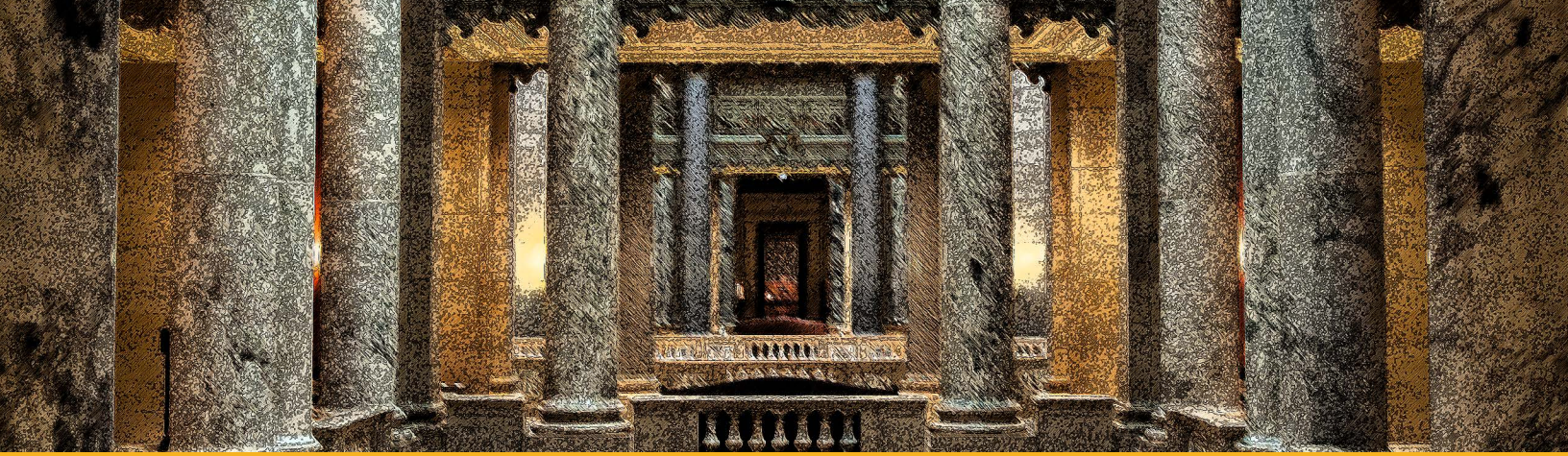




MINNESOTA  
CHAMBER *of*  
COMMERCE

MINNESOTA CHAMBER **2015**  
Legislative Voting Record & Bill Summary



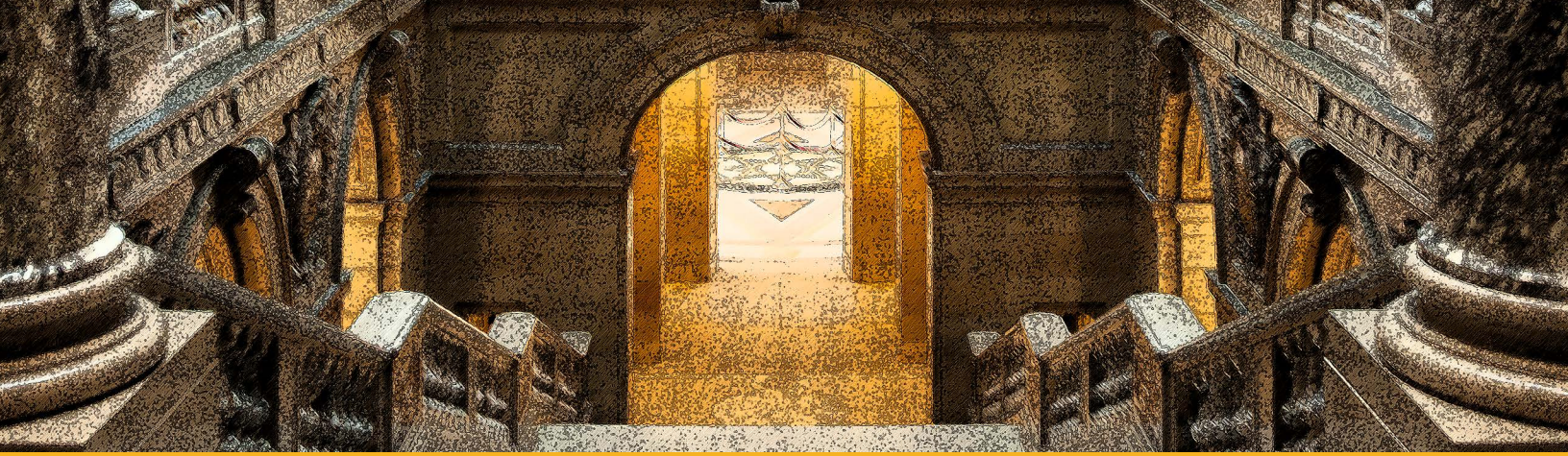
# Table of Contents

Introduction	3
<b>2015 LEGISLATURE: PRIORITY BILLS &amp; COMMENTARY</b>	
Workers' Compensation Payment Reform	4
Tax Competitiveness	4
Education and Workforce Development	5
Health Care	6
Transportation	7
Environmental Permitting and Regulation	8
Energy	8
Labor/Workplace Mandates	9
Grassroots Engagement	10
House Voting Record	11
Senate Voting Record	15
Staff Contacts	18

## Mission

The Minnesota Chamber of Commerce will proactively lead the business community statewide to:

- Advance nonpartisan, pro-business, responsible Minnesota public policy that creates jobs and grows the economy
- Provide member services to address evolving business needs



## *Introduction*

The Minnesota Chamber of Commerce Legislative Voting Record is a guide to evaluate how your lawmakers represented your priorities at the 2015 Legislature. Highlighted are votes on key business concerns taken during both the regular and special legislative sessions. The votes scored reflect the priorities of our 2,300 members, representing all industries in every part of the state, and impact their ability to change, grow and thrive in today's global economy.

Most major bills passed the Legislature with bipartisan support despite the challenges of a divided government. We advanced several key issues, but work remains to strengthen our overall business climate. Legislators began the session with a nearly \$2 billion projected surplus in the general fund. They adjourned, leaving more than \$865 million on the bottom line. As the budget surplus continues to grow, it will provide a solid foundation for enacting changes to Minnesota's business taxes, as well as securing funding for long-term

transportation needs – two priorities that will be at the forefront of our efforts in 2016.

Minnesota continues to rank favorably in many overall business climate studies. Much of the credit goes to our great employers and employees. However, the cost of doing business in Minnesota is not competitive, and that matters. As we continue to build on our strengths, we must also address our weaknesses.

We thank those legislators who listened to the concerns of employers and voted in support of the Minnesota Chamber's positions. After reviewing our report, please take time to thank those policy-makers who voted with the business community on our priorities. For those who did not, reach out to them and start a conversation about the impact their actions will have on your business. Help them understand why – had they voted with the Minnesota Chamber – our state would be stronger for the benefit of all Minnesotans.



## WORKERS' COMPENSATION PAYMENT REFORM

### HF 2193 – House and Senate Votes

Workers' Compensation Advisory Council  
Recommendations

**WE SUPPORTED | BILL PASSED**

The Minnesota Chamber has pursued payment reimbursement changes for hospital treatment of workplace injuries for years. According to the Minnesota Department of Labor and Industry, medical costs per insured claim – when adjusting for average wage growth – rose 91% from 1997-2011 while wage benefits paid to injured workers only rose 41%.

We strongly supported HF 2193 which modernizes Minnesota's workers' compensation reimbursements for inpatient costs by implementing the Medicare Diagnosis Related Group (DRG) model. The model is followed by 23 other states.

Inpatient costs represent 25% of total healthcare costs under the current system. Outpatient healthcare costs, including care provided by ambulatory surgery centers, make up the remainder. The bill also requires the Commissioner of Labor and Industry to address outpatient costs through rulemaking, unless all parties agree to a revised payment method in advance.

Chief authors of the bill were Representative Tony Albright, R-Prior Lake, and Senator Dan Sparks, DFL-Austin, who are legislative appointees to the Workers' Compensation Advisory Council. Representative Tim Mahoney, DFL-St. Paul, also was integral to securing bipartisan support for the bill. Department of Labor and Industry Commissioner Ken Peterson and his staff are credited with developing a reimbursement method all stakeholders could support. This bill was signed into law.



## TAX COMPETITIVENESS

### HF 848 – House Vote

Omnibus Tax Bill

**WE SUPPORTED | BILL PASSED**

The Minnesota Chamber remains vigilant about improving Minnesota's economic competitiveness. Our state has some of the highest personal, corporate and property taxes in the nation. We were pleased with the bipartisan efforts to begin to address these unreasonable tax burdens on employers, employees and Minnesota residents.

The House omnibus tax bill, HF 848, contained \$2 billion in tax relief, an important step toward improving Minnesota's business tax climate. Chief author was Representative Greg Davids, R-Preston. Key provisions included:

- Phaseout of the state's regressive statewide business property tax levy and removal of the automatic tax inflator. This tax, a fixed cost for all Minnesota businesses, ranks second highest in the nation for rural commercial properties and fifth highest nationally for metro properties.
- Enhancement of the research-and-development tax credit to encourage jobs in developing sectors and to advance innovation in our state.
- Conformity with the federal threshold for the estate tax. Minnesota is one of 14 states that still has an estate tax, and our threshold is much lower than the other states. The estate tax discourages individuals from remaining in Minnesota and makes it more difficult for small businesses and farmers to pass along their businesses to the next generation. Increasing the threshold to the federal level would greatly ease cost and complexity, and remove an incentive for residents to relocate to other states.

Representative David's bill also provided \$401 million for increased transportation funding by dedicating currently collected transportation-related sales taxes for state road and bridge repair and maintenance. Thirty-three states use general fund dollars to support their road and bridge infrastructure. Minnesota does not. Businesses consider a reliable and efficient transportation system a government priority, and believe it should be funded with general fund dollars in balance with other state priorities like education and public health and safety.

HF 848 passed the House with bipartisan support. There was not a final agreement on the tax bill and this conference committee will continue into the 2016 session.

**MINNESOTA COMMERCIAL PROPERTY TAXES ARE AMONG HIGHEST IN NATION:**



## HF 848 – Senate Vote

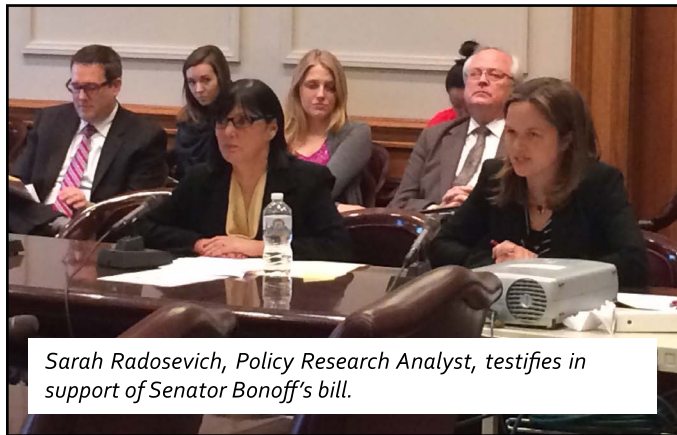
Omnibus Tax Bill, A-17 Amendment

### WE SUPPORTED | AMENDMENT FAILED

The Senate approach placed much less emphasis on improving Minnesota's tax competitiveness. The bill provided only \$170 million in tax relief, less than 10% of the budget surplus.

The bill contained a few positive provisions such as a \$51 million reduction in the statewide property tax levy, enhancement of the R&D tax credit and changes to residency factors. We opposed other provisions that raised business costs. For example, the proposed class rate change would have shifted nearly \$45 million from all other property taxpayers to businesses, undermining the benefits of the proposed \$51 million reduction in the state property tax levy. Business property represents 12.4% of the statewide market value, but pays 32% of the property tax. The Minnesota Chamber supported the A-17 Amendment by Senator Paul Gazelka, R-Nisswa, removing the class rate change and cost shift to business.

## EDUCATION AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT



*Sarah Radosevich, Policy Research Analyst, testifies in support of Senator Bonoff's bill.*

## SF 5 House and Senate Votes

Omnibus Higher Education Conference Committee Report

### WE SUPPORTED | BILL PASSED

Legislators approached the 2015 session with workforce concerns top of mind. The higher education and workforce development bill, authored by Senator Terri Bonoff, DFL-Minnetonka, and Representative Bud Nornes, R-Fergus Falls, invested in postsecondary education and accomplished numerous goals supported

by the Minnesota Chamber to strengthen Minnesota's workforce including:

- Setting a statewide goal of ensuring 70% of adults complete some level of postsecondary education by 2025 (certificate, two-year, four-year, or graduate programs).
- Simplifying the transfer of credits among Minnesota public postsecondary schools.
- Reducing remediation for students deemed college-ready.

Important dual-credit and early-college programs were strengthened to help students earn college credits before they graduate from high school – an approach shown to lead to higher college completion rates and lower college expenses. Another workforce strategy deployed by the Legislature was expansion of dual-training apprenticeship programs that will enable workers to learn basic skills on-the-job while completing their education. Known as "Earn While You Learn," this program will enhance business-education partnerships and accelerate workforce training to produce workers in areas of greatest demand. This bill was signed into law.

## HF 844 – House and Senate Votes

Omnibus K-12 Bill Conference Committee Report

### CHAMBER SUPPORTED | BILL VETOED

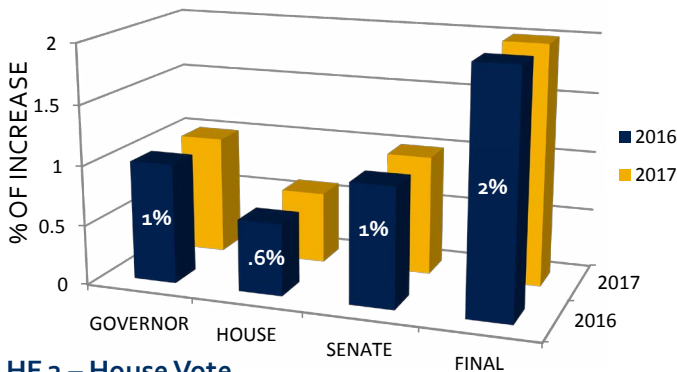
The K-12 budget is the largest piece of the state's general fund budget, spending about \$17 billion each biennium. The Legislature passed a bipartisan K-12 education bill, HF 844, authored by Representative Jenifer Loon, R-Eden Prairie, and Senator Chuck Wiger, DFL-Maplewood, that included significant increases in general education funding, expansion of several key early childhood programs, and other important policy reforms. However, Governor Dayton vetoed the bill, citing concerns over additional funding and the approach to preschool programs.

After several weeks of negotiations requiring a special session, the Governor ultimately dropped his demand for universal public preschool for 4-year-olds and agreed to \$100 million in new funding for childcare scholarships and existing school readiness programs targeted to children most at risk of being in the achievement gap. The special session omnibus K-12 education bill also included additional funding for the K-12 system, increasing the general education formula to 2% each year in 2016 and 2017.

In addition to increased funding and expanded preschool programs, K-12 education saw several meaningful, bipartisan education reforms in 2015. Critical

improvements were made to teacher licensure to help districts hire teachers with out-of-state licenses, an issue particularly problematic in Greater Minnesota and border communities where teachers often have licenses from other states. The bill also increased school districts' ability to use local experts by exempting part-time vocational or career and technical instructors from certain licensure requirements. Testing was once again a hot topic due to calls to reduce student testing. The Legislature ultimately crafted a proposal to streamline testing by reducing the number of state-required tests, making the ACT optional, and limiting the time districts can otherwise spend on student testing.

**K-12 BUDGET PROPOSALS**  
Final=Total new spending of \$400 million



## HF 2 – House Vote

### Teacher Licensure

**WE SUPPORTED | BILL PASSED**

Early in session, the House of Representatives moved an education policy bill that contained important reforms to K-12 education. Chief authored by Representative Jenifer Loon (R - Eden Prairie), HF 2 included improvements to teacher licensure to help districts recruit and hire the best teachers as well as measures to reform teacher tenure by incorporating teacher evaluations into districts' hiring decisions. While the bill passed in the House, it was not taken up and voted on by the Senate. However, numerous policy provisions from HF 2, such as teacher licensure reforms, resurfaced in the K-12 education omnibus bill discussed in the previous section.



## HEALTH CARE

One in five businesses responding to the 2014 Minnesota Chamber Business Barometer Survey said rising health care costs are one of the biggest barriers to job creation. The Minnesota Chamber's priorities for 2015 were to contain health insurance costs for employers and their employees, and to provide employers with greater flexibility in providing health insurance for employees.

## SF 1458 – Senate Vote

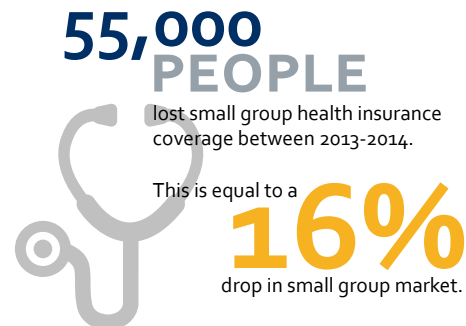
### Omnibus Health and Human Services Appropriations Bill

**WE OPPOSED | BILL PASSED**

SF 1458, authored by Senator Tony Lourey, DFL-Kerrick, contained three provisions that would have significantly increased the cost of health insurance for Minnesota employers. We defeated proposals that would have:

- Eliminated the use of negotiated pharmacy networks to help control the cost of prescription drugs.
- Greatly restricted health insurers' ability to require prior authorization and review of prescribed drugs.
- Mandated that health insurers pay an additional fee to health care facilities that use telemedicine – on top of the standard insurance payment for telemedicine services.

While these provisions passed the Senate as part of SF 1458, none was included in the final compromise and signed into law by the Governor.



## HF 294 – House Vote

### Health Plan Contracts and Stop Loss Insurance

**WE SUPPORTED | BILL PASSED**

Health care coverage is a valuable and important employment benefit. More than 40,000 businesses in Minnesota have 50 employees or fewer and offer health insurance. However, many small businesses are seeing annual, double-digit increases in their health insurance costs – some as high as 40%. As a result, many employers are deciding that traditional small group health insurance is no longer a sustainable option for providing coverage to their employees. In 2014 alone, Minnesota saw participation in the fully insured small group health insurance market fall by 16%. As state and federal policies continually add fees, mandates and costs to health insurance, small and midsized businesses in the fully insured market bear the brunt of these increases. Current law in Minnesota regarding stop-loss insurance makes it difficult for these employers to self-insure

rather than purchase group health insurance. HF 294 would make it easier to use stop-loss insurance to self-insure, giving employers access to more tools to address rising costs and maintain coverage for employees.

HF 294 passed the House with broad, bipartisan support. Senate leaders unfortunately did not bring the bill to a floor vote – despite unanimous support in the Senate Commerce Committee. Chief authors were Representative Bob Loonan, R-Shakopee, and Senator Vicki Jensen, DFL-Owatonna. We will push for Senate passage in 2016.

## TRANSPORTATION

The Minnesota Chamber advocated for a 10-year, comprehensive transportation funding package both to maintain our current system and to provide strategic enhancements. Given recent increases in the fuel tax, significant increases in tax burdens on Minnesota businesses, and the approximately \$2 billion budget surplus, we advocated for increased investments without tax increases. We argued it was time to broaden the base of financial support for transportation through increased efficiencies, value capture funding mechanisms where appropriate, and support from the state’s general fund.

Both Democrats and Republicans supported long-term funding packages for the state’s roads, bridges and transit systems of at least \$7 billion over 10 years. But they disagreed on how it should be funded. Governor Dayton and Senate Democrats insisted on increasing the fuel tax, metro area sales tax and tab fees to fund investments. House and Senate Republicans proposed dedicating existing sales taxes and bonding. Without agreement on funding, the debate will be carried over to 2016.

### HF 4 – House Vote

#### Omnibus Transportation Policy and Finance Bill

**WE SUPPORTED | BILL PASSED**

The House version of HF 4, authored by Representative Tim Kelly, R-Red Wing, provided approximately \$7 billion in additional investment over the next 10 years to fund our state’s transportation system – transit, roads and bridges. Investment components included:

- Dedicated approximately \$300 million per year in transportation-related sales-tax revenues to transportation.
- Tapped \$228 million from the budget surplus.
- Required Minnesota Department of Transportation to reprioritize its spending and find efficiencies in its operations, resulting in approximately \$1.2 billion.
- Authorized \$1.3 billion in trunk highway bonds and \$1 billion in general obligation bonds to support maintenance and build-out of our transportation infrastructure.

### HF 4 – Senate Vote

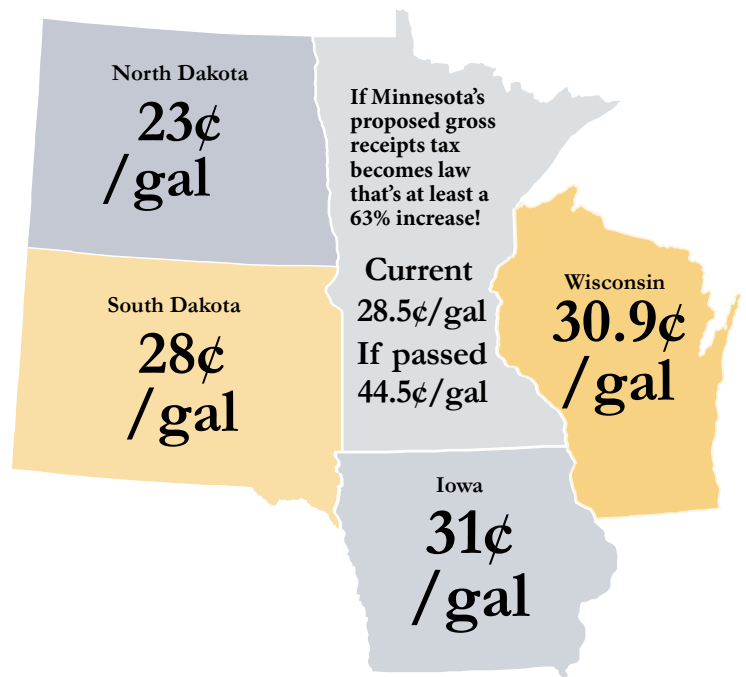
#### Omnibus Transportation Policy and Finance Bill

**WE OPPOSED | BILL PASSED**

The Senate’s version of HF 4, authored by Senator Scott Dibble, DFL-Minneapolis, would add approximately \$11 billion to our transportation system over the next 10 years through:

- A new gross receipts tax on fuel starting at 16 cents per gallon and increasing with the price of fuel.
- Increases in vehicle registration fees and a three-quarter cent increase in the metro area sales tax for transit.
- \$1 billion in trunk highway bonds to support the build-out of infrastructure.

## Gas Tax Rates by State



Major initiatives like significant transportation funding agreements often take more than one session to craft. We remain optimistic that the Legislature will find a compromise on funding needed investments. We will continue to bring policy solutions to the table that both the House and Senate can support.



## ENVIRONMENTAL PERMITTING AND REGULATION

Minnesota businesses have expressed frustration about the time and cost required to process environmental review documents and environmental permits. The Minnesota Chamber's goal is for the state's permitting system to be the best in the nation, ensuring a rigorous and efficient process that protects the environment while facilitating economic growth.

### HF 846 – House and Senate Votes

Omnibus Environment Bill Conference Committee Report  
**WE SUPPORTED | BILL VETOED**

The omnibus agriculture, environment and natural resources finance bill contained a number of policies important to the Chamber: funding for avian influenza impacts; addressing concerns about water quality standards for wild rice waters; funding for the Clean Air Minnesota program to ensure compliance with air quality regulations; and changes to the Wetlands Conservation Act. Chief authors of the bill were Representative Denny McNamara, R-Hastings, and Senator David Tomassoni, DFL-Chisholm.

An outbreak of avian influenza led the Legislature to ensure compensation for turkey farmers and provide additional funding for research to prevent the spread of the disease. Minnesota leads the nation in turkey production and this appropriation was crucial for these employers.

The bill will also require state regulatory agencies to allow publicly funded and independent research and analysis to be completed before establishing an effluent standard for wild rice and affected waters where the rice is grown. This provision allows municipalities and businesses to have certainty regarding the standard before design and capital investments are made.

The bill also contained funding for the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA), in coordination

with Environmental Initiative, through their Clean Air Minnesota program, to ensure voluntary compliance with any new air quality standards established by the Environmental Protection Agency for ozone.

Changes to the Wetlands Conservation Act will allow flexibility for businesses and counties to meet requirements to replace any wetlands disturbed during an economic development or transportation project.

The controversy that ultimately led to a veto by Governor Dayton centered on the elimination of the MPCA citizens board. The MPCA was the only regulatory agency in state government with a citizens board. All environmental permits and review decisions will still be required to go through a thorough review by staff and ultimately will be approved or denied by the MPCA commissioner. It is estimated that the elimination of the board could shorten the permitting and review process by 45-60 days.

### SF 5 – House and Senate Vote, Special Session

Omnibus Agriculture, Environment and Natural Resources Bill

**WE SUPPORTED | BILL PASSED**

SF 5 (McNamara/Tomassoni) in the special session addressed a number of concerns articulated by Governor Dayton in his veto message. Specifically, the Governor requested more funding for repayment of landfill cleanup funds and for the Environmental Quality Board; and changes to voluntary reporting of minor PCA permit violations to allow for delayed enforcement. The final bill approved by the Legislature and signed by the Governor eliminated the PCA Board, allowed flexibility in Wetlands replacement, funded avian flu research, ensured certainty in wild rice sulfate standards and contained funding for voluntary measures to meet ozone standards. All of these provisions were supported by the Chamber and were contained in the regular session bill.



## ENERGY

Businesses identify affordable and reliable electricity as key factors in their ability to expand in Minnesota during the next decade. The Minnesota Chamber's legislative initiatives focused on making sure that Minnesota electric rates are fair, predictable and competitive.



## HF 843 – House Vote

### Economic Development and Energy Bill

#### WE SUPPORTED | BILL PASSED

As noted in the 2014 Minnesota Business Barometer Survey, one in three respondents stated electricity prices in Minnesota have become less affordable during the past few years. Information from the U.S. Energy Information Administration supports this belief. In 1990, Minnesota's industrial electric rates were ranked 15th out of 50 states. In 2013, the most recently published data, Minnesota ranked 32nd for industrial electric utility rates. In 1990, Minnesota ranked 12th for commercial electric utility rates and in 2013 ranked 24th. This precipitous drop in competitiveness, which is forecasted to continue, is problematic for all customers; especially energy-intensive trade-exposed industries.



Ben Gerber, Minnesota Chamber manager of energy and labor/management policies, testifies on behalf of members.

We supported the goal of HF 843 authored by Representative Pat Garofalo, R-Farmington, which supported moving Minnesota toward a cleaner, more cost competitive energy system. Governor Dayton vetoed the bill in regular session.

As scored the bill:

- Creates an advisory taskforce of stakeholders to review and provide recommendations to make the Conservation Improvement Program work better for ratepayers.
- Allows new hydroelectric facilities greater than 100 megawatts that go online after January 1, 2015, to count toward the state renewable energy goal.
- Allows utilities to meet the 1.5% solar energy standard with any other eligible renewable energy technology if they can do so at a lower cost. Also strikes the expensive requirement that 10% of the solar energy standard be met by projects less than 20 kilowatts in size.

- Sets the rate for net-metered distributed generation facilities at avoided cost.
- Removes the language in the greenhouse gas emissions statute that was determined by a federal Judge to violate the dormant commerce clause. This will save the state significant future litigation costs.
- Requires the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency to get legislative approval before it submits its plan to comply with the federal Clean Power Plan regulation.

While the Minnesota Chamber did not score the vote on the special session bill, a number of important provisions that were carried over from the regular session omnibus employment, economic development and energy bill are worth highlighting. A specific change in the special session bill allowed certain energy intensive trade exposed industries served by Minnesota Power or Otter Tail Power to seek a more competitive rate from their utility as long as it was deemed approved by the Public Utilities Commission. This will provide a tool for certain larger businesses served by Minnesota Power and Otter Tail Power whose energy costs are a significant portion of their total costs of production to cope with Minnesota's industrial rates. We were pleased to make progress on reducing costs, but were disappointed that the provision does not apply statewide and to all energy intensive trade exposed industries.



## LABOR/WORKPLACE MANDATES

### HF 843 – House Vote

#### Omnibus Employment, Economic Development and Energy Bill, A101 Amendment

#### WE OPPOSED | AMENDMENT FAILED

Representative Ryan Winkler, DFL-Golden Valley, sought to remove a provision in the bill that requires wage and benefit mandates to be uniform across the state. An employment landscape with differing regional or local workplace requirements hinders employers' flexibility to deal with individual employee circumstances and may ignore the distinctive realities of their particular industry. The Minnesota Chamber will continue to advocate for local preemption of wage mandates in the 2016 session.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR EFFORTS!



Christopher Masciantonio (left) and Larry Sutherland, U.S. Steel, testify at the State Capitol.



House Speaker Kurt Daudt and Bill Blazar visit Wyoming Machine.



Steve Wise (left), president of Cass Screw Machine Products, Brooklyn Center, leads legislators on a tour of his facility – Representatives Sarah Anderson, R-Plymouth; Jenifer Loon, R-Eden Prairie; Lyndon Carlson, DFL-Crystal; Paul Rosenthal, DFL-Edina; Ron Erhardt, DFL-Edina.

**ENERGIZE OUR GRASSROOTS**  
Help us advance your priorities.  
**Your voice makes a difference.**

**Contact Jennifer Byers**  
651.292.4673 | [jbayers@mnchamber.com](mailto:jbayers@mnchamber.com)



Kwik Trip employees participate in Business Day at the Capitol.

<b>KEY</b> + Voted with the Minnesota Chamber's position - Voted against the Minnesota Chamber's position NV - No vote													
Official	Party	District	HF 2193: Workers' Compensation Advisory Council Recommendations	HF 848: Omnibus Tax Bill	SF 5: Omnibus Higher Education Bill Conference Committee Report	HF 844: Omnibus K-12 Bill Conference Committee Report	HF 2: Teacher Licensure and Employment Conditions Clarified	HF 294: Health Plan Contracts and Stop Loss Coverage Regulated	HF 4: Omnibus Transportation Policy and Finance Bill	HF 846: Omnibus Environment Bill Conference Committee Report	SF 5: Omnibus Agriculture, Environment and Natural Resources (Special Session)	HF 843: Omnibus Employment, Economic Development, and Energy Bill	HF 843: Omnibus Employment, Economic Development, and Energy Bill, A101 Amendment
Tony Albright	R	55B	+	NV	+	+	+	NV	+	+	+	+	+
Susan Allen	DFL	62B	NV	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mark Anderson	R	9A	+	+	+	+	+	NV	+	+	NV	+	+
Paul Anderson	R	12B	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Sarah Anderson	R	44A	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	NV	+	+
Tom Anzelc	DFL	5B	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	-	-
Jon Applebaum	DFL	44B	+	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	NV	-	-
Joe Atkins	DFL	52B	+	-	-	NV	-	+	-	NV	-	NV	NV
Jeff Backer	R	12A	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Dave Baker	R	17B	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Bob Barrett	R	32B	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Peggy Bennett	R	27A	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Connie Bernardy	DFL	41A	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
David Bly	DFL	20B	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lyndon Carlson Sr.	DFL	45A	+	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-
Drew Christensen	R	56A	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Karen Clark	DFL	62A	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Jack Considine	DFL	19B	+	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-
Tony Cornish	R	23B	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+
Brian Daniels	R	24B	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Kurt Daudt	R	31A	NV	+	NV	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Greg Davids	R	28B	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Jim Davnie	DFL	63A	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Matt Dean	R	38B	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Raymond Dehn	DFL	59B	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	NV	-	-
Bob Dettmer	R	39A	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
David Dill	DFL	3A	+	-	-	NV	-	NV	NV	+	+	NV	NV
Steve Drazkowski	R	21B	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	NV	+	+
Ron Erhardt	DFL	49A	+	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	-	-
Sondra Erickson	R	15A	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Dan Fabian	R	1A	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Kelly Fenton	R	53B	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Peter Fischer	DFL	43A	+	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	-	-
Mary Franson	R	8B	NV	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Mike Freiberg	DFL	45B	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pat Garofalo	R	58B	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Steve Green	R	2B	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+

KEY													
+ Voted with the Minnesota Chamber's position													
- Voted against the Minnesota Chamber's position													
NV - No vote													
Official	Party	District	HF 2193: Workers' Compensation Advisory Council Recommendations	HF 848: Omnibus Tax Bill	SF 5: Omnibus Higher Education Bill Conference Committee Report	HF 844: Omnibus K-12 Bill Conference Committee Report	HF 2: Teacher Licensure and Employment Conditions Clarified	HF 294: Health Plan Contracts and Stop Loss Coverage Regulated	HF 4: Omnibus Transportation Policy and Finance Bill	HF 846: Omnibus Environment Bill Conference Committee Report	SF 5: Omnibus Agriculture, Environment and Natural Resources (Special Session)	HF 843: Omnibus Employment, Economic Development, and Energy Bill	HF 843: Omnibus Employment, Economic Development, and Energy Bill, A101 Amendment
Glenn Gruenhagen	R	18B	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Bob Gunther	R	23A	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Tom Hackbarth	R	31B	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+
Laurie Halverson	DFL	51B	+	-	-	-	-	-	NV	-	-	NV	NV
Rod Hamilton	R	22B	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
David Hancock	R	2A	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Rick Hansen	DFL	52A	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Alice Hausman	DFL	66A	NV	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Josh Heintzeman	R	10A	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Jerry Hertaus	R	33A	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Debra Hilstrom	DFL	40B	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Joe Hoppe	R	47B	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Frank Hornstein	DFL	61A	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Melissa Hortman	DFL	36B	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	NV	-	-
Jeff Howe	R	13A	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Jason Isaacson	DFL	42B	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Brian Johnson	R	32A	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Clark Johnson	DFL	19A	+	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-
Sheldon Johnson	DFL	67B	+	-	-	-	-	+	+	-	-	-	-
Phyllis Kahn	DFL	60B	+	NV	NV	NV	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tim Kelly	R	21A	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Debra Kiel	R	1B	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Jim Knoblach	R	14B	+	+	+	NV	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Jon Koznick	R	58A	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Ron Kresha	R	9B	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Carolyn Laine	DFL	41B	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ann Lenczewski	DFL	50B	+	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
John Lesch	DFL	66B	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tina Liebling	DFL	26A	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ben Lien	DFL	4A	+	-	-	-	-	+	-	+	+	-	-
Leon Lillie	DFL	43B	+	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-
Diane Loeffler	DFL	60A	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Kathy Lohmer	R	39B	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Jenifer Loon	R	48B	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Bob Loonan	R	55A	+	+	NV	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Eric Lucero	R	30B	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Dale Lueck	R	10B	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+

<b>KEY</b>													
+ Voted with the Minnesota Chamber's position													
- Voted against the Minnesota Chamber's position													
NV - No vote													
Official	Party	District	HF 2193: Workers' Compensation Advisory Council Recommendations	HF 848: Omnibus Tax Bill	SF 5: Omnibus Higher Education Bill Conference Committee Report	HF 844: Omnibus K-12 Bill Conference Committee Report	HF 2: Teacher Licensure and Employment Conditions Clarified	HF 294: Health Plan Contracts and Stop Loss Coverage Regulated	HF 4: Omnibus Transportation Policy and Finance Bill	HF 846: Omnibus Environment Bill Conference Committee Report	SF 5: Omnibus Agriculture, Environment and Natural Resources (Special Session)	HF 843: Omnibus Employment, Economic Development, and Energy Bill	HF 843: Omnibus Employment, Economic Development, and Energy Bill, A101 Amendment
Tara Mack	R	57A	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	NV	+	+
Tim Mahoney	DFL	67A	+	-	-	-	-	+	+	-	-	-	-
Carlos Mariani	DFL	65B	+	-	-	-	-	NV	-	-	-	-	-
Paul Marquart	DFL	4B	+	-	-	-	-	+	-	+	+	-	-
Sandra Masin	DFL	51A	+	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-
Joe McDonald	R	29A	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Denny McNamara	R	54B	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Carly Melin	DFL	6A	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	-	-
Jason Metsa	DFL	6B	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	-	-
Tim Miller	R	17A	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+
Rena Moran	DFL	65A	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Joe Mullery	DFL	59A	+	-	NV	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Erin Murphy	DFL	64A	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mary Murphy	DFL	3B	+	-	+	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-
Jim Nash	R	47A	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Michael Nelson	DFL	40A	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Jim Newberger	R	15B	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Jerry Newton	DFL	37A	+	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-
Bud Nornes	R	8A	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Kim Norton	DFL	25B	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
Tim O'Driscoll	R	13B	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Marion O'Neill	R	29B	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Gene Pelowski Jr.	DFL	28A	+	+	-	-	-	+	-	+	+	-	+
Joyce Peppin	R	34A	NV	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
John Persell	DFL	5A	+	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	NV	NV
John Petersburg	R	24A	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Roz Peterson	R	56B	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Nels Pierson	R	26B	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Dave Pinto	DFL	64B	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Jeanne Poppe	DFL	27B	+	-	-	-	-	+	-	+	+	-	-
Cindy Pugh	R	33B	NV	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Duane Quam	R	25A	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Jason Rarick	R	11B	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Paul Rosenthal	DFL	49B	+	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-
Linda Runbeck	R	38A	+	+	+	+	NV	+	+	+	+	+	+
Tim Sanders	R	37B	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Dan Schoen	DFL	54A	+	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-

<b>KEY</b> + Voted with the Minnesota Chamber's position - Voted against the Minnesota Chamber's position NV - No vote													
Official	Party	District	HF 2193: Workers' Compensation Advisory Council Recommendations	HF 848: Omnibus Tax Bill	SF 5: Omnibus Higher Education Bill Conference Committee Report	HF 844: Omnibus K-12 Bill Conference Committee Report	HF 2: Teacher Licensure and Employment Conditions Clarified	HF 294: Health Plan Contracts and Stop Loss Coverage Regulated	HF 4: Omnibus Transportation Policy and Finance Bill	HF 846: Omnibus Environment Bill Conference Committee Report	SF 5: Omnibus Agriculture, Environment and Natural Resources (Special Session)	HF 843: Omnibus Employment, Economic Development, and Energy Bill	HF 843: Omnibus Employment, Economic Development, and Energy Bill, A101 Amendment
Joe Schomacker	R	22A	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Jennifer Schultz	DFL	7A	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Peggy Scott	R	35B	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Yvonne Selcer	DFL	48A	+	-	-	-	-	+	+	-	-	-	-
Erik Simonson	DFL	7B	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Linda Slocum	DFL	50A	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dennis Smith	R	34B	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Mike Sundin	DFL	11A	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	NV	-	-
Chris Swedzinski	R	16A	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Tama Theis	R	14A	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Paul Thissen	DFL	61B	+	+	NV	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Paul Torkelson	R	16B	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Mark Uglem	R	36A	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Dean Urdahl	R	18A	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Bob Vogel	R	20A	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Jean Wagenius	DFL	63B	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
JoAnn Ward	DFL	53A	+	-	-	-	-	NV	-	-	-	NV	NV
Abigail Whelan	R	35A	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Anna Wills	R	57B	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Ryan Winkler	DFL	46A	NV	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Barb Yarusso	DFL	42A	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cheryl Youakim	DFL	46B	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	NV	-	-
Nick Zerwas	R	30A	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+

KEY										
+ Voted with the Minnesota Chamber's position										
- Voted against the Minnesota Chamber's position										
NV - No vote										
Official	Party	District	HF 2193: Workers' Compensation Advisory Council Recommendations	HF 848: Omnibus Tax Bill, A17 Amendment	SF 5: Omnibus Higher Education Bill Conference Committee Report	HF 844: Omnibus K-12 Bill Conference Committee Report	SF 1458: Omnibus Health and Human Services Appropriations Bill	HF4: Omnibus Transportation Policy and Finance Bill	HF 846: Omnibus Environment Bill Conference Committee Report	SF 5: Omnibus Agriculture, Environment and Natural Resources (Special Session)
Bruce Anderson	R	29	+	+	-	+	+	NV	+	+
Thomas Bakk	DFL	3	+	-	+	+	-	-	+	-
Michelle Benson	R	31	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+
Terri Bonoff	DFL	44	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	+
David Brown	R	15	+	+	NV	NV	+	NV	NV	+
Jim Carlson	DFL	51	+	-	+	+	-	-	-	-
Roger Chamberlain	R	38	+	+	-	-	NV	+	+	+
Bobby Joe Champion	DFL	59	+	NV	+	-	-	-	-	-
Greg Clausen	DFL	57	+	-	+	+	-	-	-	-
Richard Cohen	DFL	64	+	-	+	+	-	-	-	-
Kevin Dahle	DFL	20	+	-	+	+	-	-	-	-
Gary Dahms	R	16	+	+	+	+	+	NV	+	+
Scott Dibble	DFL	61	+	-	+	+	-	-	-	-
Kari Dziedzic	DFL	60	+	-	-	+	-	-	-	-
Chris Eaton	DFL	40	+	-	+	-	-	-	-	-
Kent Eken	DFL	4	+	-	+	+	-	-	+	+
Michelle Fischbach	R	13	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Melisa Franzen	DFL	49	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	-
Paul Gazelka	R	9	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Barb Goodwin	DFL	41	+	-	+	+	NV	NV	-	-
Dan Hall	R	56	+	+	NV	-	+	+	+	+
David Hann	R	48	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+
Foung Hawj	DFL	67	+	-	+	+	-	-	-	-
Jeff Hayden	DFL	62	+	-	+	+	-	-	-	-
John Hoffman	DFL	36	+	-	+	+	-	+	-	+
Karin Housley	R	39	+	+	+	+	+	+	NV	+
Bill Ingebrigtsen	R	8	+	+	+	+	NV	+	-	+
Vicki Jensen	DFL	24	+	+	+	+	-	-	+	+

KEY											
+ Voted with the Minnesota Chamber's position											
- Voted against the Minnesota Chamber's position											
NV - No vote											
Official	Party	District	HF 2193: Workers' Compensation Advisory Council Recommendations	HF 848: Omnibus Tax Bill, A17 Amendment	SF 5: Omnibus Higher Education Bill Conference Committee Report	HF 844: Omnibus K-12 Bill Conference Committee Report	SF 1458: Omnibus Health and Human Services Appropriations Bill	HF4: Omnibus Transportation Policy and Finance Bill	HF 846: Omnibus Environment Bill Conference Committee Report	SF 5: Omnibus Agriculture, Environment and Natural Resources (Special Session)	
Alice Johnson	DFL	37	+	-	+	+	-	-	-	+	
Susan Kent	DFL	53	+	-	+	+	-	-	-	-	
Mary Kiffmeyer	R	30	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	
Lyle Koenen	DFL	17	+	-	+	+	-	-	+	+	
Ron Latz	DFL	46	+	-	+	+	-	-	-	-	
Warren Limmer	R	34	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	
Tony Lourey	DFL	11	+	-	+	+	-	-	-	-	
John Marty	DFL	66	+	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	
James Metzen	DFL	52	+	-	+	+	-	-	+	-	
Jeremy Miller	R	28	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	
Carla Nelson	R	26	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	
Scott Newman	R	18	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	
Sean Nienow	R	32	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	
Julianne Ortman	R	47	+	+	+	+	+	+	NV	+	
David Osmek	R	33	+	+	-	-	+	+	+	+	
Sandra Pappas	DFL	65	+	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	
John Pederson	R	14	+	+	+	+	NV	+	+	+	
Branden Petersen	R	35	+	+	-	-	+	+	+	+	
Eric Pratt	R	55	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	
Patricia Torres Ray	DFL	63	+	-	-	-	NV	-	-	-	
Roger Reinert	DFL	7	+	-	+	+	-	-	-	-	
Ann Rest	DFL	45	+	-	+	+	-	-	-	-	
Julie Rosen	R	23	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	
Carrie Ruud	R	10	+	+	+	+	NV	+	+	+	
Tom Saxhaug	DFL	5	+	-	+	+	-	-	+	+	
Bev Scalze	DFL	42	+	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	
Matt Schmit	DFL	21	+	-	+	+	-	-	-	-	
David Senjem	R	25	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	



Official	Party	District	HF 2193: Workers' Compensation Advisory Council Recommendations	HF 848: Omnibus Tax Bill, A17 Amendment	SF 5: Omnibus Higher Education Bill Conference Committee Report	HF 844: Omnibus K-12 Bill Conference Committee Report	SF 1458: Omnibus Health and Human Services Appropriations Bill	HF4: Omnibus Transportation Policy and Finance Bill	HF 846: Omnibus Environment Bill Conference Committee Report	SF 5: Omnibus Agriculture, Environment and Natural Resources (Special Session)
<b>KEY</b> + Voted with the Minnesota Chamber's position - Voted against the Minnesota Chamber's position NV - No vote										
Kathy Sheran	DFL	19	+	-	+	+	-	-	-	-
Katie Sieben	DFL	54	+	-	+	-	-	-	-	-
Rod Skoe	DFL	2	+	-	+	+	-	-	+	+
Dan Sparks	DFL	27	+	-	+	+	-	+	+	+
LeRoy Stumpf	DFL	1	+	-	+	+	-	-	+	+
Dave Thompson	R	58	+	+	-	-	+	+	+	+
David Tomassoni	DFL	6	+	-	+	+	-	-	+	+
Bill Weber	R	22	+	+	+	+	NV	+	+	+
Torrey Westrom	R	12	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Charles Wiger	DFL	43	+	-	+	+	-	-	-	-
Melissa Wiklund	DFL	50	+	-	+	+	-	-	-	-

# Policy Staff

**BILL BLAZAR**

Interim President

651.292.4658 | [bblazar@mnchamber.com](mailto:bblazar@mnchamber.com)

**LAURA BORDELON**

Senior Vice President, Advocacy

651.292.4681 | [lbordelon@mnchamber.com](mailto:lbordelon@mnchamber.com)

**JENNIFER BYERS**

Vice President, Grassroots

651.292.4673 | [jbyers@mnchamber.com](mailto:jbyers@mnchamber.com)

**BEN GERBER**

Manager, Energy & Labor/Management Policy

651.292.4663 | [bgerber@mnchamber.com](mailto:bgerber@mnchamber.com)  
[@MCC\\_BGerber](#)

**BENTLEY GRAVES**

Director, Health & Transportation Policy

651.292.4682 | [bgraves@mnchamber.com](mailto:bgraves@mnchamber.com)  
[@MCC\\_BGraves](#)

**JOAN HARMON**

Public Policy Assistant

651.292.4695 | [jharmon@mnchamber.com](mailto:jharmon@mnchamber.com)

**BETH STRINDEN KADOUN**

Director, Tax & Fiscal Policy

651.292.4678 | [bkadoun@mnchamber.com](mailto:bkadoun@mnchamber.com)  
[@MCC\\_BKadoun](#)

**TONY KWILAS**

Director, Environmental Policy

651.292.4668 | [tkwilas@mnchamber.com](mailto:tkwilas@mnchamber.com)  
[@MCC\\_TKwilas](#)

**SARAH RADOSEVICH**

Policy Research Analyst

651.292.4660 | [sradosevich@mnchamber.com](mailto:sradosevich@mnchamber.com)  
[@MCC\\_SRadosevich](#)

651.292.4650 | [www.mnchamber.com](http://www.mnchamber.com)