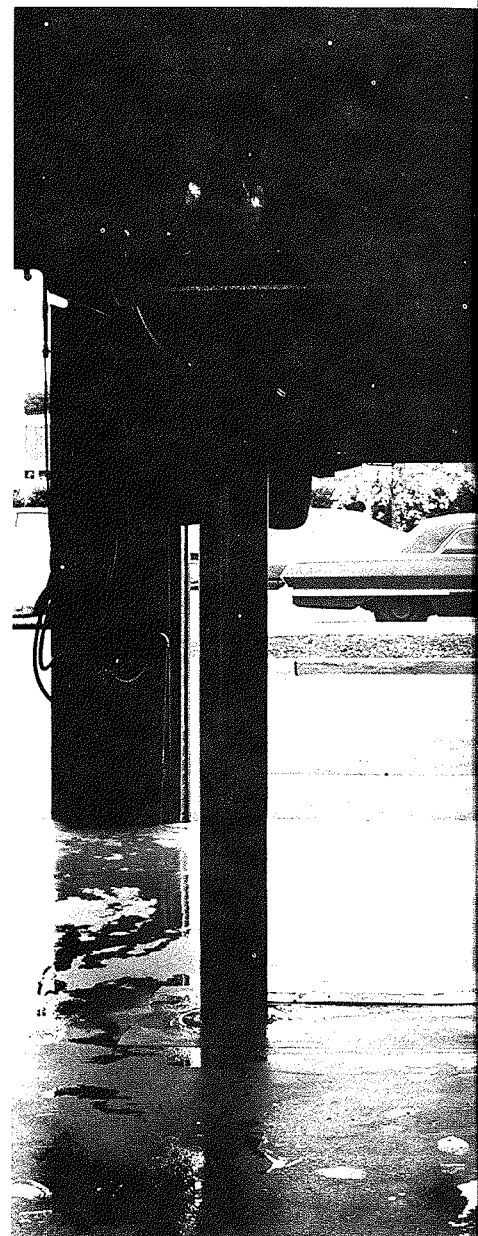
Limited partnerships—loan interest rate

Chapter 493

HF1659*—Ellingson

SF1510—Petty

- allows lenders to limited partnerships to charge a competitive interest rate
- Effective: day after enactment



Law controls removal of full-service bays (Chapter 444)

Local government contracts

Chapter 413

HF2038*—Clawson

SF2149—Wegscheid

- establishes procedures for local governments to follow when entering into contracts of \$10,000 or less
- requires local governments to keep at least 2 quotations on file for at

photo by Paul Battaglia



least 1 year when they base contract awards on quotations

- Effective: Aug. 1, 1984

Mechanics' liens— computing interest

Chapter 472

HF2039—Ellingson

SF1575*—Sieloff

- provides a method for computing interest on mechanics' lien claims
- Effective: Aug. 1, 1984

Motor vehicle service contracts

Chapter 568

HF1820—Quinn

SF1859*—Wegscheid

- requires motor vehicle contract providers to have insurance to cover any contracts they sell over the required warranty and service
- requires Commerce commissioner, upon notice, to stop the sale of contracts if s/he finds providers or insurance companies violating the provision
- allows Commerce commissioner to adopt rules to administer and enforce the provision
- Effective: various enactment dates

Nonpossessory lien

Chapter 479

HF1149*—Clawson

SF731—R. Peterson

- entitles persons who have a lien on property they're taking care of or storing (excluding motor vehicles) and who voluntarily surrender or lose possession of the property, to continue their lien on the property by filing with the secretary of state or county recorder
- Effective: Aug. 1, 1984

Pipefitting regulation

Chapter 481

HF1264*—F. Rodriguez

SF2098—Pogemiller

- expands state regulation of steamfitters to include all high-pressure piping, with certain exceptions
- requires the Department of Labor and Industry to collect a surcharge from municipalities to defray the state's cost for issuing permits, and to charge a fee if the Department issues permits or inspects high-pressure systems
- establishes a code enforcement advisory council
- Effective: Aug. 1, 1984

Plain language

contracts—exemptions

Chapter 414

HF1998*—Gustafson

SF1872—Solon

- exempts from plain-language-contract regulations any written agreements involving security transactions with broker-dealers or investment advisors registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission
- exempts from the regulations commodity transactions with futures commission merchants registered with the Commodities Futures Trading Commission
- Effective: Aug. 1, 1984

Service station—

2-year moratorium

Chapter 444

HF1656*—Solberg

SF1652—Dahl

- prohibits, until July 1, 1986, franchisors from eliminating service bays at full-service gas stations without consent of the franchisees
- Effective: day after enactment

Subdivided land— regulation changes

Chapter 452

HF1635—Peterson

SF1504*—Novak

- adopts new language regulating the sale or lease of subdivided land including time-share property, housing cooperatives, condominiums, and improved lots
- requires registration and a public offering statement for subdivided land
- Effective: Sept. 1, 1984

Transient merchants

Chapter 594

HF1915*—Rodosovich

SF1877—Purfeerst

- authorizes municipalities to exclude from state regulation certain types of transient merchants (people who sell goods on a temporary basis, either in one location or when traveling from place to place)
- Effective: day after enactment ■

Arrests—misdemeanor offenses/domestic abuse

Chapter 433

HF1556—Olsen

SF1398*—Bertram

- allows peace officers to carry out arrest warrants during the night for misdemeanor offenses, if they find people with outstanding warrants on public streets
- increases the time that law enforcement officers can hold persons in domestic abuse cases without issuing citations and bringing them before a judge
- Effective: Aug. 1, 1984

Burglary—sentence reduced

Chapter 497

HF1735*—Dempsey

SF2190—Frederickson

- reduces the period of incarceration that judges may impose for first-time burglary offenses from 120 to 90 days
- Effective: Aug. 1, 1984

Child kidnapping by parents/guardians

Chapter 484

HF1347*—Segal

SF1318—Pogemiller

- makes it a felony to intentionally deprive someone of parental, custodial, or visitation rights by taking, concealing, or failing to return a child to the parent or other person who has custodial or visitation rights to the child
- provides defenses to charges of taking a child with intent to deprive someone of parental, custodial, or visitation rights
- allows the court to direct the county welfare agency to provide counseling to the child
- requires the court to dismiss charges under certain circumstances
- requires persons who know of violations of this law to report them to the police
- Effective: Aug. 1, 1984

Children—sexual abuse

Chapter 588

HF1279*—Levi

SF1460—Petty

- clarifies that contributing to a child's status as a habitual truant, runaway, petty offender, or drug or alcohol offender is a misdemeanor offense

Penalties increase for parents who take children and deprive others of visitation rights. Under-10-year-olds' out-of-court statements can be in-court child abuse evidence. Property from crimes and drug transactions becomes source of law-enforcement revenue.



photo by Tom Olmscheid

Inmate will make up segregated time (Chapter 381)

- allows as court evidence out-of-court statements on sexual contact from children under 10 years old under certain circumstances
- makes it a crime for persons who are older and in an authority position to engage in sexual penetration or contact with youths 16 to 18 years old (current law provides for those under 16 years)
- clarifies definitions regarding sexual conduct
- clarifies when medical privilege can exclude evidence in child abuse cases
- Effective: out-of-court statements and medical privilege: Aug. 1, 1984; others: day after enactment

Crimes—forfeiture of property

Chapter 625

HF1285—Bishop

SF1561*—Waldorf

- allows law enforcement officers, without court authorization, to take weapons, transport devices, containers, and contraband used in a crime; provides procedures, upon conviction, for the forfeiture and sale of the property, with certain limitations
- provides for the distribution of sale proceeds
- Effective: Aug. 1, 1984 ▶

Drugs—forfeiture of property

Chapter 624

HF1284—Bishop

SF1560*—Waldorf

- provides for the forfeiture and sale of property and valuables involved in illegal drug transactions, where the property owner knew of or was involved in the drug deal
- provides for the distribution of sale proceeds
- Effective: Aug. 1, 1984

Emergency communications—false reports/interference

Chapter 630

HF2198—D. Nelson

SF1905*—R. Peterson

- prescribes penalties for making a false emergency call for medical or ambulance service, and for interfering with communications over an emergency citizen's band radio channel
- Effective: day after enactment

Firearm theft—penalty

Chapter 483

HF1304*—J. Clark

SF1621—Pogemiller

- makes it a felony to steal firearms, regardless of value, or to receive, possess, or transfer firearms that one knows, or has reason to know, are stolen.
- Effective: Aug. 1, 1984

Fleeing from officers—clarification

Chapter 445

HF1651*—Hoberg

SF1858—Jude

- clarifies that current penalties for fleeing from a peace officer are maximum penalties
- includes conservation officers as peace officers from whom it is a crime to flee in a motor vehicle when officers are acting in the line of duty
- Effective: day after enactment

Handicapped in communication—interpreters

Chapter 460

HF2097—J. Clark

SF1973*—Jude

- changes the definition "persons handicapped in communication" to include persons who have difficulty speaking or comprehending English

- requires law enforcement officials to provide a qualified interpreters to aid an arrested person who has communication difficulties as soon as possible
- Effective: Aug. 1, 1984

Human organs—sale prohibited

Chapter 475

HF2245—Clawson

SF1849*—Jude

- prohibits buying or selling of non-renewable human organs
- allows organ donors to collect payment for expenses they incur when donating
- Effective: Aug. 1, 1984

Inmates—extended sentences

Chapter 381

HF1772—J. Clark

SF1832*—Spear

- clarifies that inmates serving time in segregation confinement as punishment for disciplinary violations must serve the entire segregation confinement period, even if their release date comes up while they're in segregation confinement
- Effective: day after enactment

Medicaid fraud—aggregation of theft

Chapter 419

HF1809*—Wynia

SF1785—Merriam

- provides, in medicaid fraud prosecutions, that the court may base the severity of the penalty on the total value of money or property the offender received during any 6-month period
- extends the statute of limitations for medicaid fraud from 3 to 6 years
- Effective: Aug. 1, 1984

Property damage—penalty defined

Chapter 421

HF1445*—Seaberg

SF1402—Storm

- broadens current law to provide that persons who damage property so its value goes down more than \$300 in combined repair and replacement costs are guilty of aggravated property damage
- Effective: Aug. 1, 1984

Sentencing guidelines—law changes

Chapter 589

HF1382*—Bishop

SF1354—Spear

- requires the Sentencing Guidelines Commission to submit changes in sentencing guidelines to the Legislature by Jan. 1 of the year the Commission wants the changes to go into effect; provides that the Commission's changes will go into effect Aug. 1 of that year, unless the Legislature directs otherwise
- requires the Sentencing Guidelines Commission to report to the Legislature each Nov. 1 on changes to the guidelines during the previous year and on proposed changes for the next year
- provides that changes to the guidelines grid that reduce the length of sentences may apply to people serving sentences who apply to court for retroactive application of the change
- Effective: day after enactment

Sex offenses—statute of limitations

Chapter 496

HF1722*—Wynia

SF1833—Petty

- extends, from 3 to 7 years, the time a victim of sex offenses has to press charges against the offender if the victim was under 18 years old at the time of the offense
- Effective: Aug. 1, 1984

Telecommunications services—theft

Chapter 466

HF1473—Kelly

SF1365*—Freeman

- defines an unauthorized connection or attachment of an unauthorized device to a local telecommunications system as theft of telecommunications services
- provides that the unauthorized connection is evidence that the occupant of the premises made or was aware of the connection, and knew that it was unauthorized
- Effective: Aug. 1, 1984 ■

Refusing a blood alcohol test means a one-year loss of license. And drivers under age 19 will forfeit licenses for 30 days if they buy or try to buy alcohol using a license or permit. More liquor licenses possible in St. Paul and other cities.

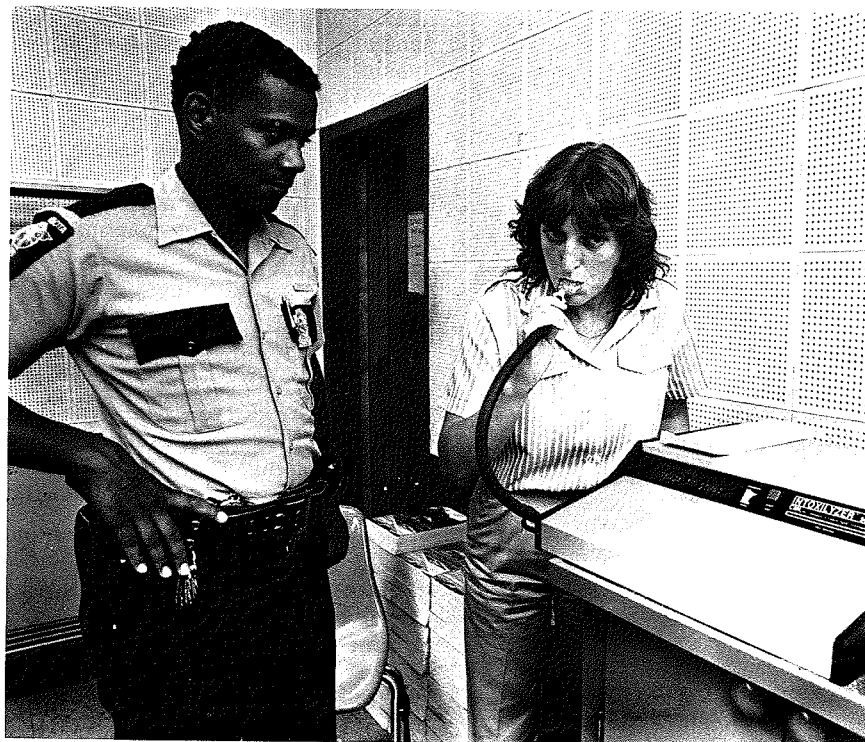


photo by Tom Olmscheid

Citizen takes breath test (Chapter 430)

DWI—breath tests

Chapter 430

HF1638—Vellenga

SF1642*—R. Peterson

- allows the administration of breath tests with an infrared breath-

testing instrument, the Intoxilizer 5000, to determine alcohol concentration.

- Effective: day after enactment

DWI—mandatory testing and various changes

Chapter 622

HF1400—Vellenga

SF1336*—Pogemiller

- requires suspected DWI violators to submit to an alcohol concentration test
- requires a 1-year license revocation of anyone over age 18 who refuses chemical testing, and license revocation upon refusal of people under 18 for 1 year or until they reach 18, whichever is longer
- requires peace officers to inform DWI suspects that they must take a chemical test and of the consequences of test refusal or failure; license revocation of people under 18-years-old would be 6 months or until they turn 18, whichever is longer; and after submitting to testing, they have a right to consult an attorney
- prohibits reckless or careless driving in private parking lots, which the public uses, and driveways connecting the private lots to a street or highway
- provides for a 30-day license revocation of anyone under age 19 who buys or tries to buy alcohol using a driver's license or permit
- replaces current law with a provision that says it's unlawful to drive with a blood alcohol content of .10 or more measured within 2 hours of the time of driving
- increases penalties for drivers involved in an accident that results in death or great bodily harm who leave the scene or fail to notify the police, even though they didn't cause the accident
- increases various penalties for DWI violation
- Effective: Aug. 31, 1984

Liquor—miscellaneous changes

Chapter 626

HF1883—Jacobs

SF1349*—Spear

- repeals St. Paul's liquor patrol limits and allows the city council to issue 10 new licenses a year until 1990
- allows Roseville, city of West St. Paul, the Duluth City Council, the town board of Greenwood, and St. Paul to issue various liquor licenses
- Effective: various effective dates

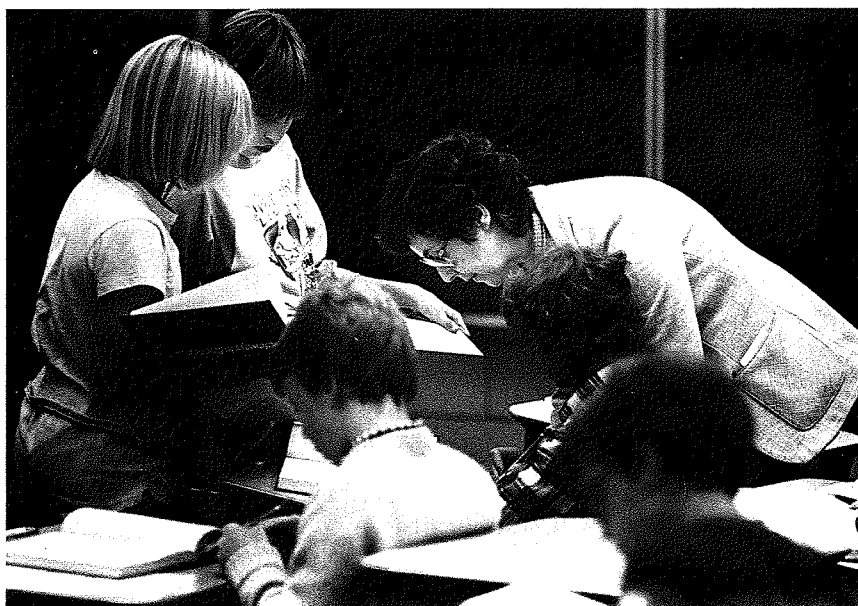
Education Finance Omnibus Bill Chapter 463

HF1393*—K. Nelson
SF1404—Nelson

- appropriates \$1,557,000 for Fiscal Year '84 and \$26,173,000 for Fiscal Year '85
- sets foundation aid formula for the 1985-86 school year at \$1,585
- sets basic maintenance mill rate at 23.5 mills for the 1985-86 school year
- removes revenue equity provisions for agricultural school districts beginning FY 1986
- alters formula for tier 4 allowance by adding a training and experience factor of \$150
- authorizes new summer school program aid and levy for summer school courses, curriculum or staff development, parent or community involvement, experimental programs, and other educational improvement measures
- allows school districts with community education programs to establish early childhood/family education programs, with certain requirements, charge fees, and provide programs cooperatively
- removes the provision that states the Board of Education cannot require school districts to offer secondary vocational courses, but limits any courses the Board may require to 4 credits or 560 hours
- establishes a new program, Programs of Excellence (POE), beginning in 1985-86 to allow districts to either send high achieving students to other districts for programs the home district does not offer, or apply to become a school of excellence to receive students from other districts
- allows districts to use capital levy funds to purchase textbooks or lease/purchase computer courseware and software
- requires district's Planning, Evaluation, and Reporting (PER) reports to include annual instructional goals and ways to measure what students learn
- requires districts to set up and evaluate PER testing programs with certain criteria once every 2 years
- Effective: various effective dates

Omnibus education finance bill funds LEAD (Learning, Excellence, Assessment and Development) proposals, re-instates summer school; raises aids for districts. Minnesota Educational Computing Consortium becomes public corporation. Voters will vote on easing of school land investment restrictions.

photo by Tom Olmscheid



Classrooms depend on School Fund lands (Chapter 482)

Minnesota Educational Computing Corporation Chapter 619

HF1668—Kahn SF1736*—Pehler

- creates the Minnesota Educational Computing Corporation as a public corporation and transfers assets of the Minnesota Educational Computing Consortium to the corporation
- Effective: day after enactment

School fund land— constitutional amendment Chapter 482

HF1291*—McEachern
SF1240—Pehler

- allows Minnesota voters to change the investment restrictions on permanent school fund lands by amending the State Constitution
- Effective: upon voter approval of the amendment ■

Exit polls inside or within 100 feet of a voting place are against the law. Some candidate names may be on a "gray ballot" if all names don't fit on one election ballot. Voting places indicating accessibility to the disabled and elderly must provide specific accommodations for them. Towns get a freer hand in setting voting hours.

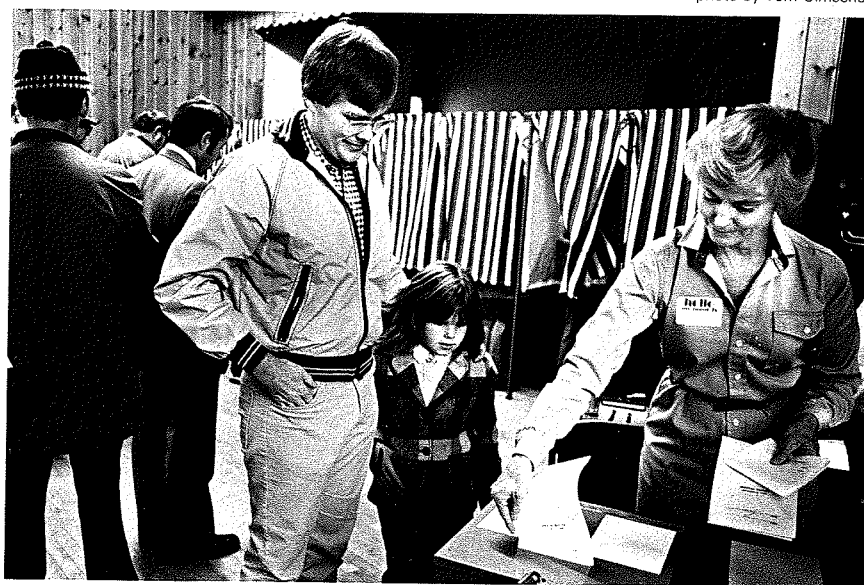


photo by Tom Olmscheid

Law clarifies voting machine procedures(Chapter 447)

Handicapped voters election bill

Chapter 471

HF1618—Minne

SF1546*—Donna Peterson

- improves election facilities for the elderly and disabled voters if voting place specifies it is accessible to them
- requires ballot instructions in braille, large type or cassette; telecommunication device for the deaf; any help in reading instructions and registration form, and casting ballots
- makes a polling place accessible to the elderly or disabled
- Effective: Aug. 1, 1984, except for already printed materials that may be used until July 1, 1985

Prohibiting exit polls

Chapter 515

HF1606*—Shea

SF2131—Donna Peterson

- bans anyone who is inside or within 100 feet of an entrance to a polling place from asking a voter how s/he intends to vote or has voted
- Effective: Aug. 1, 1984

School election filing date

Chapter 415

HF1936*—Olson SF1796—Olson

- changes the filing deadline for school elections from 21 days before election to 28 days
- Effective: Aug. 1, 1984

School elections—absentee ballots

Chapter 376

HF1462—L. Carlson

SF1476*—Reichgott

- makes procedures for school election absentee ballots the same as those for the general election
- Effective: day after enactment

Secretary of State housekeeping bill

Chapter 560

HF1871—Welle

SF1954*—Hughes

- requires filing a petition for major political party status with the secretary of state, instead of county auditor
- requires the secretary of state to prepare an extract of election laws on the duties of election judges and to distribute them to county auditors and municipal clerks
- allows candidates for municipal judges, soil and water conservation district supervisors to be on a separate ballot used when there are too many candidates in the election for one ballot
- corrects obsolete provisions
- Effective: Aug. 1, 1984

Township election hours

Chapter 346

HF427—Sviggum

SF416*—Mehrkens

- allows town boards in metropolitan counties to set voting hours for town elections if they run from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.
- allows other towns to set voting time for elections if the polls are open for at least 3 hours under certain circumstances
- Effective: Aug. 1, 1984

Voting machine law recodification

Chapter 447

HF1338*—Osthoff

SF1809—Donna Peterson

- reorganizes and clarifies voting machine law to separate provisions governing both lever and electronic systems, lever machines only and electronic systems only, specifying procedures for the use of each type and recording of results
- Effective: Jan. 1, 1985 ■

Employment & Labor

Abuse—state hospitals/ nursing homes

Chapter 425

HF1987—Greenfield

SF1891*—Petty

- defines "abuse" of patients in state hospitals and state nursing homes as used in employee discipline arbitrations and hearings
- Effective: Aug. 1, 1984

Auctioneers—real estate sales stipulation

Chapter 653

HF1743*—Sparby

SF1781—Merriam

- requires real estate auctioneers to work for persons who hold licenses to sell real estate or licensed attorneys
- Effective: July 1, 1985

Building inspectors— continuing education

Chapter 578

HF1878*—St. Onge

SF1661—Laidig

- requires inspectors to complete educational programs every 3 years, beginning Jan. 1, 1985 for recertification
- Effective: day after enactment

Companion service wages

Chapter 614

HF1306—Berkelman

SF1235*—Ulland

- grants at least a four hour minimum wage payment to individuals who come into homes for overnight companion services
- Effective: March 1, 1984

Conduct proceedings— inadmissible evidence

Chapter 556

HF2067—Greenfield

SF1883*—Donna Peterson

- prohibits use of a patient's or client's sexual history as evidence before boards of medical examiners and psychology in unprofessional conduct cases concerning sexual contact with a patient or client, unless the complainant authorizes its use
- Effective: day after enactment ▶

Tip credit law to phase out over a four-year period.

Salespeople get help in collecting commissions after their dismissal or resignation. Entertainment agencies and real estate auctioneers come under state regulations. Problem of sexual exploitation by counselors and therapists will get state attention

photo by Paul Battaglia



Tip credit laws change (Chapter 636)

Electrical circuit installers—licensing change

Chapter 470

HF1851—G. Anderson

SF1498*—Waldorf

- exempts installers of Class II and Class III signaling circuits, power protective signaling circuits, or outside wiring alarms from current license requirement; excludes installation of wiring in hazardous locations
- Effective: day after enactment

Employee Relations

Department changes

Chapter 642

HF1991*—Knuth SF2084—Jude

- clarifies eligibility of handicapped people for special civil service examination procedures
- allows Employee Relations commissioner to negotiate with insurance companies that want to provide insurance plans for state employees
- changes the appeal of court-martial proceedings for state military forces employees
- clarifies that public employees competing in the Olympics could get a leave of absence without pay or benefit loss while training and participating in competition
- Effective: Aug. 1, 1984

Entertainment agency regulation

Chapter 587

HF1257*—Rice SF1886—Solon

- requires licensing of entertainment agents through the Department of Labor and Industries
- requires agents to report fee schedules and forms of contracts
- requires a \$10,000 bond with the license application
- forbids license transfer without permission; stipulates penalties
- Effective: Aug. 1, 1984

Esthetician salon licensing

VETOED

HF1985*—Hokr

SF1866—Kronebusch

- would have allowed a licensed esthetician to operate a salon

Infectious agent regulation

Chapter 431

HF1527—K. Clark

SF1495*—Diessner

- includes rickettsia and parasites in the Health commissioner's stipulated

training program for hospital and clinic employees routinely exposed to infectious agents

- Effective: Aug. 1, 1984

Payroll deductions—political action

Chapter 508

HF1421*—Simoneau

SF1386—Lantry

- allows payroll deductions to include deductions for a federally or state-registered political action committee
- Effective: Aug. 1, 1984

Peace officer compensation

Chapter 454

HF1523—Wenzel

SF1622*—Jude

- raises from \$50,000 to \$100,000 the compensation for dependents of peace officers killed in the line of duty
- Effective: day after enactment

Public Employment Labor Relations Act recodification

Chapter 462

HF2160—Simoneau

SF1986*—Nelson

- recodifies Public Employment Labor Relations Act by eliminating obsolete and redundant language, rearranging sections in a more logical order, and rewriting provisions to make them easier to understand
- Effective: Aug. 1, 1984

Salespeople—wages

Chapter 446

HF1562*—Blatz

SF1519—Freeman

- stipulates payment of wages to discharged or resigning commissioned salespeople
- Effective: Aug. 1, 1984

Sexual exploitation by counselors and therapists

Chapter 631

HF2068—Greenfield

SF1884*—Donna Peterson

- requires the Corrections commissioner to appoint a task force to study the problem of sexual exploitation by counselors and therapists; instructs the task force to make recommendations to the Legislature by Feb. 1, 1985
- Effective: the day after enactment



Law defines what patient abuse is (Chapter 425)

Sheltered workshop study/funding

Chapter 627

HF1667—Greenfield

SF1441*—Spear

- requires Economic Security commissioner to study the effectiveness of workshops that employ handicapped persons (sheltered workshops)
- allows the commissioner to withhold funds from workshops that violate department rules or fail to meet certain standards
- Effective: day after enactment

Tip credit elimination

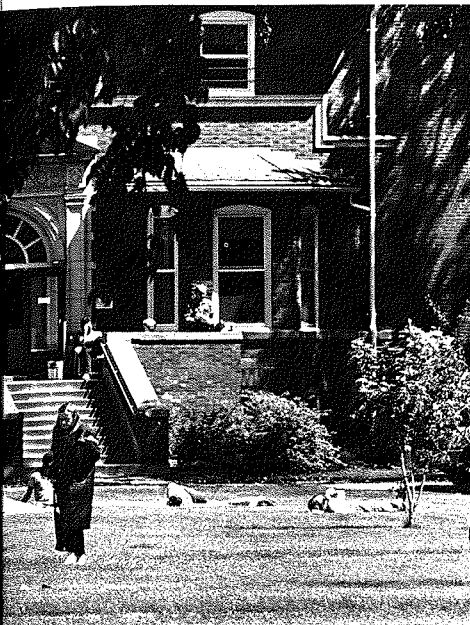
Chapter 636

HF347—Murphy

SF433*—Vega

- repeals tip credit legislation over a 4-year period as follows: Jan. 1, 1985, reduces tip credit to 15 percent; Jan. 1, 1986, to 10 percent; Jan. 1, 1987, to 5 percent; Jan. 1, 1988, eliminates the credit
- Effective: Aug. 1, 1984 ▶

photo by Larry Salzman



petence and eligibility for reinstatement

- clarifies the fine schedule for child labor violations
- Effective: Aug. 1, 1984; food service workers exemption: upon local approval**

Workers' compensation clarification

Chapter 432

HF1767—Simoneau

SF1477*—Chmielewski

- clarifies language in the 1983 worker's compensation bill
- provides penalties when compensation doesn't start on time
- allows for payment of remaining impairment or recovery compensation to surviving dependent children
- establishes an advisory council to advise the Medical Services Review Board
- Effective: rideshare provisions: June 10, 1983; others: day after enactment

Workers comp.—U of M faculty/volunteer ambulance drivers

Chapter 469

HF1679—Boo

SF1469*—Frederick

- provides workers' compensation for U of M faculty for the period in between academic school years if the faculty member has a contract, or reasonable assurance of a contract, for the following school year
- provides workers' compensation for volunteer ambulance drivers if they're employees of a political subdivision, nonprofit hospital, or nonprofit corporation
- Effective: Aug. 1, 1984 ■

Veterinarian teaching exemption

Chapter 427

HF1822—D. Carlson

SF1853*—Wegscheid

- permits veterinarians who work at the U of M to perform veterinarian duties within various departments; allows persons lecturing in continuing education courses for veterinarians at the U of M to give instructions and demonstrations
- Effective: Aug. 1, 1984

Wage payment—statute of limitations

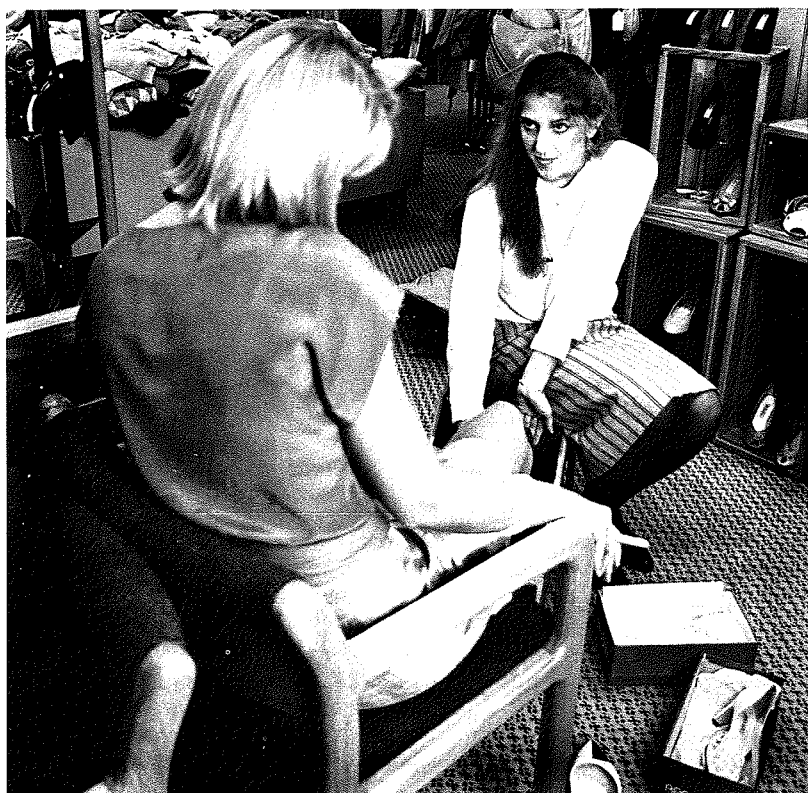
Chapter 608

HF1537—O'Connor

SF1563*—Chmielewski

- increases the statute of limitation from 2 to 3 years for workers to recover wages, overtime, or damages from an employer under certain circumstances
- permits the Board of Dentistry to allow a person whose license has been suspended to practice dentistry under the supervision of a licensed dentist to demonstrate his/her com-

photo by Paul Battaglia



Salespeople get commissions due (Chapter 446)

District heating in cities with populations over 50,000 gets authorization; port authorities may operate the systems. Changes in the Energy and Economic Development Authority expands certain loan programs. Gasoline and gasohol must meet state standards; retailers can sell compressed natural gas as a vehicle fuel.

photo by Paul Battaglia



Gasohol must meet standards (Chapter 459)

District heating system authorization

Chapter 449

HF996—Norton no companion

- authorizes a city of more than 50,000 people that isn't a city of the first class to acquire, construct, improve, and operate a district heating system under a 2/3 vote of approval from the city's governing body
- authorizes a port authority to acquire, own, and operate a district heating system
- Effective: Aug. 1, 1984

Energy and Economic Development Authority changes

Chapter 583

HF1775*—Otis

SF1960—Reichgott

- makes miscellaneous changes in the Energy and Economic Development Authority regarding its purpose; loans, grants, and eligibility; and bond and note principal
- Effective: Aug. 1, 1984

Gasoline/gasohol standards

Chapter 459

HF2113—Peterson

SF1813*—Wegscheid

- requires gasoline blend of denatured ethanol or methanol to meet ASTM (American Society for Testing and Materials) specifications and have a valid fuel additive waiver from the federal Environmental Protection Agency
- requires labels on dispensers of gasoline containing alcohol to show type of alcohol
- Effective: Aug. 1, 1984

Natural gas—sales restriction

Chapter 428

HF2258—Kelly

SF1768*—Freeman

- allows retailers to sell compressed natural gas for use as a vehicle fuel
- Effective: Aug. 1, 1984

Telephone company regulation

Chapter 451

HF523*—Jacobs

SF567—C. Peterson.

- redefines an independent telephone company by raising subscriber size from 2,500 to 15,000
- Effective: day after enactment; also applicable to independent telephone company rate changes pending before the Public Utilities Commission on the effective date

Telephone rate proceedings—intervenor reimbursement

Chapter 611

HF1499—Otis

SF1559*—Dieterich

- allows Public Utilities commissioner to order a telephone company to pay all, or part of, a party's intervention costs up to \$20,000 per intervention, in any general rate case, when the commissioner finds that the intervenor has materially assisted the commission's deliberation and the intervenor can't afford the cost of intervention
- Effective: day after enactment ■

Environment & Natural Resources

Minnesota suspends search for hazardous waste disposal site, instead will study alternatives. Waste management changes include tax on garbage going to metropolitan area dumps. Deer hunters' blaze-orange clothing may include camouflage patterns. The "Morel" is now state's official mushroom.

**Acid deposition standard—
date change**

Chapter 519

HF1778*—Munger

SF1627—Willet

- changes the date when the Pollution Control Agency must adopt an acid deposition standard for certain sensitive areas from Jan. 1, 1985, to Jan. 1, 1986

- Effective: Aug. 1, 1984



photo by Tom Omscheid

Reduced fishing license fees for Minnesota and Wisconsin residents owning property in neighboring state (Chapter 537)

Clitherall: land sale

Chapter 518

HF1760*—Graba

SF1648—Anderson

- allows the DNR commissioner to sell certain state fisheries land in Otter Tail County to John W. and Edna Loomer, of Clitherall
- Effective: day after enactment

Forestry law changes

Chapter 613

HF1865—Battaglia

SF1407*—Davis

- allows the DNR commissioner to repair and renovate forest fire prevention and suppression equipment
- allows the commissioner to settle

any dispute on cutting timber where the value of the timber is at most \$5,000

- allows the commissioner to issue tickets for theft of state timber
- Effective: various effective dates

**Hunters/trappers—
orange camouflage clothing
Chapter 550**

HF1630—Neuenschwander

SF1589*—Merriam

- defines blaze orange clothing that deer hunters and trappers must wear to include a camouflage pattern of at least 50 percent blaze orange in each foot square
- Effective: Aug. 1, 1984

**Hunting & fishing
licenses reciprocity**

Chapter 537

HF2006*—Kelly

SF1449—R. Moe

- allows Minnesotans who own property in Wisconsin to buy Wisconsin hunting and fishing licenses at residency prices and vice versa
- encourages the DNR commissioner to continue to try to reach an agreement with Wisconsin on restricting the season for fishing in the Mississippi River
- Effective: day after enactment; upon similar Wisconsin legislation▶

Land acquisition—appraisal review

Chapter 553

HF2299—Norton

SF1790*—R. Peterson

- eliminates duplication in land acquisition appraisal review by the Department of Administration
- Effective: Aug. 1, 1984

Mushroom—Morel as state mushroom

Chapter 394

HF1053—Levi SF868*—Laidig

- adopts the Morel as the official state mushroom
- Effective: Aug. 1, 1984

Park boundary changes

Chapter 599

HF1030—Knuth SF1114*—Jude

- allows the DNR commissioner to buy land to add to certain parks
- allows the transfer of any tax-forfeited land in a park to the supervision of the natural resources commissioner
- deletes and adds some areas from certain parks
- allows Lake County to exchange 10, 40-acre parcels of tax-forfeited land for land of equal value in the city of Silver Bay
- Effective: day after enactment

Radioactive waste—high level

Chapter 453

HF1292—K. Clark

SF1258*—Merriam

- requires an agreement between MN and the federal government before a study or test drilling for disposal sites for high-level radioactive waste begins
- requires a permit to test drill and at least 1 public meeting before the issuance of a permit
- requires waste shippers to notify the public safety commissioner before shipment on the waste's route, date, and time of shipment
- allows the commissioner to designate preferred routes, and dates or times for transporting waste
- requires the commissioner to review annual federally approved highway routes in the state
- requires deposits of a \$1,000 fee in the general fund for each vehicle carrying waste

- requires the commissioner to consult with various state and federal officials before Dec. 1, 1984, and to prepare an emergency accident plan
- requires the commissioner to report to the Legislature by Jan. 1 each year on the emergency plan
- provides that violators of the agreement and shipping requirements are guilty of a misdemeanor, may be fined, and subject to a civil penalty
- Effective: day after enactment

Soil conservation

Chapter 569

HF432*—Redalen

SF1376—Davis

- requires the Agriculture commissioner to set rules and guidelines to prevent excessive soil erosion
- encourages certain local governments to adopt a soil loss ordinance in line with the commissioner's standards
- prohibits excessive soil loss on farmland and woodland
- allows a person adversely affected by excessive soil loss or an elected local official to complain about soil loss to the local government, which must then inspect the land in question
- requires the landowner to take specific conservation measures to stop excessive loss
- requires those that plan to build on more than 1 acre of land to submit a soil loss prevention plan
- provides state cost-sharing funds to landowners for establishing soil conservation practices
- Effective: Aug. 1, 1984, and only upon adoption of local ordinances

Transporting wild animals/fishing

Chapter 621

HF1143—Battaglia

SF1048*—C. Peterson

- specifies rules to transport wild animals for MN residents and nonresidents
- allows the DNR commissioner to open the 1984 angling season for northern pike or pickerel on Mille Lacs Lake at the same time as the angling season opens for walleye
- requires persons between the ages of 16 and 65 years to buy stamps to fish in any trout stream, trout lake,

or Lake Superior, with revenue going toward improving trout and salmon streams and lakes

- requires persons who charter boats and guide anglers on Lake Superior to buy a fishing guide license
- Effective: day after enactment for most provisions; March 1, 1985, for the stamp provision

Waste disposal sites

Chapter 455

HF1773—Jensen

SF1662*—Schmitz

- reduces the number of proposed solid waste disposal sites in metropolitan counties, with less than 300,000 people, from 4 to at least 3
- requires a metro county with a population over 300,000 to have at least 4 proposed sites
- Effective: day after enactment

Waste management act—changes

Chapter 644

HF1577*—Munger

SF1514—Merriam

- directs the Waste Management Board to emphasize alternatives to land disposal of hazardous wastes in developing a hazardous waste management plan and eliminates the plan requirement to set up at least 1 commercial disposal facility
- imposes a 50 cent per cubic yard fee on trash disposed at landfills in the metropolitan area, with proceeds divided equally for landfill abatement and government cleanup
- exempts equipment for processing solid or hazardous waste at a resource recovery site from sales tax and makes miscellaneous tax abatement changes
- makes various changes regarding the Waste Management Board's duties and solid waste disposal
- Effective: various effective dates ■

photo by Tom Olmscheid



State tightens waste controls (Chapter 453)

Families & Relationships

Removal of a parent/adult instead of children in child abuse cases is allowable. Retirement benefits are no longer exempt as income in divorce, separation, or child support settlements. New missing children's program is set. Law requires prompt reporting of sudden infant death syndrome incidents.



photo by Tom Olmscheid

Adoption—interstate compacts Chapter 422

**HF2231—Staten
SF1454*—Diessner**

- enacts enabling legislation to allow the Department of Public Welfare to enter into agreements with agencies in other states to make payments to families receiving adoption assistance
- establishes procedures for interstate assistance payments, including medical payments
- Effective: Aug. 1, 1984

Child abuse— removal of parent/adult Chapter 573

**HF1386*—J. Clark
SF1462—Petty**

- authorizes the local welfare agency to ask the Juvenile Court to intervene in cases of domestic child abuse and order the abusing party out of the home in some cases
- provides that violators of a court "order for protection" are guilty of a misdemeanor and in contempt of court
- provides that only county attorneys in metropolitan counties, except Ramsey, may prosecute cases of possession of obscene pictures, films, or slides of children
- prohibits public access to court records pertaining to the identities of victims of certain sex offenses
- Effective: Aug. 1, 1984

Child support—law changes Chapter 547

**HF1554—Brandl
SF1492*—Berglin**

- provides that state retirement benefits are not exempt from income when considering payment for divorce, separation, or child support
- allows courts to consider debts to private creditors, in some cases, when determining child support payments
- allows the court to deviate from the guidelines for child support
- places a 10-year lien on real property that belongs to people who pay child support after payment default
- Effective: day after enactment ▶

Child-protection laws toughen (Chapters 510, 547, 573, 658, 422)

Daycare regulation

Chapter 658

HF2135—Simoneau

SF2030*—Luther

- exempts certain licensed daycare centers from state building code requirements regarding ground level exits
- requires Welfare, Public Safety, and Administration commissioners to study the issues surrounding licensing family or group family daycare homes and centers
- prohibits the welfare commissioner from adopting daycare regulation rules without first consulting the state fire marshal and state building inspector
- prohibits the fire marshal from adopting certain daycare rules
- allows the Welfare Department to carry out and enforce rules as long as they are not stricter than rules outlined
- Effective: day after enactment

Daycare—state employees

Chapter 485

HF1371*—Hokr

SF1325—Laidig

- provides for rental space within the Capitol complex for a private daycare center for children of state employees
- Effective: day after enactment

**Marriage dissolution—
child custody**

Chapter 635

HF1230—Cohen

SF924*—Reichgott

- provides that mediators in contested child custody cases may disclose information to child custody investigators and evaluators that comes out of mediation efforts only after all parties agree in writing
- allows investigators' reports as evidence in child custody hearings
- Effective: Aug. 1, 1984

Missing children

Chapter 510

HF1428*—Bishop

SF1579—Merriam

- establishes the "Minnesota Missing Children's Act," and requires Public Safety commissioner to set up a missing child program

- requires local law enforcement agencies to conduct preliminary investigations upon receiving missing child reports
- requires law enforcement officials to immediately enter descriptions of children into the national crime information computer when they determine children are missing
- Effective: day after enactment

**Sudden infant death
syndrome information**

Chapter 637

HF2183—Valan

SF2102*—McQuaid

- allows Health commissioner to promote programs and services for par-

ents and families of victims of sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS)

- requires prompt reporting of incidents of SIDS to the state registrar and requires coroners, medical examiners, or doctors to encourage autopsies of SIDS victims and notify parents or guardians of the cause of death if the autopsy reveals SIDS, and inform parents and guardians of available counseling services
- Effective: day after enactment ■

photo by Tom Olmscheid



Law sets crib death reporting rules (Chapter 637)

State agencies face changes in rule-setting procedures under the Administrative Procedures Act. U of M to do a comparable worth study among nonacademic employees. Department of Human Rights will speed up case processing.



U of M to study comparable worth (Chapter 456)

Administration Department—housekeeping changes

Chapter 544
HF1757—Coleman
SF1408*—D. Moe

- recodifies laws governing the Department of Administration and makes other minor changes
- Effective: Aug. 1, 1984

Administration Department—statutory changes

Chapter 558
HF2062—Coleman
SF1913*—Frank

- makes statutory changes to reflect reorganization changes the Department of Administration made
- Effective: Aug. 1, 1984

Administrative Procedures Act—changes

Chapter 640
HF2130—Knuth
SF1864*—Diessner

- eliminates the attorney general's duty to review state agency rules after hearings
- allows adoption of rules without a public hearing unless 25 people request a public hearing
- renames "temporary rules" as "emergency rules," and prohibits state agencies from adopting emergency rules in certain cases
- increases the time it takes to adopt emergency rules, versus current temporary rules
- provides that rules exempt from the APA rulemaking procedures will have no effect as of Jan. 1, 1985, unless the agency submits them to the Revisor of Statutes for publication before then
- Effective: day after enactment

Appointments—transferring authority

Chapter 531
HF1946*—Knuth
SF1982—Pogemiller

- transfers the authority to make appointments to certain state boards and advisory groups from the governor to various commissioners
- provides that an appointing authority may choose a new board member from applications on hand in some cases instead of going through the open appointments process again
- Effective: Aug. 1, 1984

Audits—metro agencies, boards, commissions

Chapter 638
HF2157—Welch
SF2043*—D. Moe

- allows the legislative auditor to perform program evaluations and audits of metropolitan agencies, boards, or commissions
- Effective: Aug. 1, 1984

Comparable worth—U of M study

Chapter 456
HF1764—L. Carlson
SF1760*—Reichgott

- requests U of M regents to conduct a job evaluation study to determine to what extent salaries of nonaca-

demic employees reflect comparability of the value of work

- requests regents to submit to the Legislative Commission on Employee Relations, by April 1, 1985, a list showing female-dominated classes where compensation inequity exists, an estimate of the cost of providing comparability adjustments, and steps the University is taking to achieve pay equity

• Effective: Aug. 1, 1984

**Data privacy—
access to data and records**

Chapter 436

HF894—Ellingson

SF989*—R. Peterson

- clarifies who gets access to welfare data and medical records
- refines certain provisions in the data privacy act
- Effective: day after enactment

**Detective/protective
agent board changes**

Chapter 649

HF1961*—Coleman

SF1936—Pogemiller

- changes the composition of the Board of Private Detective and Protective Agent Services to include a licensed protective agent and to delete the attorney general or his/her representative
- allows the board to adopt rules on selection, training, and licensing of detectives and agents
- transfers the authority to license from the Public Safety commissioner to the Board
- specifies license requirements
- Effective: Aug. 1, 1984

**Human Rights Department
changes**

Chapter 567

HF1602—K. Clark

SF1762*—Reichgott

- prohibits attempts to make anyone filing charges of unfair discriminatory practices from waiving their legal rights and remedies under the law
- changes the time limit to file charges of unfair practices
- requires commissioner to give priority to investigating and processing certain charges and provides sanctions against any party who intentionally delays proceedings

- allows charging parties to go to the hearing examiner if, after 180 days of filing, the Department hasn't issued findings or held hearings

- allows the hearing examiner to require parties who lose to pay prevailing parties for attorney fees and up to 3 times the actual damages
- allows any charging parties who represented themselves and won to ask the attorney general for representation in cases of appeal
- allows parties to go to court within 45 days of the commissioner's determination that their case does not warrant further use of Department resources, or that not enough evidence exists

• Effective: Aug. 1, 1984

Land sales—DNR

Chapter 601

HF2302—Norton

SF1789*—R. Peterson

- authorizes the Department of Natural Resources (DNR), instead of the Department of Administration, to sell state lands that DNR certifies as surplus
- Effective: Aug. 1, 1984

**Legislative expenses—
reimbursement**

Chapter 648

HF533*—Vanasek

SF1264—Purfeerst

- provides reimbursement of expenses for legislators who engage in official business at a rate committees in the House and Senate will determine
- Effective: day after enactment

**Notary publics—
out-of-state appointments**

Chapter 504

HF756*—Norton SF2173—Jude

- authorizes the governor to appoint notary publics who aren't Minnesota residents or residents of the county they're seeking appointment to
- reduces the term of office for notary publics and increases the bond notary publics must give the state
- allows notary publics to change residence and retain their powers until their term expires
- Effective: Aug. 1, 1984 for all notary publics the governor commissions on or after that date

**Public employees—
compensation for service**

Chapter 571

HF950*—Wenzel

SF1169—Samuelson

- provides \$35-per-day compensation for public employees who are members of advisory boards, councils, and committees; allows employers to deduct that amount from employees' pay
- provides per diem compensation for commissioners of the Northwest Minnesota Multi-County Housing and Redevelopment Authority
- Effective: various effective dates

**Secretary of State—
various changes**

Chapter 618

HF2023—Ellingson

SF2016*—Wegscheid

- makes miscellaneous technical changes to laws affecting the secretary of state's office and practices
- Effective: various effective dates

**Small businesses—DEED
authority**

Chapter 604

HF1709—Peterson

SF1826*—Freeman

- adds to the powers and duties of the commissioner of the Department of Energy and Economic Development (DEED) in obtaining and spending funds and in entering into contracts
- allows commissioner to help local governments fill out application forms for federal grants-in-aid funds
- creates a dedicated fund in the state treasury for fees the certified state development program (OMNI) collects to pay OMNI board members expenses, program administration costs, and to develop a fund pool for more investment
- allows the Bureau of Small Businesses to use outside expertise, publicize provisions which require state agencies to consider small business issues in rulemaking, and instructs the governor's office and the secretary of state to help the bureau create an information system on business development and growth in Minnesota
- Effective: day after enactment ■

HMOs remain non-profit under tighter regulations and reporting changes, counties get help for administering programs, parents will pay for delinquent, handicapped, or placed children's care, and the state will try a pilot program for compulsive gamblers.

photo by Larry Salzman



Various nursing home, aid rules change (Chapters 641, 534)

Adult day care licensing

Chapter 542

HF378—Brandl SF311*—Berglin

- requires the state to establish procedures and license adult day care providers, including nursing homes that provide services to 5 or more non-independent adults
- excludes centers for nonhandicapped persons
- includes adult daycare center service costs under Medical Assistance or medical care
- Effective: day after enactment

Blind/visually handicapped rehabilitative services

Chapter 516

HF1620*—Rice no companion

- requires the Welfare commissioner to develop rules and plans, including training programs, for rehabilitation of eligible clients by Feb. 1, 1985
- Effective: Aug. 1, 1984

Board of Dentistry—training/education rules

Chapter 491

HF1533*—Skoglund

SF1557—Wegscheid

- allows the Board of Dentistry to adopt rules for training and education in administering anesthesia/sedation
- Effective: Aug. 1, 1984

Chemical dependency—Welfare Department authority

Chapter 545

HF1848—Welch

SF1418*—Berglin

- authorizes Welfare Department to collect and distribute information on chemical dependency issues
- allows Welfare commissioner to establish criteria to determine appropriate chemical dependency care and services
- requires state agencies involved with chemical dependency programs to submit plans or budgets to the Welfare department
- creates an American Indian Advisory Council
- Effective: day after enactment ▶

Child abuse reporting changes

Chapter 577

HF1806*—Elioff SF1836—Petty

- clarifies that investigation of cases under the Child Abuse Reporting Law is the responsibility of the local law enforcement agency, and local welfare agencies must conduct child abuse assessments
- limits Welfare commissioner's involvement under the Child Abuse Reporting law to assessment; provides for reporting of abuse incidents in facilities to the department responsible for licensings
- allows health and correctional facilities to call upon the Department of Public Welfare for assistance in child abuse cases
- Effective: day after enactment

County nursing home administration

Chapter 528

HF1875*—Graba

SF2078—Stumpf

- allows county-run nursing homes to establish and operate annex support facilities
- gives counties the option of levying an annual tax for nursing home and support service costs
- allows counties to designate any board under county jurisdiction as the administrative or supervisory board of the nursing home and specifies board's jurisdiction
- Effective: Aug. 1, 1984

CSSA minimum program standards

Chapter 526

HF1853*—Clawson

SF1421—Berglin

- requires Welfare commissioner to establish minimum standards for Community Social Service Agency programs
- Effective: day after enactment

Detoxification—county responsibility

Chapter 378

HF1948—Greenfield

SF1453*—Diessner

- requires counties with persons in chemical dependency treatment centers to be financially responsible for detoxification of those persons in other counties
- Effective: Aug. 1, 1984

Food service license fee exemption

Chapter 632

HF1644—Scheid SF1455*—Jude

- exempts schools from paying health department license fees for operating a food service
- Effective: Aug. 1, 1984

Gambling treatment program

Chapter 616

HF1708—Coleman

SF1614*—Spear

- authorizes Welfare commissioner to establish a pilot program with certain requirements by June 30, 1985, to treat compulsive gamblers and requires a report to the Legislature
- Effective: Aug. 1, 1984

HMO incentives—counties

Chapter 580

HF1977*—Brandl

SF1819—Berglin

- raises from 85 to 90 percent the amount counties pay HMOs for medical assistance recipients on a fee-for-service basis
- requires counties to make available all presentation materials explaining HMO options for potential enrollees
- Effective: day after enactment

HMO omnibus bill

Chapter 464

HF1561*—Swanson

SF1417—Berglin

- puts HMOs under laws governing eligibility requirements of commercial health insurers and nonprofit health service corporations
- changes or extends required HMO benefits to certain populations
- requires continued HMO client coverage in certain cases
- prohibits HMO's from charging co-payments in group contracts during open enrollment periods for pre-existing conditions
- defines participating entities, major participating entities, and separate health service contracts; allows HMOs to enter into separate health service contracts but says they must disclose certain information
- allows enrollees a 31-day premium payment grace period and a 10-day cancellation period for individual contracts
- requires HMOs to refund, with interest, rejected applicant's fees

- limits open enrollment from 1 month to 14 days, but requires HMOs to accept applicants in the order HMOs receive applications
- Effective: various effective dates

Medical Assistance changes

Chapter 534

HF1966*—Greenfield

SF1865—Berglin

- requires courts to report certain data in marriage dissolutions to the Health commissioner
- establishes the Health Care Cost Information Act of 1984 which encourages hospitals and outpatient surgical centers to keep acute care costs down through various provisions
- removes financial responsibility for children of state hospital patients
- limits payments under Medical Assistance and General Assistance Medical Care for inpatient chemical dependency treatment
- changes restrictions on Medical Assistance applicants transferring property ▶

photo by Tom Olmscheid



State establishes pilot compulsive gambler program (Chapter 616)

- appropriates \$2 million to aid counties in administering welfare programs
- adjusts the payment schedule for spouses of institutionalized persons
- sets up a pilot citizen review board project in at least 1 judicial district to oversee foster children placement hearings and case reviews to encourage permanent homes for children
- Effective: various effective dates

Nursing homes—various changes

Chapter 641

HF2098*—Clawson

SF1985—Berglin

- revises the procedure for the Welfare Department to determine operating cost payment rates to reimburse nursing homes and allows adjustments
- allows residents in continuing care facilities to form associations
- requires certification of homes to receive state payments through the Medical Assistance program with certain exceptions
- increases nursing hours for homes beginning July 1, 1984
- prohibits payments to nursing homes that discriminate against patients because of patients' source of income
- allows General Assistance funds for GA eligible persons in licensed health or mental health care facilities
- changes limits on certain allowable costs
- requires HMOs to disclose officers of major participating entities of the organization and stockholders holding more than 10 percent of an entity's voting stock
- allows Health commissioner to approve or disapprove HMO contracts with other entities within 30 days of contract filing

- requires HMOs that provide hospital mental health benefits to provide a minimum number of treatment hours in non-hospital settings at minimum patient cost
- requires HMOs to pay for and consider second opinions for chemical dependency or mental health problems for which an HMO recommends no structured treatment
- Effective: day after enactment

Parental fees— handicapped/foster children

Chapter 530

HF1920*—Brandl

SF1916—Petty

- requires parents of children in state hospitals to pay for their care according to ability to pay
- requires counties to pay for 24-hour care of certain children
- limits amount parents must pay for children in out-of-home care
- considers the amount parents receiving federal medical assistance spend on room, board, and services when determining financial responsibility
- Effective: Aug. 1, 1984

Parental fees— juvenile offenders

Chapter 606

HF1213—Norton

SF992*—Dieterich

- requires parents of children on probation or parole to pay for the child's foster care on the basis of their ability to pay
- Effective: Aug. 1, 1984

Patient releases/ civil commitment hearings

Chapter 623

HF2154—Clawson

SF2108*—Spear

- requires the medical director of the Minnesota security hospital to notify court officials and interested persons 10 days before patient pass plans begin
- allows court officials and interested persons to object to the pass in person or in writing
- establishes which type of patients cannot receive a pass to leave the security hospital under certain circumstances

- excuses a person who is subject of a civil commitment hearing from attending the hearing if the person is disruptive or unable to understand the proceedings
- allows parents or guardians to place children 16 years or younger in treatment facilities
- requires a hearing review process, before Aug. 1, 1985, for persons living in treatment facilities placed under guardianship orders before commitment law enactment
- Effective: hearing reviews: Aug. 1, 1982; others: day after enactment

Patient rights— interested persons

Chapter 657

HF229*—K. Clark SF21—Spear

- allows an interested person, after appeals, to seek enforcement of provisions in the Patient Bill of Rights and to act on behalf of an institutionalized patient or resident who has a legally appointed guardian or conservator
- Effective: Aug. 1, 1984

Pharmacy board licensing/examination

Chapter 426

HF1872—Clawson

SF1867*—Dicklich

- allows pharmacy graduates from foreign schools to take examinations for pharmacy board licensure if they meet certain requirements
- Effective: day after enactment

Privacy Act—welfare agency access to data

Chapter 579

HF1886*—Brandl

SF1480—Diessner

- changes Data Privacy Act to allow welfare agencies access to certain private information for criminal proceedings or in emergency situations
- prohibits data disclosure on subjects other than people, except under the Data Privacy Act
- provides that welfare agencies must disclose information they have on individuals to those individuals with certain exceptions
- changes classification of certain data
- Effective: Aug. 1, 1984

Residential/daycare zoning

Chapter 617

HF1967—Greenfield

SF1628*—Berglin

- restructures zoning requirements for residential daycare facilities by establishing a policy preference for facilities serving 17 or fewer mentally retarded (MR) adults
- prohibits exclusion of Licensed Daycare Facilities (LDCFs) from single or multi-family zones if local zoning regulations permit other facilities
- allows local zoning authorities to require special use permits for LDCFs serving 17-25 persons, but prohibits authorities from imposing stricter requirements on the LDCFs than on other special use permit users
- requires counties to develop a plan to disperse group residential facilities in concentrated areas and prohibits construction of facilities in such areas
- Effective: day after enactment

Student loans— health professionals

Chapter 407

HF1813*—Tunheim

SF1793—Stumpf

- allows students in all health-related fields, not just medical students, to receive student loans from hospital districts in exchange for employment
- Effective: day after enactment

Swing bed CON exemption

Chapter 541

HF2247*—Begich

SF1924—Doug Johnson

- exempts construction or modification of fewer than 5 medicare-certified swing beds from certificate of need review
- Effective: day after enactment

Vertical heat exchanger installation

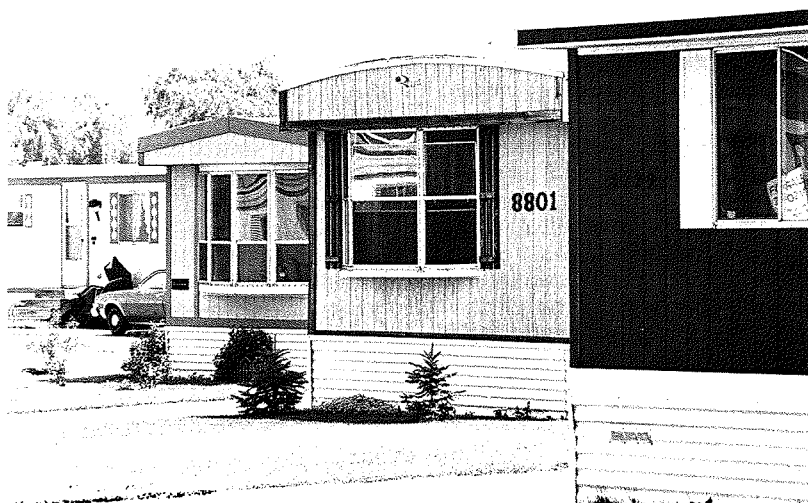
Chapter 391

HF1830—Welch SF1757*—Jude

- requires persons installing vertical heat exchangers to have a valid water well contractor's license and to get a permit from the Health Department
- Effective: Aug. 1, 1984 ■

Mortgage foreclosure relief continues for another year.

Public housing to get energy audits. Interest rates go up on renters' damage deposits. Property owners who unlawfully evict tenants will get penalties. Mobile home park entrance fees are illegal.



No more park entrance fees (Chapter 406)

Mobile home park regulations

Chapter 406

HF1611*—Voss SF1508—Novak

- makes mobile home park entrance fees illegal, and frees park owners from liabilities when tenants' homes fail to meet state safety regulations
- Effective: Aug. 1, 1984

Mortgage foreclosure relief extension

Chapter 474

HF2036—Elioff

SF1776*—Dicklich

- extends the 1983 Mortgage Foreclosure Relief Act for another year
- requires default notices to include a statement that the borrower may be eligible, under the relief act, for an extension of time before foreclosure and sale
- allows courts to consider whether a person asking for foreclosure relief faces catastrophic medical expenses
- Effective: May 1, 1984

Public housing energy standards

Chapter 595

HF1974*—Price

SF1681—Donna Peterson

- requires energy audits of public housing
- requires the Energy commissioner and the local housing and redevelopment authority, or the public housing authority, to select a third party to arbitrate audit results when the 2 parties disagree, and share the costs equally
- Effective: day after enactment

Real estate laws— changes/additions

Chapter 566

HF1902—Ellingson

SF1473*—Reichgott

- removes county auditor's certificate written document requirement for changes in governing homeowners' associations that go on file with the county recorder or the registrar of titles ▶

- allows courts to serve summonses on dissolved domestic corporations to clear titles for land
- requires landlords who foreclose on mortgages to notify tenants
- Effective: Aug. 1, 1984

Rental property—tenant/owners' rights

Chapter 586

HF1203*—Norton

SF2000—Pogemiller

- requires the attorney general, after a public meeting, to make available annual statements summarizing rental unit owners and tenants' legal rights and obligations
- requires rental property owners to post notice stating that copies of the statement are available from the attorney general's office
- Effective: Aug. 1, 1984

Rent control ban

Chapter 551

HF2173—McEachern

SF1683*—Wegscheid

- prohibits county and municipal rent control on private residential property unless ordinances to the contrary get approval in a general election
- Effective: day after enactment

Renters—damage deposit interest

Chapter 565

HF2078—Otis

SF1337*—Berglin

- raises the interest rate rental property owners must pay renters on damage deposits from 5 percent to 5.5 percent per year, noncompounded
- Effective: Oct. 1, 1984.

Renters—recourse for eviction/exclusion

Chapter 612

HF1837—Olsen

SF1330*—Belanger

- allows tenants to recover from a landlord up to 3 times the amount of damages and reasonable attorney's fees when a landlord, his agent, or a person, acting under the landlord's direction, unlawfully evicts or excludes a tenant from rental property
- Effective: Aug. 1, 1984 ■

Definitions of unfair insurance practices specify acts that are general business practices, but Commerce commissioner can evaluate and impose fines without showing they are common practices. Insurance companies must give homeowners a 60-day notice of intent to discontinue or reduce their policies. Insurers may use smoker/nonsmoker mortality tables to figure smoker/nonsmoker rates.



photo by Paul Battaglia

Mortality tables influence smoker and non-smoker rates (Chapter 538)

Claims settlements regulation

Chapter 555

HF1896—Vanasek

SF1862*—Dahl

- defines unfair insurance trade practices to include misrepresentation, slow or unfair claim settlements, and claim payments without detailing coverage
- allows the Commerce commissioner to set rules to ensure fair processing of claims and complaints in certain cases
- defines certain unfair settlement practices
- allows the Insurance commissioner to prohibit companies from operating if they violate fair settlement practices, to provide a hearing for the accused violators, and to impose a civil penalty
- Effective: day after enactment

Home insurance—nonrenewal

Chapter 602

HF1859—Riveness

SF1810*—Donna Peterson

- increases the required time insurance companies have to notify homeowners of discontinuance or reduction in coverage
- allows the Insurance commissioner to specify grounds for nonrenewal or reduced coverage and to impose a fine for violations
- allows homeowners faced with coverage reduction or denial to file a complaint with the insurance commissioner
- increases the amount a homemaker could receive in replacement service loss benefits under no-fault auto insurance
- Effective: Aug. 1, 1984

Insurance—various changes

Chapter 592

HF1678*—Skoglund

SF1749—Luther

- increases the fee for issuing and renewing a surplus lines agent's license to \$150 ▶

- sets fees for issuing duplicate licenses, licensing histories, processing bad checks and filing forms and rates
- allows the commissioner to issue licenses for a 3-year period, at a fee of 3 times the annual license fee
- allows insurers to use smoker and nonsmoker mortality tables to determine separate rates (see HF2148)
- prohibits discrimination in the availability of insurance on the basis of sex or marital status
- sets adjuster licensing fees
- Effective: various effective dates

No-fault insurance

Chapter 420

HF1652*—Jensen

SF1167—Schmitz

- conforms to federal law in requiring no-fault insurance to pay for accidents rather than Medicare, if both are available
- Effective: day after enactment

**Senior citizens—
insurance reduction**

Chapter 532

HF1949*—Olsen

SF1814—Darrel Peterson

- requires insurance companies to reduce auto insurance premiums for senior citizens, 65 years and older, who complete an accident prevention course every 3 years
- applies to policies issued, delivered, or renewed after Jan. 1, 1985
- requires the public safety commissioner to adopt guidelines for the course by Jan. 1, 1985
- Effective: day after enactment

**Smoker/nonsmoker
mortality tables**

Chapter 538

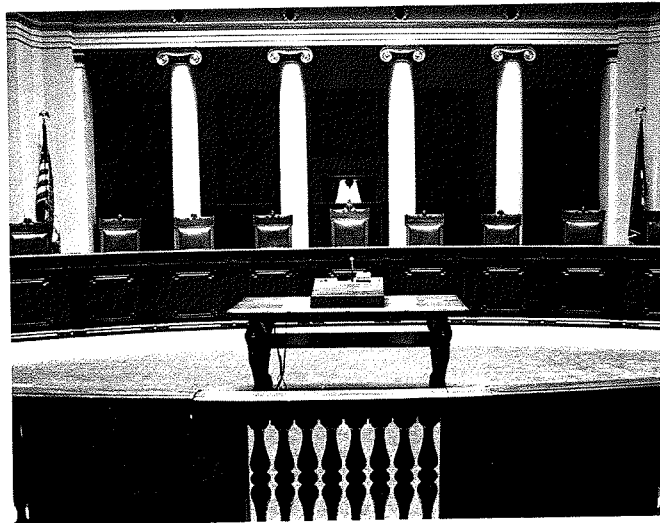
HF2148*—Skoglund

SF2054—Solon

- allows use of 1958 and 1980 Commissioners Standard Ordinary and Extended Term smoker and nonsmoker mortality tables in determining smoker/nonsmoker rates
- applies to policies issued between Jan. 1, 1984, and Jan. 1, 1989
- coordinates payments for medical expenses in certain circumstances when two group health insurance policies (primary and secondary coverage) apply
- Effective: day after enactment ■

Court unification goes into effect earlier than planned in the 3rd and 7th judicial districts. People who help others in incidents involving hazardous materials get immunity from liability. Courts may order restitution, in addition to imprisonment, payment of a fine, or both. Issuers of credit cards, businesspeople, and service providers may not discriminate against women who use current or former surnames.

photo by Tom Olmscheid



Minnesota Supreme Court chamber at the State Capitol

Appeals to the court of appeals

Chapter 399

HF1486*—Clawson

SF1471—Reichgott

- provides for appeal of various matters to the Court of Appeals
- Effective: Aug. 1, 1983

**Conciliation Court Judgments—
collection of**

Chapter 575

HF1466*—Clawson

SF1285—Merriam

- establishes collection procedures for winners in Conciliation Court cases so they can collect from the persons or persons the court deter-

mines owes them money

- requires conciliation court clerks to explain court procedures and functions to people involved in lawsuits and help them fill out forms
- Effective: Aug. 1, 1984

**Court of Appeals—
representation on board**

Chapter 379

HF1504—Vanasek

SF1350*—Spear

- provides for Court of Appeals representation on the Judicial Board of Standards and certain advisory committees
- Effective: Aug. 1, 1984 ▶

Drainage assessment proceedings—eliminating bond

Chapter 435

HF1330—Den Ouden

SF1112*—Merriam

- eliminates the bond one must file when appealing a court decision that determined benefits or damages to property in proceedings to establish or improve a drainage system
- Effective: Aug. 1, 1984

Estate closings

Chapter 438

HF878—Dempsey

SF506*—Sieloff

- changes the time limit, from 6 to 4 months, to close estates by sworn statement of a personal representative
- Effective: Aug. 1, 1984

Interest rates on judgments

Chapter 399

HF559*—Schoenfeld

SF588—Luther

- provides that someone who has a court case against a person who owes him/her money is entitled to interest on the money owed from the time s/he initiates the legal action for payment, instead of from the time s/he wins the suit
- Effective: Aug. 1, 1983

Judicial decisions affecting laws

Chapter 525

HF1850*—Bishop

SF2040*—Jude

- conforms certain Minnesota laws to Minnesota Supreme Court decisions on notice to teachers of hearing dates before termination, tax on road building materials, definition of sexual contact, and cable company regulatory fees
- Effective: Aug. 1, 1984

Judicial reorganization

Chapter 494

HF1695*—Vanasek

SF2123—Purfeerst

- provides that voluntary plans to merge district and county courts in the 3rd and 7th judicial districts will go into effect 3 months after certification to the secretary of state, instead of 1 year, as in other districts
- Effective: day after enactment

Liability immunity for assistance

Chapter 429

HF1579—Battaglia

SF1740*—Doug Johnson

- provides immunity from liability for people who give help in dangerous incidents involving hazardous materials
- Effective: Aug. 1, 1984

Mediation of disputes

Chapter 646

HF994*—Coleman

SF966—Luther

- establishes the "Minnesota Civil Mediation Act" and procedures for using voluntary mediation to resolve civil disputes
- Effective: Aug. 1, 1984

Nonbinding arbitration in civil cases

Chapter 634

HF899—Ellingson

SF1007*—Freeman

- authorizes District Courts to establish a mandatory, nonbinding arbitration system for resolving civil actions, with certain exceptions
- requires District Court judges to establish rules and forms for judicial arbitration, subject to Supreme Court approval
- Effective: Aug. 1, 1984

Powers of attorney—procedures

Chapter 603

HF1935—Dempsey

SF1821*—R. Peterson

- establishes procedures for granting powers of attorney, authorizing people to conduct business matters for others
- Effective: Aug. 1, 1984

Prisoner claims against the state

Chapter 513

HF1524*—Ogren SF1461—Petty

- broadens current law that allows people to file claims against the state to include prison inmates, persons on conditional release from local jails, and other convicted persons injured or killed while performing work as a condition of restitution, release, or sentence
- Effective: Aug. 1, 1984

Restitution in sentencing for crimes

Chapter 610

HF2055—Ogren SF2138*—Petty

- permits courts to order restitution in addition to imprisonment or payment of a fine, or both
- allows court to order restitution, community work service, and work as a condition of, or as an alternative to, probation, or in place of, or to work off, payment of fines
- creates a preference for restitution or work service in some cases
- Effective: Aug. 1, 1984

Surnames—

prohibiting discrimination

Chapter 533

HF1950*—Forsythe

SF1680—Storm

- allows women to use current or former surnames when requesting credit or doing business
- prohibits credit card issuers, businesspeople, or people who provide services from discriminating against women who use their current or former surname
- Effective: Aug. 1, 1984

Wills—clarifying and determining validity

VETOED

HF2248—Norton

SF1572*—Sieloff

- would have allowed courts to incorporate the parties' agreement in marriage dissolution decrees
- would have clarified laws relating to succession of property in certain cases
- would have allowed people to test their wills in court, before their deaths, to determine validity of their wills

Wills—notice to foreign consuls

Chapter 615

HF2077—Cohen

SF1562*—Spear

- authorizes the secretary of state to forward documents about wills of foreign-born people to the appropriate foreign consuls
- Effective: Aug. 1, 1984 ■

Blackout rule repealer

Chapter 607

HF1501—Jacobs

SF1976*—Novak

- repeals the law that allows telecasts of professional baseball, football, or soccer games at the Metrodome if 90 percent of the tickets have been sold 72 hours or more before game time
- Effective: Aug. 1, 1984

Fund-raiser disclosure

Chapter 527

HF1856*—Knuth

SF1801—Wegscheid

- requires charities to disclose the net dollar amount that will go towards the charitable cause from funds collected through professional fund-raisers
- Effective: Aug. 1, 1984

Land exchange— constitutional amendment

Chapter 643

HF1559*—McEachern

SF1532—Willet

- allows the voters of Minnesota to amend the state's constitution to allow the exchange of state-owned lands for other lands state and local governments own
- Effective: amendment effective upon voter approval

Martin Luther King Jr. holiday

Chapter 656

HF1587*—Simoneau

SF1553—Nelson

- establishes the 3rd Monday in January as an official holiday in honor of Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday
- allows school districts and state colleges to conduct classes on Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday
- Effective: Jan. 1, 1986

Radio common carrier deregulation

Chapter 557

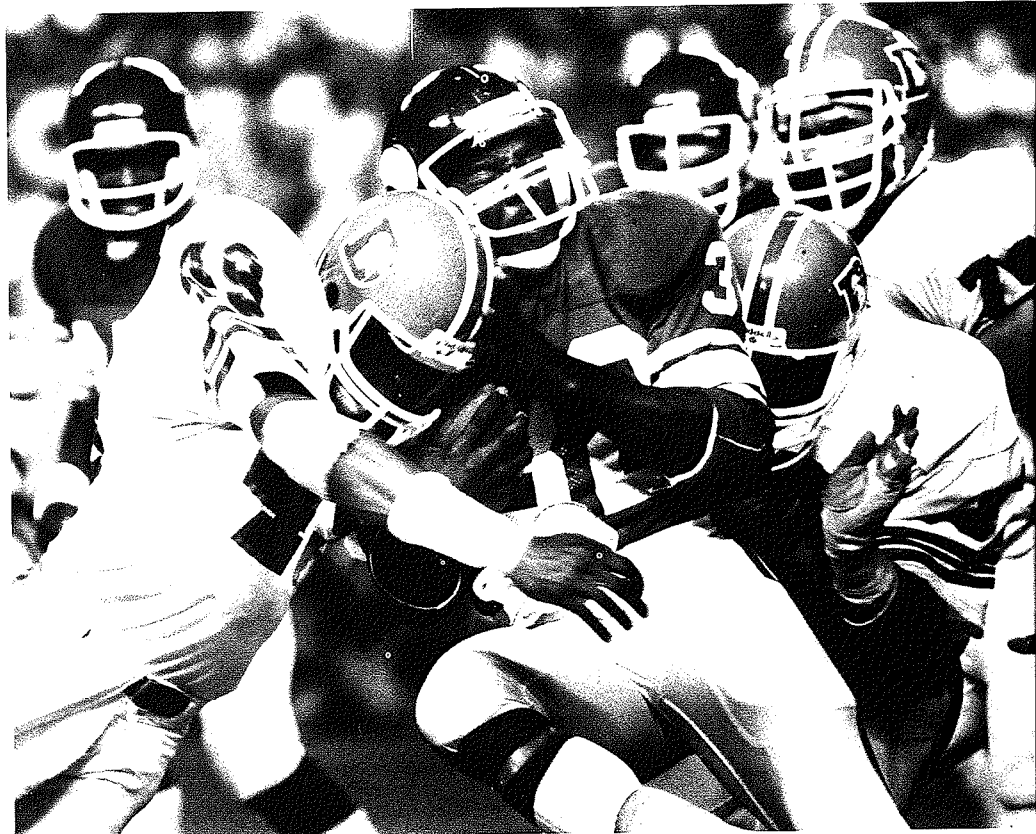
HF2070—Jacobs

SF1903*—Dieterich

- defines common radio carrier (paging systems) and exempts carriers from telephone company regulation
- excludes cellular radios from common carrier definition until June 1, 1985
- Effective: Aug. 1, 1984 ▶

Legislative topics ranged from football TV blackout rules, an official holiday honoring Martin Luther King, Jr., performers at State Fair events, and updating and streamlining Minnesota laws.

photo by Tom Oimscheid



TV blackout rule changes (Chapter 607)

State Fair performer contracts Chapter 441

HF1912*—Kostohryz
SF1729—Chmielewski

- eliminates contract provision allowing State Fair performers to perform 80 miles from the fairgrounds during the fair or within 30 days before or after the fair
- Effective: Aug. 1, 1984

Statute revision— language corrections

Chapter 655

HF2207*—Bishop SF2125—Jude

- makes miscellaneous corrections to ambiguous, omitted, incorrect, or obsolete language in state laws
- Effective: various effective dates

Statute revision—revisor's office/gender references

Chapter 480

HF1156*—Cohen SF1107—Jude

- recodifies the laws regarding the Revisor of Statute's Office and requires the revisor to replace gender specific references in Minnesota Statutes with neutral or equal references
- Effective: day after enactment

Statute revision— technical changes

Chapter 628

HF2161—Ellingson

SF2046*—Jude

- instructs the revisor of statutes to make necessary technical changes in laws to remove repetitive, obsolete language, and simplify language
- Effective: day after enactment

White Earth Reservation land claim

Chapter 539

HF2188*—Eken SF2067—R. Moe

- allows the attorney general, pending federal legislation, to transfer 10,000 acres of state-owned land in the White Earth Indian Reservation to the federal government to settle Indian land claims
- requires the DNR to report on land titles of the White Earth Reservation
- appropriates \$600,000 to attorney general for implementing the settlement
- Effective: Aug. 1, 1984, pending federal legislation ■

Age-plus-service "Rule of 85" allows qualifying public employees to take early retirement benefits.

photo by Tom Olmscheid



Legislative changes mean early retirement for some (Chapters 574, 564)

Pensions for public employees

Chapter 564

HF160—Sarna

SF147*—C. Peterson

- allows members of public employee pension plans to collect retirement benefits if their age, plus years worked, equals 85, and they're at least 55 years old; this "rule of 85" remains in effect until Dec. 31, 1986
- gives 5 percent interest on all refunds for unvested employees who withdraw from pension plans
- sets age requirements for benefits at 55 for 10 years of service, or at any age with 30 years of service; sets certain reductions from full benefits
- returns the 1983 supplemental 2 percent employee contributions to all public employees
- Effective: various effective dates

Pensions—various changes

Chapter 574

HF1427*—Sarna SF1390—Frank

- adopts IRS language regarding limitations on employee benefits
- Effective: various effective dates

State Board of Investment— combined funds

Chapter 383

HF1784*—Larsen

SF1904—Wegscheid

- allows the State Board of Investment to combine investment funds of participating retirement plans and funds for administrative purposes when investing
- Effective: day after enactment ■

Legislators adopt non-binding resolutions making Bavaria a sister state, banning leaded gasoline, and compensating U.S. citizens of Japanese heritage the government incarcerated during WW II.

photo by Paul Battaglia



Railroad cars to have reflectors (Chapter 13)

Atomic radiation exposure

Resolution 14

HF727—Knuth SF531*—Lantry

- memorializes the president and Congress to provide medical care for veterans who were exposed to atomic radiation

Baha'i persecution halt

Resolution 19

HF1800*—Heap

SF1739—Ramstad

- memorializes the president and Congress to continue efforts to halt the persecution of the Baha'i minority in Iran

Bavaria as a sister state

Resolution 18

HF2134*—Brinkman

SF1643—Wegscheid

- memorializes governments of the United States and the Federal Republic of Germany that Minnesota adopt the land of Bavaria as a sister state

Border water management—

Minnesota and Ontario

Resolution 17

HF2189—Tunheim

SF2109*—Stumpf

- memorializes the International Joint Commission, the president, and Congress to establish an agreement

between Minnesota and Ontario on border water joint management

Fair Trade in Steel Act

Resolution 20

HF2276—Minne

SF2164*—Dicklich

- memorializes Congress to enact the Fair Trade in Steel Act of 1984

Federal surplus property

Resolution 16

HF2290—Knuth

SF2083*—Wegscheid

- memorializes the U.S. administrator of general services to develop a permanent plan to distribute federal surplus property

Japanese U.S.

citizen compensation

Resolution 15

HF805—Reif SF751*—Knaak

- memorializes the Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians to urge Congress to compensate citizens of Japanese ancestry that the U.S. incarcerated during WWII

Leaded gasoline ban

Resolution 21

HF2021*—Wynia SF2141—Petty

- memorializes the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to adopt rules for a ban on leaded gasoline, and memorializes Congress to enact legislation either prohibiting leaded gasoline or allowing states to prohibit it

Peace/Conflict

Resolution Academy

Resolution 12

HF1303—Greenfield

SF1243*—Donna Peterson

- memorializes the president and Congress to establish a National Academy of Peace and Conflict Resolution

Rolling railroad car reflectors

Chapter 13

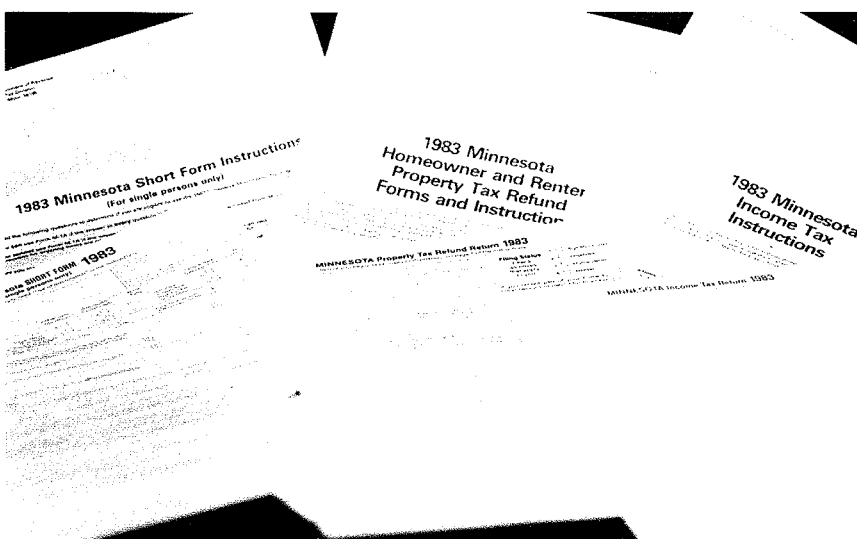
HF2180*—Elioff

SF2103—Dicklich

- memorializes the president and the U.S. secretary of transportation, the National Transportation Safety Board, and the Minnesota congressional delegation to begin a program to put reflectors on rolling railroad cars ■

Federal adjusted gross income on state tax returns won't have to include railroad retirement or social security. Part-time residents must figure their taxes as year-round Minnesotans. The state will pick up over-20 percent property tax increases. Tax amnesty gives delinquent taxpayers a chance to pay up.

photo by Tom Olmscheid



Minnesota tax forms

Ag land improvements—sales tax exemption

VETOED

HF1216*—Kalis

SF1210—Bertram

- would have exempted from sales tax petroleum products used to improve agricultural land

Deed tax exemption

Chapter 509

HF1507*—Den Ouden

SF2135—Bernhagen

- exempts deed tax on deeds to or from co-owners partitioning undivided interests in the same piece of property
- Effective: Aug. 1, 1984

Dept. of Revenue property tax Chapter 522

HF1814*—Osthoff

SF1551—Doug Johnson

- includes payment of certain certificates as a special levy
- deducts taconite aid from levy limit base; requires notification to a governmental subdivision of any excess aid to reduce special levies
- provides delinquent cigarette and tobacco sales tax assessments be within 3-1/2 years after filing of a return; authorizes audit and adjustment of tax returns; provides a 6-year assessment period for people who omit 25 percent of owed taxes
- provides for liquor tax collections and assessment for delinquent and omitted taxes
- Effective: various effective dates

Enterprise zone technical amendments Chapter 388

HF1877*—Kelly

SF1934—Pogemiller

- expands areas for zone designation; allows 2 or more cities to jointly form a zone; minimum population requirements won't apply
- allows state tax credits for certain businesses; specifies that recaptured taxes in a community go toward economic development
- provides construction or improvement of a qualifying business in a zone can't result in transfer of workers from other parts of the state
- Effective: day after enactment

Federal authority allocation

Chapter 582

HF2186*—Scheid

SF2100—Pogemiller

- allows special assessments levy or service charges for fire protection and pedestrian skyways
- authorizes Energy, Planning, and Development commissioner to review grant applications and allocate federal authority to issue certain bonds and to adopt Department of Energy and Economic Development (DEED) rules for allocating authority
- authorizes bond issuance authority to Higher Education Coordinating Board (HECB), Iron Range Resources and Rehabilitation commissioner, and DEED; specifies amounts, dates, and conditions; provides 80 percent of amounts be available to entitlement issuers—20 percent to other local issuers
- repeals most of the bonding provisions Jan. 1, 1986
- Effective: day after enactment

Gravel tax

Chapter 652

HF1761*—Brinkman

SF1633—C. Peterson

- exempts Wright, Traverse, Stevens, Pope, and Anoka counties from gravel tax; adds Sibley County to counties that levy the tax
- provides that Benton and Stearns county gravel tax won't apply to state purchases or to contractors buying for state projects (exemption includes political subdivisions)
- Effective: day after enactment for the exemption and addition; upon local approval** for Benton and Stearns counties ▶

**Income tax bill—
Department of Revenue**

Chapter 514

HF1528*—Tomlinson

SF1516—C. Peterson

- excludes federally taxed railroad retirement or social security benefits from federal adjusted gross income
- allows withholding from refunds delinquent amounts, attorney fees, and other related child support collection costs; allows full federal dependent care credit, with income phase-out at \$24,001; sets age of child for homemaker credit at under 15 years; approves childcare credit in 1983 tax instructions
- requires Social Security Administration to furnish Revenue commissioner with social security payment returns; increases withholding tax to 10 percent if social security account number is not furnished or is inaccurate
- requires nonresidents and part-time residents to figure state income tax as fulltime residents
- restricts gasoline and special fuel tax refund to fuels for farm or off-highway business use; eliminates the alternative minimum tax on corporations
- Effective: various effective dates

Property tax clean-up bill

Chapter 593

HF1815*—Osthoff

SF1910—Merriam

- eliminates obsolete language and provisions; modifies calculation of net debt limitation for districts; increases net debt percentage
- Effective: 1984 property tax, payable in 1985, for most provisions; penalty section on failure to file a contract of deed effective day after enactment

Sales tax exemption

Chapter 434

HF965—Krueger

SF1196*—Bertram

- exempts nonprofit community service groups' fund-raisers from sales tax from Dec. 31, 1977 to before this law's enactment date
- Effective: day after enactment

**Taconite tax for
economic development**

Chapter 524

HF1846*—Neuenschwander

SF1606—Lessard

- authorizes use of taconite occupation tax for economic development loans and grants to businesses
- Effective: Aug. 1, 1984

Tax exemptions/local levies

Chapter 548

HF1484—Scheid

SF1511*—Petty

- extends the time limit from 3 to 8 years that a political subdivision can hold property without paying taxes; exempts, for an indefinite time, land that subdivisions hold for housing projects or redevelopment; exempts property the Metropolitan Sports Facilities Commission conveyed to Bloomington
- exempts hot water for residential heating from sales tax; allows municipal councils to levy special assessments or service charges for fire protection and skyway systems
- Effective: various effective dates

Tax-forfeited land

Chapter 443

HF1781*—Coleman

SF1411—Frank

- clarifies the consequences of certain conveyances of tax-forfeited land
- Effective: day after enactment

Taxes Omnibus Bill

Chapter 502

HF2016—Tomlinson

no companion

- increases budget reserve \$125 million; repeals 10 percent income tax surcharge; allows certain IRA deductions; expands pension exclusion; increases tuition deductions; defines Minnesota sales; provides 10 percent withholding on parimutuel winnings, exempts purse winnings
- makes changes in property tax on agricultural nonhomesteads and seasonal homes, also on buildings containing owner's residence; includes production in evaluation of farm values; clarifies nonprofit, low-income housing tax; exempts wetlands; alters classification ratio for commercial/industrial property; describes procedures and amounts for disaster credit (state and local government); requires printed explanation of state's taxation role on statements
- restores 1984 local government aid to cities; provides additional aid to

qualifying cities; creates a local government aids study commission

- allows requirement of local contributions for enterprise zones; makes enterprise zone tax reductions; transfers border city funds for Duluth; defines small business (includes farms after July 1, '85); establishes limits on technology credit; exempts foreign corporate dividends and royalties, patents, and trademarks under certain conditions
- reduces sales tax on certain equipment; exempts used mobile home purchases, candy sales by certain nonprofit groups, and hot water for residential heating; makes changes to taconite tax calculations, refunds, and credits
- authorizes tax amnesty program
- directs appraisal principles and methods for use in valuating railroad property; appropriates Soo Line Court case refunds to local governments and tax districts
- authorizes loan guarantee program for agricultural processing facilities
- directs Revenue commissioner on sales ratio methods; requires commissioner report on comparison study of methodologies; requires taxpayers to appeal assessments first at county board of equalization
- creates 13-member Charitable Gambling Control Board; requires gambling devices/equipment registration; establishes limits and regulations for charitable organization gambling
- requires Finance commissioner to certify bingo tax proceed; requires the state treasurer to deposit the net amount into the general fund for the Legislature to determine funding an approved arts high school
- makes various local changes; authorizes Duluth Port Authority levy; exempts residential hot water heating from St. Paul franchise tax; allows a watershed district to set up fund from tax levies; creates Croft Historical Park Board
- requires state agencies to pay their bills within 30 days after receiving a bill, or pay 1 percent per month interest, or \$10 for any overdue bill of at least \$100
- appropriates \$240,000 to Tax Study Commission; makes miscellaneous changes in the Revenue Recapture Act
- Effective: various effective dates ■

School buses take on new meaning. State rest areas, tourist information centers, and weigh stations will have vending machines. Three-wheel vehicle and bicycle registration fees to fund training and safety programs. Vehicle carriers get firmer guidelines.

photo by Paul Battaglia



Bicycle registration fees go up (Chapter 572)

Bicycle registration fee
Chapter 572
HF1315*—Kahn
SF1293—Purfeerst

- increases bicycle registration fee from \$3 to \$5 beginning Jan. 1, 1985 and authorizes donations
- establishes an advisory committee on bicycling and community bicycle safety programs
- Effective: day after enactment

Bridge funding
Chapter 412
HF2047*—B. Anderson
SF1967—DeCramer

- allows money from the county turnback account and state transportation fund to go toward replacing bridges 10 or more feet long
- designates the bridge over the Minnesota River in Mankato as "Veterans Memorial Bridge"
- Effective: day after enactment

County highways—former MSA routes inclusion

Chapter 465
HF896—Battaglia
SF887*—DeCramer

- requires former municipal state-aid (MSA) streets in cities, with populations of less than 5,000, to become part of the county state-aid highway system upon city and county approval
- Effective: Jan. 1, 1984

Driver improvement clinic fee increase

Chapter 385
HF1491*—Peterson
SF1367—Schmitz

- increases the maximum fee for driver improvement clinics to \$50
- Effective: Aug. 1, 1984

Farm trucks—class C license

Chapter 546
HF1449—Sparby
SF1435*—R. Moe

- makes a class C driver's license valid for operation of farm trucks by truck owners or immediate members of their families, employees not hired for the purpose of driving the truck, and employees hired to drive trucks during harvest
- Effective: day after enactment

Highway construction contracts prepayment

Chapter 416
HF1835*—Blatz
SF1334—Belanger

- allows the state to prepay local governments under agreements for construction, improvements, or maintenance of trunk highways
- Effective: Aug. 1, 1984

Highways—signs/vending

Chapter 417
HF1824*—Neuenschwander
SF1878—Schmitz

- allows vending machines at rest areas, tourist information centers, and weigh stations
- establishes a program that allows sign franchises to put signs on the rights-of way of interstate and controlled-access highways
- authorizes MnDOT commissioner to set standards for directional signs; allows directional signs for pri- ▶

vately-owned attractions; sets criteria for attractions eligible for directional signs

- sets statewide alley-way speed limit at 10 miles per hour
- Effective: day after enactment

License plates— return fee prohibited

Chapter 489

HF1509*—Kalis

SF1968—Purfeerst

- prohibits fees for returned licensed plates after sale, destruction, theft, or dismantling of motor vehicles
- Effective: day after enactment

Motor carrier regulation

Chapter 520

HF1801*—Jensen

SF1699—Novak

- requires private carriers operating vehicles over 12,000 lbs gross weight to comply with the commissioner's rules except for driver qualification rules
- regulates hazardous waste carriers
- requires all Transportation Regulation Board certificates and permits to bear a service date
- requires holders of the certificate or permit to register their vehicles with MnDOT commissioner, file insurance or a bond, and file rates and tariffs within 45 days of the certificate or permit service date
- exempts certain persons from the definition of "building mover"
- repeals the authority of the Public Safety commissioner to adopt rules on the transportation of flammable and explosive materials
- Effective: day after enactment

Motor vehicle registration—changes

Chapter 549

HF1845—Kalis

SF1520*—Purfeerst

- redefines "bus" to include vehicles designed to carry more than 10 passengers, and any other motor vehicle, other than a taxicab, designed to transport people for pay
- changes the weight range in registration class "J" and "K" in the Minnesota Base Rate Schedule

- allows commercial zone trucks to get a permit to go outside their zone for repair services
- requires application for quarterly registration of farm trucks no sooner than 7 days before the beginning of the quarter
- increases certain license plate fees under certain conditions
- increases the minimum annual license tax from \$300 to \$400
- establishes the maximum bumper height for certain motor vehicles
- allows certain trucks and truck tractors to have a bug deflector extending no more than 6 inches above the highest part of the front hood
- requires protective headgear to comply with commissioner of public safety standards
- Effective: Aug. 1, 1984

Overweight vehicle fee

Chapter 523

HF1831*—Kalis

SF1747—Langseth

- increases permit fees for overweight vehicles
- Effective: Jan. 1, 1985

School bus safety bill

Chapter 403

HF1408*—Solberg

SF1446—Pehler

- redefines school bus to include motor vehicles that school districts, or persons under agreement with schools or school districts, use to transport pupils to or from school or school-related activities
- requires a districts to use different colors on school buses than vehicles not primarily used as school buses
- redefines type-three school buses to include a gross vehicle weight rating of 10,000 pounds or less
- Effective: Aug. 1, 1984

State commuter van pool

Chapter 408

HF1670*—Voss SF1733—Novak

- allows non-state employees to ride in state commuter van pools between their homes and places of work, but requires van drivers to be state employees
- Effective: Aug. 1, 1984

Three-wheel vehicle registration

Chapter 647

HF820*—Welch

SF991—Merriam

- requires registration of 3-wheel, off-road vehicles with the DNR and defines areas where people can use them
- establishes training and safety programs for 3-wheel off-road vehicles
- Effective: July 1, 1984

Town road fund distribution

Chapter 410

HF1774*—Tunheim

SF1854—Langseth

- provides that town road account funds go to the county treasurer at the same time as the first payment for town tax levies
- Effective: Aug. 1, 1984

Turnback routes

Chapter 535

HF1975*—Mann

SF1912—DeCramer

- returns responsibility for former trunk highways to counties, under certain circumstances
- allows use of town road funds for gravel maintenance
- removes Route 236 from the trunk highway system
- Effective: day after enactment for trunk highway reversion, town road fund; upon local approval** for others ■

photo by Tom Olmscheid



Class C licenses valid for farm trucks
(Chapter 546)

Resident aliens will get the same treatment as U.S. citizens in veterans benefits and military enlistments.

"Monument to the Living," a Vietnam soldier statue on State Capitol grounds, is now official state monument.



Statute honors Vietnam veterans (Chapter 507)

photo by Tom Olmscheid

Monument to the Living Chapter 507

HF1405*—Blatz

SF1328—Belanger

- adds a Vietnam soldier statue, titled "Monument to the Living," in Ramsey County to the list of state monuments
- places the statue in the Court of Honor on the Capitol grounds
- Effective: Aug. 1, 1984

Resident aliens— rights/responsibilities

Chapter 609

HF1547—Kahn SF1442*—Spear

- eliminates the distinctions between U.S. citizens and resident aliens regarding the distribution of economic benefits, military enlistment, veterans' benefits, rights of association and other rights, except for the right to vote, or any other right that requires U.S. citizenship
- Effective: Aug. 1, 1984

Veterans home residents: wages

Chapter 505

HF1107*—Riveness

SF1013—DeCramer

- provides that residents' earnings from work therapy program cannot be considered a means of support when calculating their cost at the home
- Effective: day after enactment

Veterans' preference civil service

Chapter 468

HF1847—Neuenschwander

SF1466*—Lessard

- broadens the eligibility for veterans preference for civil service employment
- Effective: day after enactment ■

Military Affairs— department bill

Chapter 442

HF1786*—Piper

SF1431—DeCramer

- conforms state law governing adjutant general's duties to federal law
- allows the adjutant general to sell an armory and use the proceeds

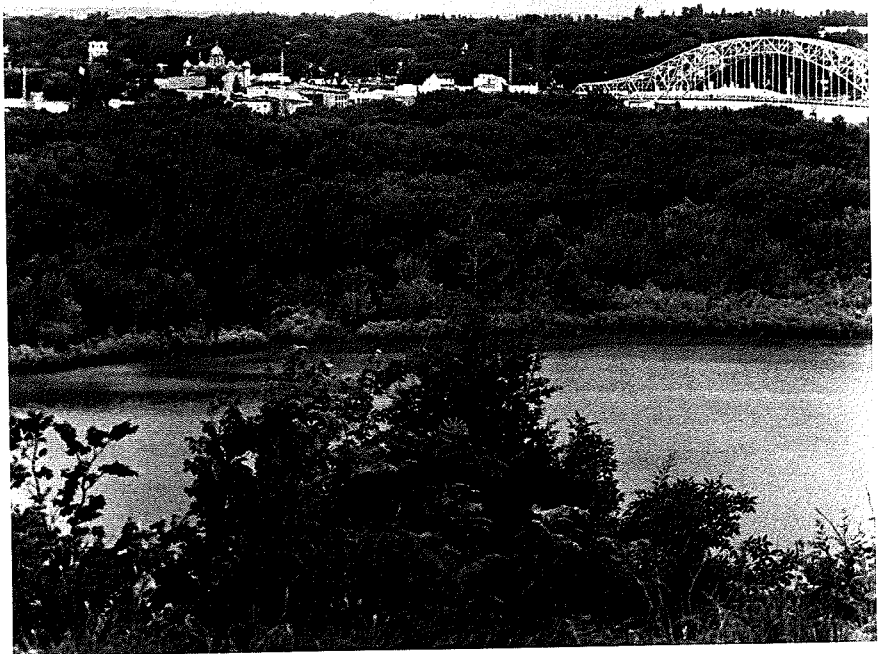
within 10 years to replace or improve armories

- allows transfer of proceeds from the sale of armories to the MN State Armory Commission to replace, buy, or repair existing commission armories
- Effective: Aug. 1, 1984

Local and Special Interest Legislation

*Laws in this section
deal with operation of
state and local gov-
ernments.*

photo by Tom Olmscheid



View of Hastings, MN, where the Mississippi and St. Croix rivers meet

Local Bills

Cities & Towns

Caledonia: library board

Chapter 402

HF1381*—Johnson

SF1426—Kronebusch

- allows Caledonia City Council to appoint residents to the library board from the area the library serves
- allows members to serve more than three consecutive terms
- Effective: upon local approval**

City clerks: duties/bonds

Chapter 384

HF1503*—C. Rodriguez

SF1438—Schmitz

- allows a city council to delegate the city clerk's bookkeeping duties to another employee
- Effective: day after enactment

Duluth: dwelling energy conservation

Chapter 581

HF1999*—Munger

SF1660—Solon

- expands the energy conservation program to include multifamily homes and owner-occupied homes in Duluth
- authorizes the sale of revenue bonds for improvement in each type of dwelling
- Effective: upon local approval**

Duluth: I-35 completion

Chapter 477

HF2177—Munger

SF2076*—Solon

- directs the transportation commissioner to extend I-35 in Duluth from 10th Ave. E. to 26th Ave. E.
- Effective: Aug. 1, 1984

Farmington: liquor/gambling licenses

Chapter 400

HF977*—C. Rodriguez

SF970—Wegscheid

- allows the city of Farmington to issue a club on-sale liquor license and a gambling and bingo license to an Eagles Club in the city
- Effective: upon local approval**

International Falls:

land conveyance

Chapter 404

HF1460*—Neuenschwander

SF1371—Lessard

- allows the governor to transfer no more than 3 acres of state-owned land to the city of International Falls for student housing at Rainy River Community College
- Effective: Aug. 1, 1984

License fee notice

Chapter 393

HF1180—Clawson

SF1139*—Sieloff

- requires local governments to mail notices to vending machine operators at least 30 days before a hearing on a proposed license fee increase
- Effective: July 1, 1984

Pillager: land conveyance

Chapter 405

HF1496*—Wenzel

SF1395—Samuelson

- allows the DNR commissioner to lease a piece of state land to the city of Pillager
- Effective: day after enactment

Plymouth: port authority

Chapter 397

HF938—Heinitz

SF1041*—Ramstad

- gives the city of Plymouth the powers of a port authority
- Effective: upon local approval**

St. Cloud: port authority

Chapter 498

HF1753*—Marsh

SF1529—Pehler

- gives the city of St. Cloud the powers of a port authority
- Effective: upon local approval**

St. Louis Park: HRA authority

Chapter 409

HF1706*—Olsen

SF1714—McQuaid

- provides that any request for a city permit, zoning change, or construction in a redevelopment area in St. Louis Park will first get approval from the city's housing and redevelopment authority for conformance to the area's redevelopment plans before the city can consider the request
- Effective: upon local approval**

St. Paul: smoke detectors

Chapter 559

HF1952—Cohen

SF1931*—Lantry

- allows the city of St. Paul to adopt an ordinance requiring a smoke detector in single family homes upon sale of home
- Effective: upon local approval**

Thief River Falls: conveyances

VETOED

HF1010*—Sparby

SF2179—Stumpf

- would have changed restrictions on the filing and recording of conveyances to not apply to a conveyance if it's a single parcel of residential or agricultural land of at least 5 acres, and if its conveyance doesn't result in dividing the parcel into 2 or more parcels, any of which is less than 5 acres, or 250 feet in width

Town clerks/treasurers/election and terms

Chapter 386

HF1485*—G. Anderson

SF1592—Adkins

- provides for election of town clerks in even-numbered years, town treasurers in odd years, each for 2-year terms
- Effective: day after enactment

Town contracts/nonprofit agencies

Chapter 536

HF1982*—Clawson

SF2187—R. Peterson

- authorizes town boards to contract with nonprofit groups for health, social, or recreational services for up to \$5,000 a year if they determine the contracts would benefit the town
- Effective: Aug. 1, 1984

Town laws update

Chapter 562

HF2185—Schoenfeld

SF2072*—Schmitz

- updates various town laws on elections and enactment of ordinances including guidelines on the posting/publishing of public notices
- allows a town board to issue certificates to buy fire, police, ambulance, road construction, or maintenance equipment
- authorizes the town board to set pay scale and mileage compensation for town employees
- Effective: Aug. 1, 1984 ■

Anoka County: library bonds

Chapter 380

HF1153—Simoneau

SF1127*—Frank

- allows the Anoka County Board to levy a maximum tax of .75 of a mill on property in the county and within the service area of a county public library for construction or renovation of the county public library
- allows the Board, by resolution on a 4/7 vote, to issue general obligation bonds up to \$9 million for the library
- Effective: upon local approval**

Cook County: land sale

Chapter 570

HF560*—Battaglia

SF410—Doug Johnson

- allows Cook County to sell some land and allows the county and the state to properly transfer the land
- Effective: upon local approval**

Counties: capital notes issue

Chapter 437

HF738—Schafer

SF746*—Renneke

- allows counties to issue capital notes to finance capital equipment without referendum and provides that the notes, payable within 5 years, will be for public safety, ambulance, road construction or maintenance, medical and data processing equipment
- Effective: Aug. 1, 1984

Counties: highway improvements

Chapter 478

HF1032*—Hoffman

SF1000—Diessner

- allows counties to assess for highway improvements in cities
- Effective: Aug. 1, 1984

County boards of adjustment

Chapter 392

HF2115—Wenzel

SF1396*—Bertram

- requires the county board of adjustment to take into consideration the town board's recommendation when the board of adjustment's decision affects land in the town
- Effective: Aug. 1, 1984

County/judicial ditch benefits

Chapter 487

HF1404*—Onnen

SF2174—Bernhagen

- allows for correction in county or judicial ditch benefits whenever a

majority of the property owners, who benefit by a ditch, petition for the correction of an error made at the time the ditch was established

- Effective: day after enactment

County law update

Chapter 629

HF1666—G. Anderson

SF1702*—Schmitz

- revises statute governing county powers and county boards
- increases the amount a county board may pay to buy or condemn land for agricultural fairs and exhibits and the amount for expenses related to soldiers' cemetery
- removes provisions on lynching and a reward for the recovery of a murderer's body
- Effective: Aug. 1, 1984

Kandiyohi County: ditch refunds

Chapter 521

HF1803*—Welle

SF1808—Dean Johnson

- allows Kandiyohi County to reduce assessment on county ditches #10 and #46
- Effective: upon local approval**

Kandiyohi/Fillmore

counties: land sale

Chapter 529

HF1911*—Welle

SF2128—Dean Johnson

- allows sale of property on Norway Lake in Kandiyohi County to Kenneth E. and Lucille C. Polark
- allows sale of 5.3 acres of state forest land in Fillmore County to James Cady
- Effective: day after enactment

Koochiching County:

land purchase

Chapter 540

HF2238*—Elioff

SF2061—Doug Johnson

- allows the DNR commissioner to sell certain land in Koochiching County to Rohl Peterson, or to another buyer whose payment the state treasurer shall give to Peterson
- Effective: day after enactment

Law library boards

Chapter 401

HF1325*—Zaffke

SF1320—Anderson

- allows appointment of nonlawyers to county law library boards by the chief judge of the judicial district
- Effective: Aug. 1, 1984

Mille Lacs County: land sale

Chapter 490

HF1522*—Peterson

SF1377—Davis

- allows the sale of certain tax-forfeited land in Mille Lacs County
- Effective: day after enactment

Olmsted County: waste contracts

Chapter 424

HF2197—Bishop

SF2145*—Brataas

- allows Olmsted County to contract, without advertisement for bids, for construction, installation, maintenance, and operation of solid waste services
- Effective: upon local approval

Otter Tail County:

real property sale

Chapter 511

HF1456*—R. Anderson

no companion

- allows Otter Tail County to sell the former juvenile female group home without advertising for bids
- Effective: upon local approval**

Ramsey County:

Shoreview land transfer

Chapter 389

HF2255—Bennett

SF2148*—Knaak

- allows Ramsey County to transfer a piece of land to the city of Shoreview for a city well
- Effective: upon local approval**

St. Louis County:

grant coordinator

Chapter 398

HF1913—Elioff SF1927*—Solon

- allows St. Louis County to appoint a legislative lobbyist/grant coordinator
- Effective: upon local approval**

St. Louis County: jobs program

Chapter 501

HF1839*—Battaglia

SF1755—Dicklich

- allows St. Louis County to set up an emergency jobs program
- requires the county board of commissioners to set up rules for the program, including working hours, wages, benefits, and method of payment
- Effective: upon local approval** ▶

**St. Louis County
Promotional Bureau**

Chapter 395

HF248—Begich SF7*—Dicklich

- makes the St. Louis County Promotional Bureau equivalent to a county agricultural society, with the same liability for private or civil wrong or injury
- Effective: upon local approval** ■

Metro

**Metropolitan Airports
Commission**

Chapter 561

HF2063—G. Anderson

SF1978*—Purfeerst

- defines the Commission's (MAC) relationship with the Legislature and the Metropolitan Council:
- MAC must be accountable to the Legislature
- Metropolitan Council will review certain capital projects at the Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport
- requires State Planning Agency director, with help from the Council and MAC, to report to the Legislature on terms of "metropolitan significance" and the effect on the economic development of the metropolitan area, effective upon approval June 1, 1985
- Effective: July 1, 1984

Mosquito Control District

Chapter 492

HF1633*—Skoglund

SF1835—Petty

- allows the Metropolitan Mosquito Control District to work outside district boundaries to control mosquitoes
- Effective: Aug. 1, 1984

**Pay increase for
Minneapolis commissioners**

Chapter 499

HF1770*—Sarna

SF1831—Kroening

- allows pay of Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board and Library Board to increase up to \$3,600 yearly
- Effective: upon local approval**

Public finance for municipalities

Chapter 563

HF2218—Shea

SF2165*—Wegscheid

- provides additional investment alternatives to counties that have a

city of the first class and a metropolitan commission

- provides for issuance of obligations as certified or uncertified securities
- allows a municipality to designate a corporate registrar
- provides that ownership of municipal obligations is not public information
- provides procedures for publishing notices of obligations
- allows a municipality to invest obligation sale proceeds
- repeals registration of bonds by municipality and reverse repurchase agreements
- Effective: Aug. 1, 1984

Watershed management

Chapter 411

HF1553*—Levi

SF1554—Merriam

- requires managers of a watershed district to represent various hydrologic areas in the district
- allows cities and towns outside the metropolitan area to join in a watershed management organization
- allows the Water Resources Board to change district boundaries if affected cities and towns agree and to dissolve a district if local governments want to replace it with a joint-power organization
- Effective: day after enactment ■

Others

Aggregate deposit inventory

Chapter 605

HF1194—D. Nelson

SF881*—Schmitz

- provides that the Department of Natural Resources, with help from other agencies, must set up a program to identify and classify public, or privately owned, aggregate lands outside the urban areas
- creates a 15-member advisory commission on aggregate resources in the metropolitan area
- requires the advisory committee to submit a report to the Legislature by Dec. 31, 1985, on the need for aggregate resource protection and ways to develop a long-term protection plan
- Effective: Aug. 1, 1984

**Cable television/
municipal commissions**

Chapter 377

HF1551—Hokr

SF1475*—Reichgott

- allows municipalities to have a representative on a joint cable commission
- Effective: Aug. 1, 1984

**Duluth: Spirit Mountain
recreation area**

Chapter 390

HF2131—Gustafson

SF1770*—Solon

- changes the boundaries of land the Spirit Mountain recreation area authority administers
- Effective: upon local approval**

**Employee residency—
cities/counties**

Chapter 585

HF322*—Piepho

SF2091—Taylor

- prohibits cities and counties from setting up residency requirements as a condition of employment, unless a demonstrated, job-related need exists
- allows the city of Hermantown to defer, for up to 10 years, payment of special assessment for public improvements for any homestead property if payment would be a hardship
- Effective: prohibiting residency requirements: Aug. 1, 1984; Hermantown provision: upon local approval**

Firearms—local authority

VETOED

HF1828—Vanasek

SF1842*—Lessard

- would have allowed the Legislature to preempt any local authority to regulate firearms except that a political subdivision could have regulated the discharge of firearms and could have adopted regulations that are the same as state law

**Fire protection systems—
assessments**

Chapter 591

HF1516*—Otis

SF1506—Pogemiller

- allows local government to authorize special assessments or service charges for fire protection systems after receiving voluntary petitions
- allows issuance of revenue bonds
- Effective: day after enactment

**Fire systems, jail/mortgage
revenue bonds, Blue Hill**

Chapter 633

HF2012—Ellingson

SF1880*—Wegscheid ▶

- authorizes councils of municipalities to promote fire protection systems and skyway systems in buildings if a building owner petitions;
- allows a county to enter into an agreement with a county housing and redevelopment authority to construct a jail
- defines city allocation of mortgage revenue bonds
- includes town of Blue Hill, Sherburne County, in statutory town provisions
- Effective: Blue Hill provision: upon local compliance*; others: day after enactment

**Legal cost reimbursement/
sale of air space**

Chapter 650

HF1903*—Rice

SF2146—Petty

- allows a city or county to pay employees' legal costs if the employee is charged with a crime while performing work duties
- gives municipalities the authority to sell air rights over public buildings
- allows municipalities to refund bonds issued to finance a development district
- Effective: day after enactment

Local government pay equity

Chapter 651

HF1766*—Riveness

SF1687—Berglin

- requires local government to evaluate jobs and do job comparability studies to set up equitable pay
- requires political subdivisions to report to Employee Relations Commissioner by Oct. 1, 1985, on their plans to evaluate jobs and do studies that identify the female-dominated classes of jobs where pay inequity exists
- allows the town of Windemere in Pine County to have powers of a metropolitan area town
- Effective: Aug. 1, 1984, for pay equity provision; Windemere provision upon local approval**

**Mpls-St. Paul Airport:
noise abatement**

Chapter 639

HF1945—Skoglund

SF1914*—Petty

- requires the Airport Commission, until Dec. 31, 1989, to submit to the Pollution Control Agency (PCA) noise abatement plan that includes

specific goals and annual changes in the maximum hourly noise levels

- specifies that the PCA shall participate in the monitoring of noise levels
- requires the commission to submit a yearly report to the Legislature that includes estimate of noise abatement it plans to achieve by Dec. 31, 1989
- Effective: Aug. 1, 1984

Mississippi Headwaters Board

Chapter 600

HF1909—Solberg

SF1403*—Lessard

- requires state and local governments to follow Mississippi Headwaters Board's land-use guidelines
- requires administration of all state and public land conform to the land-use plan the board adopted Feb. 12, 1981
- the board may amend the plan with support from Clearwater, Hubbard, Beltrami, Cass, Itasca, Aitkin, Crow Wing, and Morrison counties
- Effective: Aug. 1, 1984

**N. Kittson Rural Water
District: diversion**

Chapter 457

HF1791—Tunheim

SF1794*—Stumpf

- allows the DNR commissioner to authorize the North Kittson Rural Water District to divert water to the cities of Emerson and Manitoba for domestic use
- Effective: day after enactment

Police mutual aid

Chapter 495

HF1703*—Valan

SF1771—Langseth

- allows local governments to authorize mutual aid pacts between police agencies in emergencies
- Effective: Aug. 1, 1984

Publication of legal notices

Chapter 543

HF1302—Clawson

SF1298*—Freeman

- reforms laws governing publication of legal and public notices:
- eliminates various outdated requirements and language
- allows school district boards to publish a summary of their meetings in the official newspaper of the district; requires the boards to publish annual budgets in a newspaper of

general circulation in the district

- allows county board to publish a summary of their proceedings in a newspaper of general circulation in the county; requires the boards to publish their annual county budget statement summary
- requires city councils of cities with over 1,000 persons to publish the official proceedings, a summary, or a condensed version of the official minutes
- requires city councils to publish their annual summary budget statement in a newspaper of general circulation in the city
- sets the maximum fee for publication of public notices at the lowest classified rate commercial users pay for comparable space
- Effective: Jan. 1, 1985; school district provisions: July 1, 1985

Public hospital power

Chapter 554

HF1892—Clawson

SF1815*—Stumpf

- gives public hospitals the authority of a nonprofit corporation, including the power to enter partnerships, own shares of stock in business corporations, and offer products and services to the general public
- Effective: day after enactment

Trespassing ordinances

Chapter 620

HF63—Gruenes

SF120*—Pehler

- authorizes county boards or city councils to enact ordinances that prohibit anyone from trespassing onto private land to drink alcohol or to take drugs
- provides that violation of a trespassing ordinance is a misdemeanor
- Effective: Aug. 1, 1984

Vending machine

licensing, inspecting

Chapter 503

HF2081*—Shea

SF1951—Knaak

- changes the authority to license and inspect vending machines from the Department of Health to the Department of Agriculture
- allows local government to set inspection or license fees
- Effective: Aug. 1, 1984 ■

Anyone who asks you about your vote as you enter or leave your polling place will be breaking Minnesota law. The law now bans anyone who is inside or within 100 feet of an entrance to a polling place from asking people how they intend to vote or how they voted.

Public employees now have a "Rule of 85" in their pension plans which allows pension plan members to collect retirement benefits if their age plus years worked equals 85. To qualify, employees must be at least 55 years old. Rule of 85 remains in effect until Dec. 31, 1986, when the Legislature will decide whether to continue it, or, "leave the window open."



Drivers can no longer opt out of a breath test when they're stopped for suspected drunken driving under new state law. The 1984 Legislature made blood alcohol concentration tests mandatory and imposed a one-year license revocation on drivers who still refuse to take the test. Also, anyone under 19 years of age who buys, or tries to buy, alcohol using a driver's license or permit will face a 30-day license revocation.



An '84 session law creates a Regional Transit Board to take over the bus service planning and policy-making functions of the Metropolitan Transit Board. MTC will continue to operate the buses.

The Health Maintenance Organization (HMO) bill that became law this past session may make you eligible for more benefits. Or it may help you see where your health insurance dollar is going. The new law eliminates certain discrimination by HMOs and requires them to report their corporate structures, shareholders, and contracted service providers.

Volunteer ambulance drivers and attendants will get workers' compensation coverage beginning Aug. 1, 1984. A new law includes them in the employee definition section of the state's workers' compensation law. Daily wages for these employees remain the same as current law defines them.



A new law passed that attempts to settle some of the land claim disputes among the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe and federal and state officials that date back to the beginning of the century. The law would transfer 10,000 acres of state-owned land in the White Earth Indian Reservation to the Indians.

more...in brief



To get the Minnesota renewable energy tax credit consumers must buy certified or registered solar collectors. They can get help in comparing products and cost effectiveness under the Energy Division's new Solar Certification program. They should look for the Division's logo (at left) and performance rating sticker on solar collector systems. Solar dealers with low volume sales may register rather than certify their products. So consumers should call 296-5175 to check registration before buying a collector that doesn't display the certification logo.

Beginning in 1986, Minnesotans will observe the third Monday in January as an official holiday in honor of Martin Luther King, Jr.'s birthday. Public offices will close, but school districts and state colleges may stay open if they devote some part of the day to patriotic observance of the holiday.



photo by Tom Omscheid

constitutional amendments

The 1984 Legislature passed two bills to ask voters to vote on two constitutional amendments that affect Minnesota's Permanent School Fund (PSF) lands that the federal government gave Minnesota over a 100 years ago to generate income for schools.

The state constitution strictly limits investment of PSF principal and exchange of the lands. Some PSF lands are now in non-income producing areas, such as state parks or forests. Loosening restrictions on investments and exchange of non-income producing lands for some that would yield income would boost revenue.

These are the questions voters will answer yes or no to on the November ballot:

- ✓ 1. Shall the Minnesota Constitution be amended to allow the exchange of state-owned lands for other lands owned by the state or local governments?
- ✓ 2. Shall the Minnesota Constitution be amended to remove constitutional restrictions on the investment of the permanent school fund and to allow the limits on the investment of the fund and the apportionment of the returns on the investment to school districts to be set by law?

New Laws 1984 by chapter number

CH	HF	SF	TOPIC
0376	1462	1476*	Elections
0377	1551	1475*	Other Local Bills
0378	1948	1453*	Health/Welfare
0379	1504	1350*	Legal/Judiciary
0380	1153	1127*	Local Bills—Counties
0381	1772	1832*	Legal/Judiciary
0382	1944*	1827	Banking
0383	1784*	1904	Pensions/Retirement
0384	1503*	1438	Local Bills—Cities/Towns
0385	1491*	1367	Transportation
0386	1485*	1592	Local Bills—Cities/Towns
0387	1486*	1471	Legal/Judiciary
0388	1877*	1934	Taxes
0389	2255	2148*	Local Bills—Counties
0390	2131	1770*	Other Local Bills
0391	1830	1757*	Health/Welfare
0392	2115	1396*	Local Bills—Counties
0393	1180	1139*	Local Bills—Cities/Towns
0394	1053	0868*	Env/Natural Resources
0395	0248	0007*	Local Bills—Counties
0396	0427	0416*	Elections
0397	0938	1041*	Local Bills—Cities/Towns
0398	1913	1927*	Local Bills—Cities/Towns
0399	0559*	0588	Legal/Judiciary
0400	0977*	0970	Local Bills—Cities/Towns
0401	1325*	1320	Local Bills—Counties
0402	1381*	1426	Local Bills—Cities/Towns
0403	1408*	1446	Transportation
0404	1460*	1371	Local Bills—Cities/Towns
0405	1496*	1395	Local Bills—Cities/Towns
0406	1611*	1508	Housing/Real Estate
0407	1813*	1793	Health/Welfare
0408	1670*	1733	Transportation
0409	1706*	1714	Local Bills—Cities/Towns
0410	1774*	1854	Transportation
0411	1553*	1554	Local Bills—Metro
0412	2047*	1967	Transportation
0413	2038*	2149	Commerce/Consumer Affairs
0414	1998*	1872	Commerce/Consumer Affairs
0415	1936*	1796	Elections
0416	1835*	1334	Transportation
0417	1824*	1878	Transportation
0418	1819*	2002	Commerce/Consumer Affairs
0419	1809*	1785	Crime/Corrections
0420	1652*	1167	Insurance
0421	1445*	1402	Crime/Corrections
0422	2231	1454*	Families/Relationships
0423	1884	1351*	Commerce/Consumer Affairs
0424	2197	2145*	Local Bills—Counties
0425	1987	1891*	Employment/Labor
0426	1872	1867*	Health/Welfare
0427	1822	1853*	Employment/Labor
0428	2258	1768*	Energy/Utilities
0429	1579	1740*	Legal/Judiciary
0430	1638	1642*	Drugs/Alcohol

CH	HF	SF	TOPIC
0431	1527	1495*	Employment/Labor
0432	1767	1477*	Employment/Labor
0433	1556	1398*	Crime/Corrections
0434	0965	1196*	Taxes
0435	1330	1112*	Legal/Judiciary
0436	0894	0989*	Governmental Operations
0437	0738	0746*	Local Bills—Counties
0438	0878	0506*	Legal/Judiciary
0439	2150*	2007	Commerce/Consumer Affairs
0440	1939*	2153	Commerce/Consumer Affairs
0441	1912*	1729	Miscellaneous
0442	1786*	1431	Veterans/Military
0443	1781*	1411	Taxes
0444	1656*	1652	Commerce/Consumer Affairs
0445	1651*	1858	Crime/Corrections
0446	1562*	1519	Employment/Labor
0447	1338*	1809	Elections
0448	1058*	none	Commerce/Consumer Affairs
0449	0996*	none	Energy/Utilities
0450	0585*	0811	Commerce/Consumer Affairs
0451	0523*	0567	Governmental Operations
0452	1635	1504*	Commerce/Consumer Affairs
0453	1292	1258*	Env/Natural Resources
0454	1523	1622*	Employment/Labor
0455	1773	1662*	Env/Natural Resources
0456	1764	1760*	Governmental Operations
0457	1791	1794*	Other Local Bills
0458	1843	1807*	Commerce/Consumer Affairs
0459	2113	1813*	Energy/Utilities
0460	2097	1973*	Crime/Corrections
0461	2085	1977*	Commerce/Consumer Affairs
0462	2160	1986*	Employment/Labor
0463	1393*	1404	Education
0464	1561*	1417	Health/Welfare
0465	0896	0887*	Transportation
0466	1473	1365*	Crime/Corrections
0467	1601	1451*	Commerce/Consumer Affairs
0468	1847	1466*	Veterans/Military
0469	1679	1469*	Employment/Labor
0470	1851	1498*	Employment/Labor
0471	1618	1546*	Elections
0472	2039	1575*	Commerce/Consumer Affairs
0473	1923	1732*	Banking
0474	2036	1776*	Housing/Real Estate
0475	2245	1849*	Crime/Corrections
0476	1910	1879*	Agriculture
0477	2177	2076*	Local Bills—Cities/Towns
0478	1032*	1000	Local Bills—Counties
0479	1149*	0731	Commerce/Consumer Affairs
0480	1156*	1107	Miscellaneous

CH	HF	SF	TOPIC
0481	1264*	2098	Commerce/Consumer Affairs
0482	1291*	1240	Education
0483	1304*	1621	Crime/Corrections
0484	1347*	1318	Crime/Corrections
0485	1371*	1325	Families/Relationships
0486	1402*	1353	Appropriations
0487	1404*	2174	Local Bills—Counties
0488	1422*	1975	Commerce/Consumer Affairs
0489	1509*	1968	Transportation
0490	1522*	1377	Local Bills—Counties
0491	1533*	1557	Health/Welfare
0492	1633*	1835	Local Bills—Metro
0493	1659*	1510	Commerce/Consumer Affairs
0494	1695*	2123	Legal/Judiciary
0495	1703*	1771	Other Local Bills
0496	1722*	1833	Crime/Corrections
0497	1735*	2190	Crime/Corrections
0498	1753*	1529	Local Bills—Cities/Towns
0499	1770*	1831	Local Bills—Metro
0500	1771*	1637	Banking
0501	1839*	1755	Local Bills—Counties
0502	2016*	none	Taxes
0503	2081*	1951	Other Local Bills
0504	0756*	2173	Governmental Operations
0505	1107*	1013	Veterans/Military
0506	1352*	1306	Banking
0507	1405*	1328	Veterans/Military
0508	1421*	1386	Employment/Labor
0509	1425*	1450	Agriculture
0510	1428*	1579	Families/Relationships
0511	1456*	none	Local Bills—Counties
0512	1481*	1539	Banking
0513	1524*	1461	Legal/Judiciary
0514	1528*	1516	Taxes
0515	1606*	2131	Elections
0516	1620*	none	Health/Welfare
0517	1663*	1649	Agriculture
0518	1760*	1648	Env/Natural Resources
0519	1778*	1627	Env/Natural Resources
0520	1801*	1699	Transportation
0521	1803*	1808	Local Bills—Counties
0522	1814*	1551	Taxes
0523	1831*	1747	Transportation
0524	1846*	1606	Taxes
0525	1850*	2040	Legal/Judiciary
0526	1853*	1421	Health/Welfare
0527	1856*	1801	Miscellaneous
0528	1875*	2078	Health/Welfare
0529	1911*	2128	Local Bills—Counties
0530	1920*	1916	Health/Welfare
0531	1946*	1982	Governmental Operations
0532	1949*	1814	Insurance
0533	1950*	1680	Legal/Judiciary
0534	1966*	1865	Health/Welfare
0535	1975*	1912	Transportation

CH	HF	SF	TOPIC
0536	1982*	2187	Local Bills—Cities/Towns
0537	2006*	1449	Env/Natural Resources
0538	2148*	2054	Insurance
0539	2188*	2067	Miscellaneous
0540	2238*	2061	Local Bills—Counties
0541	2247*	1924	Health/Welfare
0542	0378	0311*	Health/Welfare
0543	1302	1298*	Other Local Bills
0544	1757	1408*	Governmental Operations
0545	1848	1418*	Health/Welfare
0546	1449	1435*	Transportation
0547	1554	1492*	Families/Relationships
0548	1484	1511*	Taxes
0549	1845	1520*	Transportation
0550	1630	1589*	Env/Natural Resources
0551	2173	1683*	Housing/Real Estate
0552	1632	1750*	Commerce/Consumer Affairs
0553	2299	1790*	Env/Natural Resources
0554	1892	1815*	Other Local Bills
0555	1896	1862*	Insurance
0556	2067	1883*	Employment/Labor
0557	2070	1903*	Miscellaneous
0558	2062	1913*	Governmental Operations
0559	1952	1931*	Local Bills—Cities/Towns
0560	1871	1954*	Elections
0561	2063	1978*	Local Bills—Metro
0562	2185	2072*	Local Bills—Cities/Towns
0563	2218	2165*	Local Bills—Metro
0564	0160	0147*	Pensions/Retirement
0565	2078	1337*	Housing/Real Estate
0566	1902	1473*	Housing/Real Estate
0567	1602	1762*	Governmental Operations
0568	1820	1859*	Commerce/Consumer Affairs
0569	0432*	1376	Env/Natural Resources
0570	0560*	0410	Local Bills—Counties
0571	0950*	1169	Governmental Operations
0572	1315*	1293	Transportation
0573	1386*	1462	Families/Relationships
0574	1427*	1390	Pensions/Retirement
0575	1466*	1285	Legal/Judiciary
0576	1655*	1758	Banking
0577	1806*	1836	Health/Welfare
0578	1878*	1661	Employment/Labor
0579	1886*	1480	Health/Welfare
0580	1977*	1819	Health/Welfare
0581	1999*	1660	Local Bills—Cities/Towns
0582	2186*	2100	Taxes
0583	1775*	1960	Energy/Utilities
0584	2051*	1457	Agriculture
0585	0322*	2091	Local Bills—Cities/Towns
0586	1203*	2000	Housing/Real Estate
0587	1257*	1886	Employment/Labor
0588	1279*	1460	Crime/Corrections
0589	1382*	1354	Crime/Corrections
0590	1507*	2135	Taxes

CH	HF	SF	TOPIC
0591	1516*	1506	Other Local Bills
0592	1678*	1749	Insurance
0593	1815*	1910	Taxes
0594	1915*	1877	Commerce/Consumer Affairs
0595	1974*	1681	Housing/Real Estate
0596	2141*	1805	Commerce/Consumer Affairs
0597	2314*	none	Appropriations
0598	2151	1974*	Commerce/Consumer Affairs
0599	1030	1114*	Env/Natural Resources
0600	1909	1403*	Other Local Bills
0601	2302	1789*	Governmental Operations
0602	1859	1810*	Insurance
0603	1935	1821*	Legal/Judiciary
0604	1709	1826*	Governmental Operations
0605	1194	0881*	Other Local Bills
0606	1213	0992*	Health/Welfare
0607	1501	1976*	Energy/Utilities
0608	1537	1563*	Employment/Labor
0609	1547	1442*	Veterans/Military
0610	2055	2138*	Legal/Judiciary
0611	1499	1559*	Energy/Utilities
0612	1837	1330*	Housing/Real Estate
0613	1865	1407*	Env/Natural Resources
0614	1306	1235*	Employment/Labor
0615	2077	1562*	Legal/Judiciary
0616	1708	1614*	Health/Welfare
0617	1967	1628*	Health/Welfare
0618	2023	2016*	Governmental Operations
0619	1668	1736*	Education
0620	0063	0120*	Other Local Bills
0621	1143	1048*	Env/Natural Resources
0622	1400	1336*	Drugs/Alcohol
0623	2154	2108*	Health/Welfare
0624	1284	1560*	Crime/Corrections
0625	1285	1561*	Crime/Corrections
0626	1883	1349*	Drugs/Alcohol
0627	1667	1441*	Employment/Labor
0628	2161	2046*	Miscellaneous
0629	1666	1702*	Local Bills—Counties
0630	2198	1905*	Crime/Corrections
0631	2068	1884*	Employment/Labor
0632	1644	1455*	Health/Welfare
0633	2012	1880*	Governmental Operations
0634	0899	1007*	Legal/Judiciary
0635	1230	0924*	Families/Relationships
0636	0347	0433*	Employment/Labor
0637	2183	2102*	Families/Relationships
0638	2157	2043*	Governmental Operations
0639	1945	1914*	Other Local Bills
0640	2130	1864*	Governmental Operations
0641	2098*	1985	Health/Welfare
0642	1991*	2084	Employment/Labor
0643	1559*	1532	Miscellaneous
0644	1577*	1514	Env/Natural Resources

CH	HF	SF	TOPIC
0645	1532*	1595	Agriculture
0646	0994*	0966	Governmental Operations
0647	0820*	0991	Transportation
0648	0533*	1264	Governmental Operations
0649	1961*	1936	Governmental Operations
0650	1903*	2146	Other Local Bills
0651	1766*	1687	Other Local Bills
0652	1761*	1633	Taxes
0653	1743*	1781	Employment/Labor
0654	2317*	none	Appropriations
0655	2207*	2125	Governmental Operations
0656	1587*	1553	Miscellaneous
0657	0229*	0021	Health/Welfare
0658	2135	2030*	Families/Relationships

Resolutions

Rs	HF	SF	TOPIC
0012	1303	1243*	Resolutions
0013	2180*	2103	Resolutions
0014	0727	0531*	Resolutions
0015	0805	0751*	Resolutions
0016	2290	2083*	Resolutions
0017	2189	2109*	Resolutions
0018	2134*	1643	Resolutions
0019	1800*	1739	Resolutions
0020	2276	2164*	Resolutions
0021	2021*	2141	Resolutions

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Minnesota House of Representatives

Publication of House Information Office
Room 9 • State Capitol
St. Paul, MN 55155 • (612) 296-2146

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