

# INSIDE *the* TERIM

MINNESOTA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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## A Legislative Preview



# Issues '77:

## View From the Top

Interview: Rep. Martin O. Sabo (D-Mpls.) Speaker of the House

**What are the major issues facing the 1977 legislature?**

"One, passing the budget. Appropriating for the budget process which comes the first of the year is obviously the biggest decision. It's not the most dramatic, but it really is the most important.

I'd categorize the second most important issue in terms of service reorganization. We should look at power structures on the state level and reorganize our methods of allocating power to local units of government.

"These are the most important structural questions. But, of course, there are several others. The whole criminal justice system should receive some attention, and there is a good deal of public interest in the questions of Reserve Mining and the proposed stadium."

**In recent interviews, you have acknowledged a "substantial need for reshaping" many federal programs.**

**Please comment.**

"I tend not to be a fan of most federal programs. I find them too detailed, and consequently, I think they are usually quite wasteful. Therefore, there are better ways to serve the people.

There's such a great variety of differences among the 50 states. I think the combined judgments of 50 different states within some broad general guidelines will generally produce more right decisions than one very rigid and specific federal constituent."

**Could the federal government be making it easier for states to work within "rigid and specific" guidelines?**

"I consider it more as making good use of what I feel are very limited federal funds. I don't like to see these funds eaten up by the process rather than utilized by what's intended to be done with them.

For example, consider our federal funds for the handicapped or for education. I think the most effective use of these dollars in Minnesota would be if

we just added them to our existing state aid fund, rather than have a whole separate apparatus.

If I could give one bit of advice to the federal government, it would be 'Try to do a few things, and do them well.' "

**Minnesota has a national reputation for good government. Why?**

"It's part of a long tradition for good politics in this state. Those of us today are benefactors of that tradition. How the tradition was so well established, I don't know. Our people are by nature hard-working, serious, and open."

**What do you see as the major issues facing the 1977 legislature?**

Rep. Irvin N. Anderson (D-International Falls) House majority leader:

"The 1977 session is the 'money session'. That's when we do a major portion of the state's budgeting for the next biennium. So, budgeting will be the biggest issue before us.

In the field of elementary and secondary education we have grave problems. What amount should we raise the school aid formula? The people have refused to authorize an increase in their property taxes. Obviously, school districts need extra monies.

There may be some school districts profiting from the present school aid formula. We should take these monies that may be in excess and give it to those districts that are in dire need.

Another big question before the 1977 session is Reserve Mining. That question has been before the state for too long. It has been before the executive branch, the Pollution Control Agency, and the Department of Natural Resources. The time has come for someone to decide what we're going to do."

**Rep. Martin Sabo**



## Rep. Henry Savelkoul



Rep. Henry Savelkoul (IR-Albert Lea) House minority leader:

"The major issues in Minnesota now are some changes in the economic climate so that we can, in Minnesota, compete for job possibilities, both for people who graduate from our schools and for people who live in the state.

The economic climate develops as a result of the tax climate and the various legislation you have affecting the production of jobs. Those are specific issues which have to be dealt with.

Then as a separate issue, is the question of priorities within the budget itself. In that area, I would see as a major concern an attempt to make a more rational approach to the budgeting process by establishing budgeting levels before funds are spent.

Another high priority in this session should be the criminal justice system and the rehabilitation program in the State of Minnesota."

**How do you view your position of House majority/minority leader in terms of responsibilities and functions?**

Rep. Irvin N. Anderson, majority leader:

"A big part of the majority leader's job is seeing that bills pass on the floor of the house — that authors are ready for any

debate that might take place — that they're aware of the issues that could arise.

Problems arise in getting the job done. Some of the DFL legislators come from districts that have a large number of Republican constituents. Trying to accommodate these legislators causes feelings within our group. In the role of majority leader, I have to explain this situation to individuals; to show the type of concern which will accommodate these legislators — and get legislation passed."

Rep. Henry J. Savelkoul, minority leader:

"My role will be to see that the minority meets its responsibility in terms of providing criticism plus constructive alternatives to the programs of the majority.

Another duty is to come forth with programs in certain policy areas which indicate the positions of the Independent Republican Party if they were in control, and finally, to serve as a watchdog on the majority.

One of my goals as the minority leader is going to be allowing as many people as possible within the Republican caucus to develop as experts in particular legislative policy in whatever areas they choose."

**What are the problems and strategies of working with an imbalanced legislature?**

Anderson: "It's my opinion that it's more difficult to work with a large majority than it is to work with a majority

of two or three people. Primarily because you have legislators of your political faith that come from areas that are really indexed in the opposite party's category, as I explained."

Savelkoul: "We just find that we have to work much more on a non-partisan basis, working with Democrats who are philosophically more in tune with the Republican caucus. Then we can be more effective.

I think, because we're so small, the people who are in our caucus are on an average really outstanding people, because they had to be to get elected in such times."

**How do you feel the Perpich administration will affect the legislature?**

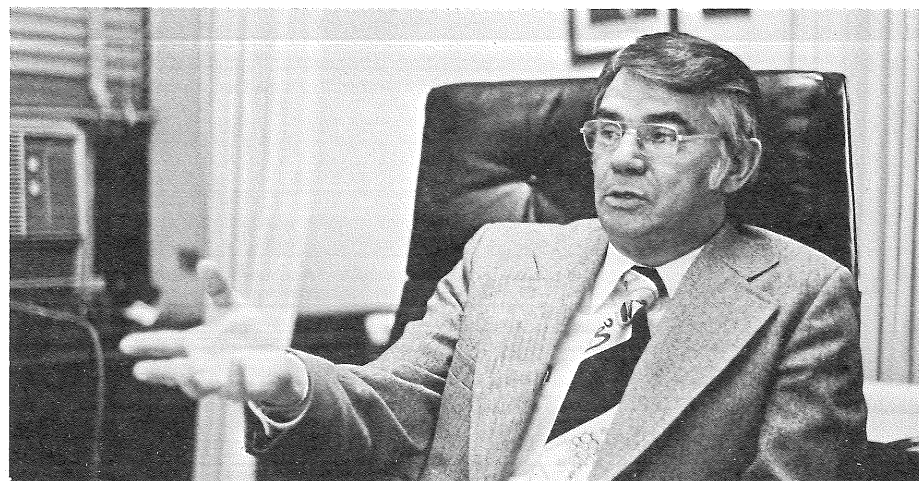
Anderson: "I don't see that the Perpich administration will be much different from the Anderson administration.

I think Perpich is going to be an excellent governor. He comes at a time when most of the programs that the Anderson group advocated are underway, and he will probably continue those.

He's going to add a number of his own programs that he feels strongly about. But aside from that, I don't see much change. I see Perpich as a strong governor."

Savelkoul: "I feel that the legislature will have to take a much stronger policy-making position than in the past, because there's going to be much less leadership from the governor's office."

## Rep. Irv Anderson



## Issues '77:

# The Perspective of Two New Legislators

Representative-elect, Rep. Ann Wynia (D-St. Paul), and Rep. John Rose (IR Roseville) talked about voter concerns, the legislature in state government, and issues likely to emerge in the upcoming legislative session.

"One of the major concerns of people, I found as I campaigned, is taxes — not the concern with spending as much as keeping taxes down," Rose said.

"Other concerns are openness of elected officials. People would like more communication with their representatives.

They're concerned about crime, but people are more hesitant to become involved in that issue than in others."

About the legislature, he said, "The time commitment is a big issue. Many talented people are not attracted to state government and will not run for office because they can't interrupt their career path, especially if the legislature becomes full-time."

How does he see the role of the minority party?

"The role of the majority party is to

### Rep. Ann Wynia



bring about the will of the majority of the people; the minority role is to protect the rights of the minority of the people."

"The economy, including unemployment, taxes and inflation, Dutch Elm disease, the quality of life in neighborhoods, crime, school financing, and the sports stadium were concerns people talked about when I campaigned," Wynia said.

"Nobody asked for a tax increase," she said, "however, there isn't a resistance to taxes or spending money from most people.

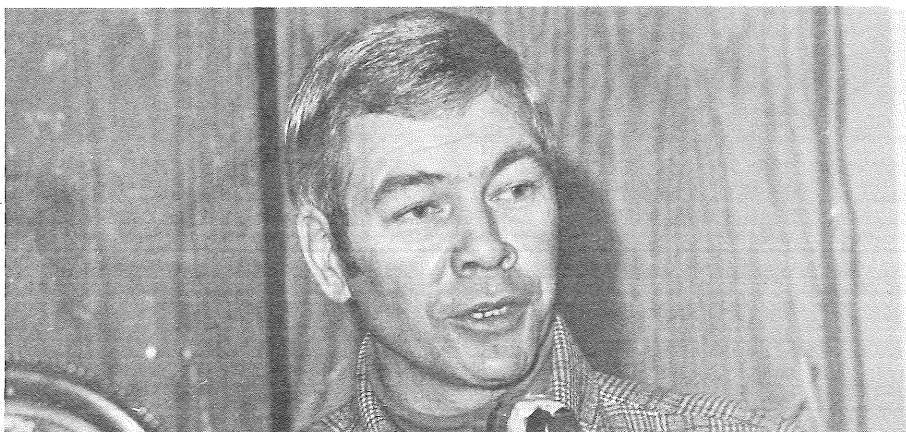
"The role of the legislature is to be accountable to the people. People from all walks of life should be representatives in the legislature. They may not choose to run because of the considerable amount of time involved and the compensation for that time."

What about campaign financing?

"A combination of both public and private financing is very positive. Public financing reduces the influence of special interest groups," Wynia answered.

Other questions the two first-term legislators answered in their appearance before a Twin Cities citizens' meeting in Minneapolis dealt with the Metropolitan Council, possible solutions to the crime increase, constituent views on the sports stadium, financing of public and private schools, bus fare increases, and teachers in the legislature.

### Rep. John Rose





# Facts About the 1977 House

## The 70th Session

134 members (124 men, 10 women)  
Each represents over 28,000 Minnesotans (per 1970 census)  
Democrats: 104, Independent-Republicans: 30  
Elected: even-numbered years  
Terms: two years  
Presiding officer: Speaker Martin O. Sabo (D-Mpls.)  
Majority Leader: Irvin Anderson (D-Int'l. Falls)  
Minority Leader: Henry Savelkoul (IR-Albert Lea)

<b>Occupational range</b>	30-39	44	
Farmers	22	40-49	42
Educators	21	50-59	25
Lawyers	13	60-69	6
Business	14	70-79	1
Other Professions (clergy, chiroprac- tors, veterinarians, etc.)	30	<b>Average age</b>	42
Labor	14	<b>Seniority range</b>	
Full-time legislators	20	1st termers	20
		2nd termers	45
<b>Age range</b>		4 to 8 years	48
21-29	16	More than 8 years	21

**Average years served** ..... 6

### Education

Elementary .....	1
High school .....	13
Post high school (trade school) .....	4
College/some .....	24
College/degree .....	90
Post grad/degree .....	34
Unknown .....	2

### Birthplace

Minnesota .....	99
Surrounding four states .....	14
Other states .....	13
Foreign born .....	1
Unknown .....	7

### Marital status

Married .....	121
Unmarried .....	13

# Vocational Rehabilitation

"The whole purpose of this subcommittee and of your testimony is to improve the delivery of services to the handicapped," Rep. James Swanson (D-Richfield), chairman, told the House subcommittee on vocational rehabilitation.

Richard L. Randberg, deputy director of the Minnesota State Council for the Handicapped appeared before the subcommittee.

### "Problems confuse and add ..."

Randberg said, "There are many problems which confuse and add to the difficulties of physically and mentally disabled people, such as —

- today's job market itself limits placement possibilities;
- poor attitudes of employers exist in both the private and public sectors;
- many fears about hiring the disabled come from myths that have not been broken down;
- public assistance programs are often 'dis-incentives' for people who receive their services;
- worker's compensation and insurance questions are constantly

thrown in the face of rehabilitation counselors or anyone who is trying to place them."

### "Lack of training hampers ..."

"Counselors have not been trained for the job-seeking process," Randberg said. "They are not for the most part knowledgeable to the extent they need to be about the employment market or about employee need."

One vocational educator said his rehabilitation program had a 97 percent placement record. He said his facility's counselors placed only five to ten percent of these; the remainder received jobs through working with the staff.

### "Salaries are low ..."

Statistics from the placement director of Courage Center (Golden Valley) revealed that most annual incomes for the handicapped worker are about \$4,000, \$6,750 lower than the federally established median income of \$13,750.

Swanson said, "I would hope we won't simply look at this with a 'Let's have what we've always had and then add on

something else' attitude. It appears to me that some of what we've had hasn't done what it's supposed to do."

### "We can't change things overnight ..."

"I realize we can't change things overnight," Swanson said. "We should start looking internally to accomplish what we're all hoping to do, and that is to better service handicapped persons."

The subcommittee made these proposals:

- Changes in the public assistance system which would create more incentive to work.
- Possible tax incentives for employers.
- Investigation of new agencies to provide opportunities for disabled persons.
- Improved public education.
- Focus on job-development programs by placement specialists.
- Teaching the handicapped job-seeking skills as well as occupational skills so after rehabilitation, the handicapped can use the placement system as it exists.

**Agriculture.** Rep. George Mann (D-Windom) chairman.

Responsibilities: Agricultural related concerns.

Some anticipated issues for 1977 session: underground water inventory; agricultural conservation program; state shelterbelt program; weather modification.

**Appropriations.** Rep. Fred Norton (D-St. Paul) chairman.

Makes recommendations to the House for the biennial state budget; reviews all bills that require funds or will have some money-related impact on the state.

Committee has four major divisions —

- **State Departments Division.** Rep. Neil Haugerud (D-Preston) chairman. Responsible for: recommendations to the House for the budgets of state departments, the governor, legislature, constitutional officers, state departments.
- **Education Division.** Rep. Ray Faricy (D-St. Paul) chairman. Recommends budgets for University of Minnesota; state universities; community colleges; department of education; Higher Education Coordinating Board.
- **Health, Welfare and Corrections Divisions.** Rep. Donald Samuelson (D-Brainerd) chairman. Recommends budgets of the departments of health, welfare, and corrections,

the corrections ombudsman and the health related boards.

- **Semi-State Division.** Rep. A. J. Eckstein (D-New Ulm), chairman. Handles funding requests from the Historical Society; the State Arts Board; several other agencies that receive some state funds as part of their total budget.

**Commerce and Economic Development.** Rep. Walter Hanson (D-St. Paul) chairman.

Handles issues protecting the consumer or regulating commerce and business in Minnesota.

Includes such legislation as (in the 1976 session): raising the legal drinking age; authorizing pharmacists to substitute name brands for generic drugs; establishing a task force to study how the state could stimulate the growth of small business; and requiring manufacturers to make tents and sleeping bags flame resistant.

**Criminal Justice.** Rep. Donald Moe (D-St. Paul) chairman.

Responsible for all legislation dealing with laws on criminal correction as well as the criminal law itself. Committee hears bills relating to —

- any changes in Minnesota's criminal code.
- the department of corrections, the Minnesota Correctional Authority, or any state prisons.

- juvenile delinquency.

**Education.** Rep. Carl Johnson (D-St. Peter) chairman.

Deals with legislation providing for basic educational services to the state's primary and secondary schools; special services, i.e., special education for the handicapped; vocational education, secondary, post-secondary, and adult levels; transportation aid.

**The Division on School Aids.** Rep. Willis Eken (D-Twin Valley) chairman.

Responsible for developing the finance formulas by which state and local communities support educational services.

**Environment and Natural Resources.** Rep. Willard Munger (D-Duluth) chairman.

Considers legislation on air, water, solid waste, energy, mining, forestry, game and fish; and recreation affecting the environment and the use of the natural resources of the state.

**Financial Institutions and Insurance.** Rep. Bernard Brinkman (D-Richmond) chairman.

Considers laws and policies that concern the commercial relationship of consumers and insurance companies; changes in usury limitations.

Introduction of electronic funds transfer systems; permitting banks to branch are examples of major issues the committee has had before it in recent sessions.

## Deinstitutionalization Committee discusses Problems of Care

"How can the legislature assess the quality of care of the mentally ill, mentally retarded and chemically dependent in the state?" was the question before the Special Committee on Deinstitutionalization at six interim hearings in May and June.

The hearings focused on (1) quality of care in the state (institutional and community-based), (2) costs of care and (3) roles and responsibilities of various levels of government in the provision of care.

At the committee's final interim meeting on November 6, Kevin Kenney from House research summed up testimony on the quality and cost of care.

The testimony came from experts in the fields of public welfare, community programs, services for retarded persons, general human services.

Other summary reports yet to come as a result of the hearings are on systems of care, employee rights and concerns, community acceptance, kinds of care

and programs available, future needs and supportive services.

Purpose of the information gathering hearings was to aid the legislature in making judgments about care for the mentally ill, chemically dependent, and mentally retarded citizens of Minnesota and provide data necessary for legislative decisions.

**ABOVE: Deinstitutionalization: a summary**



# Committees

Some anticipated 1977-78 issues include: products liability insurance and litigation; no-fault insurance; rising cost of automobile insurance; a review of the catastrophic health insurance legislation of 1976.

**General Legislation and Veterans Affairs.** Rep. James Rice (D-Mpls.) chairman.

Responsibilities are laws on elections; financial disclosure; public financing; the ethics laws; legislation affecting Minnesota's veterans; general issues that do not fit into specific areas other committees handle.

In 1973, the legislature set up the Ethical Practices Board. The General Legislation and Veterans Affairs Committee in 1976 devoted several hearings to the work of that board.

**Governmental Operations.** Rep. Harry Sieben, Jr. (D-Hastings) chairman.

Studies include bills relating to unemployment compensation; workers compensation; pension/retirement plans; government reorganization issues; creation and abolition of departments; salaries of government executives.

**Health and Welfare.** Rep. James Swanson (D-Richfield) chairman.

Concerns are the delivery of —

- health care services, i.e., preventive, nutritional; long-term care.
- social services: day care, adoption; family concerns.

Anticipated 1977 issues include: medical malpractice; structure of human services delivery system; funding mechanism for social services; health care (primary) cost, management of Medicaid; nursing homes; preventive services.

**Higher Education.** Rep. Peter X. Fugina (D-Virginia) chairman.

Works on the policies, concerns, structure and governance of the University of Minnesota, state university system, community college system; the Higher Education Coordinating Board.

**Labor/Management Relations.** Rep. Stanley Enebo (D-Mpls.) chairman.

Deals with employer/employee relationships. Includes legislation relating to wages, working conditions, the Minnesota Department of Labor and Industry, state, county and municipal employees, and teachers.

**Local and Urban Affairs.** Rep. Thomas Berg (D-Mpls.) chairman.

Works on bills dealing with governmental units throughout the state. Any legislation that could alter the authority, duty, or responsibility of any or all of Minnesota's townships, municipalities, counties, or regional development commissions goes to this committee; also, mass transit legislation.

**Rules and Legislative Administration.** Rep. Irvin Anderson, majority leader (D-Int'l. Falls) chairman.

Responsible for rules the House adopts — any proposed amendments or changes to the rules; employees of the House — changes in employment; general administration matters; committee budgets; certain specific procedures the House uses while in session.

**Taxes.** Rep. William Kelly (D-East Grand Forks) chairman.

Responsible for studying bills changing tax laws in Minnesota.

Anticipated 1977 issues include —

- proposals by the Tax Study Commission for changes in the income tax law.
- Reserve Mining tax issue.
- any proposed tax to finance a new sports stadium.
- property taxes and proposals to simplify the circuit breaker.
- legislation to improve property tax assessments.

**Transportation.** Rep. Stanley Fudro (D-Mpls.) chairman.

Handles bills relating to aeronautics, highways, railways, waterways (and support agencies).

The committee works with the state departments of transportation and public safety on legislation affecting modes of transportation; vehicle and pedestrian safety.

This committee does not get bills on mass transit. These go to the Committee on Local and Urban Affairs.

## Sabo Wins Augsburg Award

In November, Augsburg College, Minneapolis, gave its Distinguished Alumnus Award to Rep. Martin O. Sabo, (D-Mpls.) speaker of the Minnesota House of Representatives.

"Augsburg established the award in 1958 and regards it as an expression of gratitude and recognition," a college spokesperson said.

"The calibre and quality of its recipients is amazing. They come from widely

diverse fields — literature, mission work, research chemistry — in Martin's case — politics."

Dr. Carl Chrislock, chairman of the history department, presented the award.

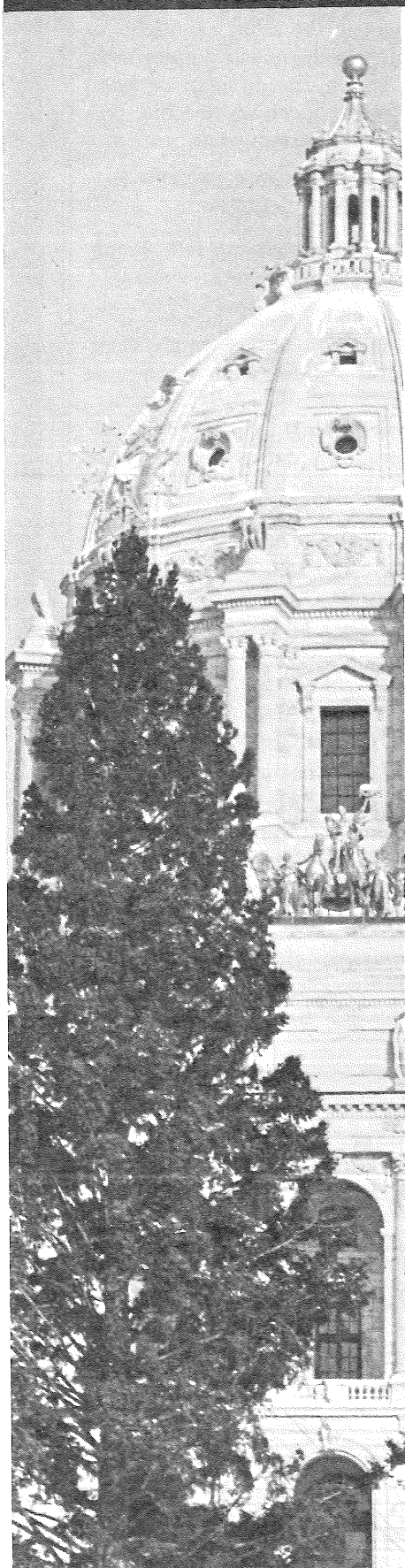
As one of Sabo's former teachers he said, "I had the unique opportunity to watch a dedicated student achieve political success early in his career..

"Martin combines the best qualities of

being hardworking and perceptive with an excellent grasp of issues. He has always had a lot of idealism which I feel has not deserted him. He has always possessed an abiding faith in the possibility of getting things done in the American Political system.

"Since the college has no higher award to acknowledge future achievements, this presentation may be a bit premature."

# Student Section



## The House goes to High School

Should Minnesota have capital punishment, legalize marijuana, and lower the driving age? These were the issues before student legislative committees at Brady High School in West St. Paul on October 19.

Chairing the committees were Rep. Arnold Kempe and Rep. Ray Kempe (both D-West St. Paul). The event: a study of the Minnesota legislative process by the freshmen and sophomore social studies classes at Brady.

The students chose the issues they'd vote on. "Bills" and "amendments" were ready beforehand. Students acted as representatives; as testifying citizens at the "mock" committee meetings.

After much debate, the student legislators voted against recommending capital punishment, legalizing marijuana, and lowering the driving age. All three bills "died" in committee.

Comments from students:

"We all appreciated the time Rep. Ray

Kempe and Rep. Arnold Kempe spent in helping us discover the complex system of making a bill become a law."

"Kids our age think politics is an easy job, but after the 'session' we found it was complicated. Politics isn't an easy job, but it's an interesting one."

"I now know how a bill is written up. I never knew how a bill was passed, or that it could be amended."

"It made us all feel a part of the government, because we were all included in the meetings. We all felt important in doing this."

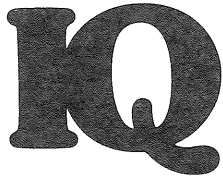
"We had a chance to show that teenagers can do important things like the older people do. We had a chance to make decisions on issues facing us, just like the representatives."

The day's activities included the slide show, "The Visible Government," showing the House of Representatives in action, and a quiz slide show with questions and answers about the legislative process.



# Student Section

## The Word Puzzle



### GOVERNMENT I. Q. QUIZ

- In Minnesota, all election returns go to the \_\_\_\_\_ for tabulating.  
A. Governor  
B. Lt. Governor  
C. Secretary of State  
D. State Auditor
- Nomination and election of members of the legislature has been by party designation since Minnesota's first election.  
True or false?
- The first state legislature met the year Minnesota became a state (1858).  
True or false?
- To become a state representative a person must be \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. a qualified voter  
B. 21 years old  
C. a Minnesota resident for one year  
D. a resident of the district for six months  
E. All the above
- The legislature must meet for \_\_\_\_\_ days each biennium.  
A. 60  
B. 120  
C. 240  
D. None of the above
- The size of the legislature must remain the same according to the state constitution.  
True or false?

What's your state government I. Q.? Rate yourself.

Six correct — Superior  
Five correct — Excellent  
Four correct — Good  
Three correct — Fair  
Two or less correct — Poor

Answers to quiz on page 11.

### The House has 15 standing committees:

- Agriculture
- Appropriations
- Commerce and Economic Development
- Crime Prevention and Corrections
- Education
- Environment and Natural Resources
- Financial Institutions and Insurance
- General Legislation and Veterans Affairs
- Governmental Operations
- Health and Welfare
- Higher Education
- Labor-Management Relations
- Local and Urban Affairs
- Taxes
- Transportation

The word puzzle contains each word from every committee name. The words may read from left to right (See Crime above); backward (right to left, see *Appropriations* above); bottom to top (see *Governmental* above). Some words, such as *And* will appear several times in several ways (See example above).

Many words use the same letters, so words will overlap (see *Appropriations* and *Governmental*).

When you find the words in the puzzle, circle them. Write them in the spaces below until you have listed the complete names of all 15 committees.

### Committee Word Puzzle

L	A	B	O	R	E	A	N	O	I	T	A	C	U	D	E	D
C	O	R	R	E	C	T	I	O	N	S	A	C	T	E	D	N
L	O	C	L	N	O	I	T	A	C	U	D	E	R	V	U	A
S	E	X	A	T	N	E	R	A	F	L	E	W	A	E	C	N
E	N	E	I	L	O	H	I	G	H	E	R	S	N	L	A	D
C	V	I	C	O	M	M	E	R	C	E	D	O	S	O	L	S
R	I	S	N	O	I	T	A	I	R	P	O	R	P	P	A	R
U	R	B	A	N	C	L	E	C	R	I	M	E	O	M	T	I
O	O	P	N	U	N	A	T	U	R	A	L	O	R	E	N	A
S	N	R	I	S	H	E	A	L	T	H	E	A	T	N	E	F
E	M	E	F	S	N	O	I	T	A	L	E	R	A	T	M	F
R	E	V	E	C	N	A	R	U	S	N	I	H	T	M	N	A
D	N	E	L	V	E	T	E	R	A	N	S	T	I	A	R	I
N	T	N	M	A	N	A	G	E	M	E	N	T	O	N	E	R
A	L	T	I	N	S	T	I	T	U	T	I	O	N	S	V	S
N	O	I	D	N	A	S	N	O	I	T	A	R	E	P	O	A
D	N	O	I	T	A	L	S	I	G	E	L	A	N	D	G	N
G	E	N	E	R	A	L	O	C	A	L	E	G	I	S	L	D

# WOMEN WORKING



"Increases in the number of women in the classified service in Minnesota has just increased the number of traditional women's occupations," Tobey Lapakko, from Council 6, AFL-CIO reported to the Council on the Economic Status of Women.

House members on the council which held its first public meeting on November 12 are, chairwoman, Rep. Linda Berglin (D-Mpls.), Rep. Stanley Enebo (D-Mpls.), Rep. Mary Forsythe (IR-Edina), Rep. Phyllis Kahn (D-Mpls.), and Rep. Russell Stanton (D-Arco).

The council met to hear testimony concerning women in state employment. James Fritze, assistant commissioner, department of personnel, explained the state personnel system and its employment practices.

He said, "There are two types of state service, classified, which includes approximately 24,000 employees who must take an examination to obtain the position and have tenure — and unclassified employees. They total about 1700 and need no examination and have no tenure.

"There are five characteristics of the state personnel system which include: open recruitment, eligibility by competitive evaluation, tenure, recognition of employee organizations. Discrimination is forbidden."

Director of Affirmative Action, Stanley Gardner, told of the accomplishments of affirmative action committees.

"There are fewer women than men in state management, supervisory, and professional level positions, and more women in clerical positions," Gardner said. "However, affirmative action committees are working to break down the barriers which hinder upward mobility for women and minorities."

Charlotte Striebel from NOW (Twin Cities chapter of the National Organization of Women) reported on a study on women in Minnesota State government.

"Its purpose," she said, "is to determine the position of women, to discover how inequities between male and female employees arise, and to suggest methods to improve the position of women."

Striebel said conclusions of the NOW report are • disadvantages due to sex are greater than those due to race • among racial minorities blacks are in a better position than American Indians or Spanish Americans • in employment unique to women, especially those jobs classified as "women's work", there are many statistically proven problems and inequities, but more study is needed before remedies can be found.

Recommendations in the report are • employment of affirmative action officers with skills to deal effectively with the specific employment problems of women • separation of affirmative action administrative units working to eliminate sex bias from those working for racial minority groups. Striebel said "NOW isn't saying there

is too much affirmative action for minorities, but that there is too little for women."

Several women from the organization, Women in State Employment (WISE), told the council of practices they felt were discriminatory in their specific departments.

Speaking for WISE, Barbara Stromer said, "Obtaining state employment is not the problem, but salaries and job classifications reveal unequal results.

"WISE suggests the reasons for these inequities are due to insufficient address to the employment status of women, financial values placed on 'men's and 'women's' work, and the system does not easily provide for advancement of women."

Lapakko gave the council this historical background on the employment of women in the United States:

- In 1910, 30 percent of the employed women were working as domestics or household workers.
- Another 50 percent were employed in three other occupations — farm laborers, seamstresses, and teachers.
- By 1960, one-third of the employed women were found in seven occupations — secretaries, elementary teachers, nurses, waitresses, bookkeepers, retail saleswomen, and general household workers.
- In 1970, one-third of the employed women were still in these seven occupations.



# Vocational Education

"This meeting is in response to the rising interest in the governance of vocational education," Rep. Pete Petrafeso (D-St. Louis Park) said in calling to order the October 7 meeting of the subcommittee on Structure and Governance of Education.

Robert Van Tries, assistant commissioner of vocational-technical education with the Minnesota Department of Education gave the committee some historical background on the way Minnesota operates its vocational-technical program.

"The Minnesota system began through enabling legislation in 1945 which allowed local school districts to extend their vocational-technical education offerings to grades 13 and 14," Van Tries told the legislators.

"The purpose of this was to better equalize training opportunities in the state.

"After approval by the state board of vocational education, local school boards govern the classes offered at the post-secondary level. This is the same board that runs the local K-12 program.

"Special legislation in 1967 allowed a number of districts to form an intermediate district for vocational-technical education. There are now three such districts which provide post-secondary, high school and adult educational services.

"These districts are governed by a separate school board that is designated by the local boards of the participating districts.

"There are groups of districts in the Pine City area and Owatonna area considering an intermediate district, but to form these special legislation is needed.

"I think one of the reasons the area vocational-technical institutes have experienced phenomenal growth is that the institutes have been very identifiable in each of their communities.

"Taxpayers have felt a part of the operation and have a considerable

amount of pride of ownership in having the area institute in their community."

"However," Van Tries said, "I suggest that this committee might consider the possibility of enabling legislation for additional intermediate districts around an existing area vocational institute so that special legislation isn't necessary every time a district is interested in such a move."

Mrs. Darleen Olson, Minneapolis MARC, (Minnesota Association for Retarded Citizens) said, "There is a lack of response and interest of the respective school boards, in vocational education of trainable mentally retarded (TMR) children."

Chairman Petrafeso said, "The TMR problem will be presented in further detail at a future meeting."

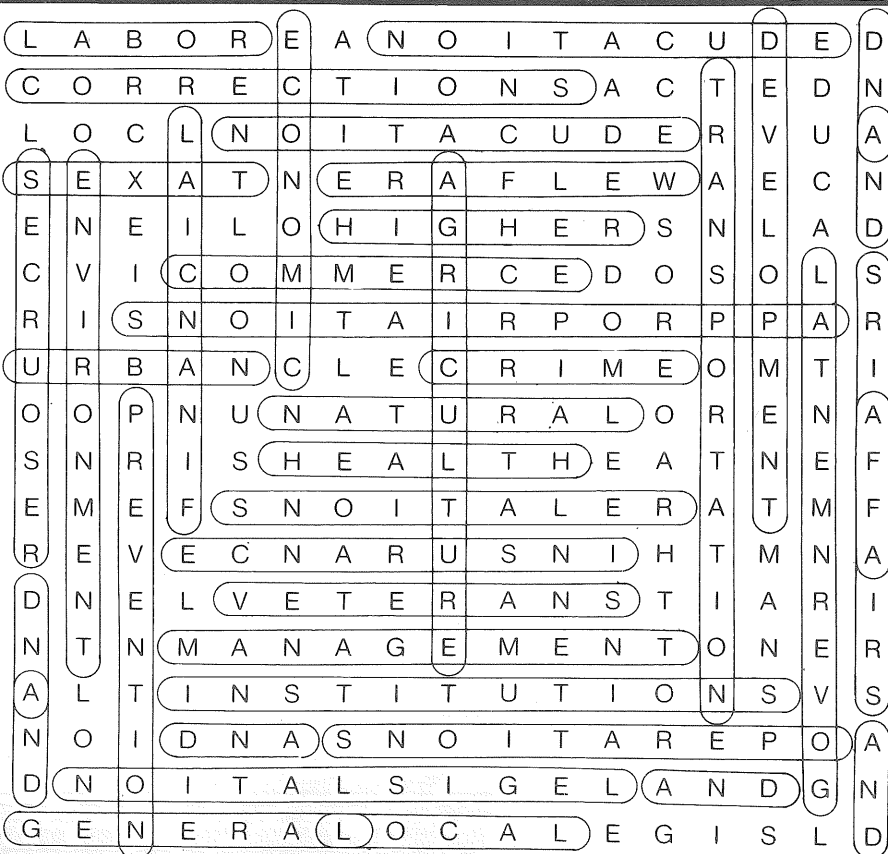
## Quiz and Puzzle Answers

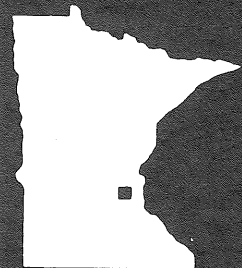
What's your state government I. Q.? Questions on page 9.

1. (C) The Secretary of State receives all election returns and with a canvassing board of four judges, declares an official winner within three days.
2. (False) In 1974 the legislature passed a law requiring party designation on ballots, ending 60 years of non-partisan tradition.
3. (False) The first "state" legislature met on December 2, 1857, five months before Minnesota of-

ficially became a state.

4. (E) To become a state representative a person must be a qualified voter, 21 years old, a Minnesota resident for one year, and a resident of the district for six months.
5. (D) According to Minnesota's constitution, the legislature may meet for up to 120 legislative days during the biennium, but can meet for fewer.
6. (False) The legislature can vote to change the size through the usual legislative process (the introduction and passage of a bill).





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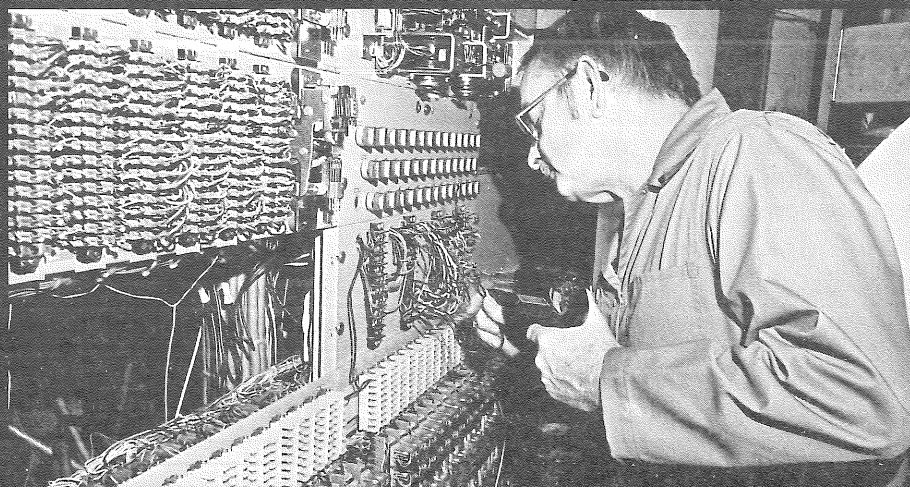
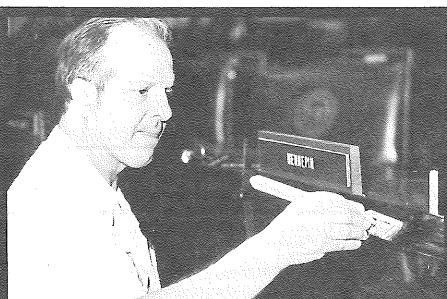
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## The Last Detail

Legislators weren't the only ones who were busy with pre-session reorganization. Electricians, painters, and other capitol maintenance personnel were busy refurbishing the House electronic equipment, revarnishing desks, and giving the chamber a scrubbing. Session began on January 4.



# INSIDE *the* TERIM

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