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MICA WEEKLY LEGISLATIVE UPDATE, Issue No. 4

February 13, 2012

INTRODUCTION

Last week continued the confrontation between the Republican majority and the Governor. This time the conflict was over tort reform with the Governor vetoing the four bills encompassing that topic. MICA supported one of those bills, SF429, providing that attorney fees must bear some proportionality to the actual damages awarded.

The past week was also noteworthy in that yet another stadium-funding plan was presented by Ramsey County while Minneapolis struggled to close a funding gap and lack of support by a majority of the city council. The most recently designated funding source for the state's share, electronic pull-tabs, also ran into trouble with the charitable gambling industry demanding tax relief, reducing the potential yield of the expanded gaming.

LAST WEEK – (February 6 - 10, 2012)

TAXES

On Wednesday, the House Property and Local Taxes Division heard HF1914, increasing the homeowner and special property tax refund and phasing out the state commercial-industrial property tax. After a number of amendments surfaced throughout the day to pay for bill's costs in the current biennium, an amendment was adopted by the committee to pay for the bulk of the bill's costs through making reducing qualifying rent for purposes of computing the renters' credit to 15%, in exactly the same manner as was vetoed by the Governor last year. (The qualifying rent for the renters' credit was ultimately reduced to 17% during the special session.) MICA testified for the additional homeowner property tax relief in the bill as long as local governments would not be the intermediary between the

state and homeowner as was true under the old homestead credit, where the state under-funded the reimbursement for nine out of the ten years of the old credit's existence. MICA also indicated that it was hopeful a less controversial means of funding the bill that would allow it to pass muster with the Governor would be found.

On Thursday, HF539 that would expand the agricultural classification to parcels of less than 10 acres used for horse breeding farms, horse-training farms or horse boarding farms was heard in the House Agriculture and Rural Development Policy and Finance Committee. Current law already allows parcels of less than 10 acres used for the commercial boarding of horses, which may include related horse training and riding instruction, if the boarding is done on property that is also used for raising pasture to graze horses or raising or cultivating other agricultural products. The bill was tabled after a number of questions from committee members questioning the bill's intent when the bill's supporters testified it was not intended to expand the agricultural classification to property owners keeping horses for their recreational use.

Administrative Rules

The Senate Jobs Committee passed SF1631, placing a two-year moratorium on new administrative rules with certain exceptions.

PUBLIC SAFETY AND CORRECTIONS

On Thursday the Senate Judiciary and Public Safety Committee passed SF1371 to the floor which modifies the revisions relating to the disposal of contraband guns. In the past law enforcement agencies could either destroy the gun or use them for law enforcement purposes. This bill, authored by Sen. Paul Gazelka (R-Brainerd), would give the additional option to the law enforcement agency of selling the gun through a licensed gun dealer. At the same hearing the committee also took up a bill expanding the definition of gang activity to include the unlawful possession of a firearm. The bill (SF1123) was carried by former St. Paul Police Chief Sen. John Harrington.

Risk Managers

Last week the Senate quickly passed all four of the tort bills as they were passed out of the House and then sent them on to the governor. The governor wasted no time in vetoing all 4 of the tort bills on Friday of last week. These vetoes are adding to the growing contentious nature of this session. As a result, it is a pretty good bet there will be attempts to override the vetoes to embarrass the DFL, but it will likely not be a successful effort. One of the bills actually passed nearly unanimously in the Senate last year because it was a bill carried by the late DFL Sen. Linda Scheid who courageously lost her battle with cancer last year.

It is fair to say that these bills are essentially still in play in the legislative session. There's a good chance some of the tort reforms may be part of a final negotiation at the end of session, but it's a little early to tell if that is going to be the case. Certainly Dayton does not want to give much at this stage unless there is some sort of global agreement to end session.

The Omnibus Transportation Policy Bill in both the House and Senate includes a section that modifies commercial driver's license requirements for those seeking intrastate waivers from certain medical requirements. The proposed new law requires a waiver application to be denied for 3 years after the applicant has been convicted of driving on a suspended, canceled or revoked license. The bills have met their committee hurdles and will likely move quickly to floor action in the next couple weeks.

TRANSPORTATION

On Wednesday the House Transportation Committee heard HF1284 (Beard), the Omnibus Transportation Policy Bill. The bill is very similar to the Senate Omnibus Bill, which passed out of the Senate Transportation Committee last week. Both bills have the provision that exempts motorists from turn signal requirements when exiting roundabouts. The House bill includes a provision that provides a preference for veteran-owned business in construction projects and authorizes MnDOT to reinstate a targeted group business program for minority and women-owned companies. The repeal of the prohibition on planning for the proposed Dan Patch Corridor is not in either the House or Senate Omnibus Policy Bills. The bill passed the House Transportation Committee and was referred to the Government Operations and Elections Committee.

Also, on Wednesday the Senate Capital Investment Committee heard a presentation from the Department of Management and Budget on debt capacity. The House Capital Investment Committee heard bonding requests from the DNR.

On Thursday the Senate Transportation Committee heard SF1264 (Senjem), which modifies the formula for municipal state aid to cities to allow a handful of cities whose population fell below 5,000 in the 2010 census to continue to be eligible for state aid. The bill was laid over for further consideration. The committee also heard SF1126 (Dibble), which provides for veteran-owned business in construction projects and authorizes MnDOT to reinstate a targeted group business program for minority and women-owned companies. The bill was laid over for possible inclusion in a second Omnibus Policy Bill that will be taken up later in the session.

Also on Thursday Senator Gimse introduced SF1762, which authorizes $13.1M in bonding for the local road wetland restoration program.

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

It was a short week at the Legislature due to Tuesday's Precinct Caucuses. Action resumed on Wednesday.

On Wednesday, a number of reports were presented by the Departments of Health and Human Services to the House Health and Human Services Finance Committee as follows:

- The Department of Health discussed demographics relating to Alzheimer's Disease
- MDH gave an overview on Nursing Home Regulation Relief
- DHS and MDH addressed recommendations for alternative models of care for people in nursing homes
- DHS released the report of the Non-Emergency Medical Transportation Task Force. Recommendations include:

    - Creating an ongoing Advisory Committee
    - Eliminating the separate Access Transportation Services (ATS) and Special Transportation Services (STS) designations and establishing an assessment process that effectively matches the needs and resources of the person with the most appropriate, least restrictive form of non-emergency medical transportation
    - Establishing a more effective process for reporting, tracking and resolving complaints
    - Eliminating real and perceived conflicts of interest for transportation coordinators
    - Maximizing the use of public transportation
    - Establishing standardized measures to evaluate performance and cost-effectiveness

With less than two years before individuals and employers choose new coverage plans as directed by the Affordable Care Act, legislators are trying to wade through federal mechanics of mandated coverage and how new required services will impact health care costs. One step along the process is creating packages that include a list of 10 essential health benefits (EHBs). These EHBs must include:

- ambulatory patient services;
- emergency services;
- hospitalization;
- maternity and newborn care;
- mental health and substance abuse treatment;
- prescription drugs;
- habilitative and rehabilitative services and devices;
- laboratory services;
- preventive and wellness services, including chronic disease management; and
- pediatric care that includes oral and vision care.

On Wednesday, DHS Deputy Assistant Commissioner Dr. James Golden told the House HHS Reform Committee that Minnesota will be expected to adopt a "benchmark plan" that would serve as a "floor" for health care coverage. If a state chooses not to select one of four federal benchmark health plans, the state's benchmark plan will become the largest plan by enrollment in the largest product within the state's small group market.

Several Republican committee members were critical of the federal EHB process, which is proposed in a December 16, 2011, Essential Health Benefits Bulletin published by the Center for Consumer Information and Insurance Oversight.

On Thursday, a number of health care professionals and program recipients told the House Health and Human Services Finance Committee how last year's cuts have impacted their businesses and clients' lives. Testimony was given in three areas:

- 20 percent salary cuts to personal care attendants who are also family members of clients;
- closure of beds in corporate foster care facilities; and
- 10 percent reduction of services and reclassification for higher-functioning clients with lower critical needs.

It was noted that an individual staying in his or her home with the help of a PCA, whether family or not, saves the State money - as nursing homes and hospitals are a much more expensive form of medical care.

On Thursday, the full House passed HF1766 (Lohmer - R: Lake Elmo), a measure to block state child care funds from going toward union dues. The bill now goes over to the Senate where Majority Whip Ted Lillie (R: Lake Elmo) is its chief author.

THIS WEEK – (February 13 – February 17, 2012)

TAXES

On Tuesday, the House Government Operations and Elections Committee will hear HF1954, imposing new budget reporting requirements on counties and cities. Also on Tuesday, the House Tax Committee will hear HF1914, increasing the homeowner and special property tax refund and phasing out the state commercial-industrial property tax.

Human Resources

On Tuesday, the Legislative Commission on Pensions and Retirements will hear two bills reducing the interest assumptions for the statewide pension systems, which will increase funding requirements and thus needed contributions. On Wednesday, the House Government Operations and Elections committee will hear HF1974 , discontinuing public employee contract terms relating to wage and salary increases and insurance contribution rate increases after expiration of a collective bargaining agreement, and SF134, eliminating the age cap on the 100-day intern exemption to PELRA.

COMMITTEE HEARINGS

Administrative Rules

THURSDAY, February 16, 2012

8:15 AM
House State Government Finance
Room: 200 State Office Building
Chair: Rep. Morrie Lanning
Agenda: NOTE: Pending action on the following bills in the Government Operations Committee the following bills will be heard:
HF2169 (Beard) State agency rule review and reporting methods provided.
HFXXXX (Swedzinski) A bill relating to job creation; imposing a temporary moratorium on state agency rulemaking. (This HFxxxx will be introduced Monday 2/13 and its companion in Senate is SF1631)

Environment

TUESDAY, February 14, 2012

8:15 AM
House Environment, Energy and Natural Resources Policy and Finance
Room: 5 State Office Building
Chair: Rep. Denny McNamara
Agenda: HF2095 (Fabian) Environmental permitting efficiency provided, and environmental review requirements modified.
Presentation on school trust land management in other states.
Walk-through and public testimony on HF2095. An author's delete-everything amendment is being prepared for HF2095 and will be posted as soon as it is completed**.**

10:30 AM
Senate Committee on Jobs and Economic Growth
Room: 107 Capitol
Chair: Sen. Geoff Michel
Agenda: SF1567 (Ingebrigtsen) Environmental permits efficiency; environmental review modifications; conservation rate structure requirement elimination.
SF1599 (Daley) Permissive preference for veterans and spouses of veterans in private employment.
SF1689 (DeKruif) Veterans reemployment rights protections extension.

WEDNESDAY, February 15, 2012

8:15 AM
House Environment, Energy and Natural Resources Policy and Finance
Room: 5 State Office Building
Chair: Rep. Denny McNamara
Agenda: HF2095 (Fabian) Environmental permitting efficiency provided, and environmental review requirements modified.
HF2153 (McNamara) Agency prepayments authorized; apprentice riders provided; provisions modified relating to aquatic invasive species, local government trail authority, enforcement, bait, prior appropriations, La Salle Lake State Recreation Area administration, easements, lands withdrawn from sale, and lease provisions; reporting, plan, and meeting requirements eliminated; loan program eliminated; state parks, sate recreation areas, and state forests added to and deleted from; private sale of state lands authorized; and civil penalties provided.
HF1644 (Wagenius) Watercraft surcharge and aquatic plant management fees modified.

THURSDAY, February 16, 2012

12:30 PM
House Meeting Time Note: THE COMMITTEE MAY MEET AT AN EARLIER TIME
Jobs and Economic Development Finance
Room: 10 State Office Building
Chair: Rep. Bob Gunther
Agenda: HF2050 (Barrett) Taylors Falls; border city development powers establishment and exercise authorized, and money appropriated.
HF2093 (Sanders) Independent contractor employee classification clarified, and contractor registration pilot project provided.
HF2095 (Fabian) Environmental permitting efficiency provided, and environmental review requirements modified. -- Pending referral from Environment, Energy and Natural Resources Policy and Finance.

Taxes

TUESDAY, February 14, 2012

10:15 AM
House Government Operations and Elections
Room: 5 State Office Building
Chair: Rep. Joyce Peppin
Agenda: HF2169 (Beard) State agency rule review and reporting methods provided.
HF1954 (Downey) Counties and cities required to report additional budgetary information.
HF2003 (Woodard) Racing Commission and State Lottery operations allowed on an ongoing basis.
SF163 (Swedzinski) A bill relating to job creation; imposing a temporary moratorium on state agency rulemaking.

10:15 AM
House Taxes
Room: 200 State Office Building
Chair: Rep. Greg Davids
Agenda: HF1914 (Davids) Commercial-industrial properties first $100,000 in value exempted from the state general levy, commercial-industrial property state general levy phased out over 20 years, seasonal recreational property state general levy frozen, maximum homeowner property tax refunds increased, special property tax refund temporary increase provided, and money appropriated.
There will be a committee engrossment of this bill.

WEDNESDAY, February 15, 2012

8:15 AM
House Property and Local Tax Division
Room: 10 State Office Building
Chair: Rep. Linda Runbeck
Agenda: Presentation on the Study of the Metropolitan Area Fiscal Disparities Program - Department of Revenue and TischlerBise (consultant who conducted the study)

8:30 AM
Senate Committee on Taxes
Room: 15 Capitol
Chair: Sen. Julianne E. Ortman
Agenda: Property Tax Working Group update from Chair Kathleen Gaylord
School Finance Presentation from Eric Nauman, Senate Fiscal Analyst
(continuation of Feb. 1st committee hearing)

10:15 AM
House Taxes
Room: 200 State Office Building
Chair: Rep. Greg Davids
Agenda: Presentation on the Study of the Metropolitan Area Fiscal Disparities Program - Department of Revenue and TischlerBise (consultant who conducted the study)

THURSDAY, February 16, 2012

8:30 AM
Senate Committee on Taxes
Room: 15 Capitol
Chair: Sen. Julianne E. Ortman
Agenda: Presentation of Fiscal Disparities Program report

Human Resources

TUESDAY, February 14, 2012

5:00 PM
Legislative Commission on Pensions and Retirement
Room: 5 State Office Building
Chair: Rep. Morrie Lanning
Agenda: HF1507 (Banaian); SFxxxx: Interest rate actuarial assumption revisions.
HF2168 (Lanning); SFxxxx: Interest rate, salary scale, and payroll growth actuarial assumption revisions.
Options relating to the potential establishment of a hybrid retirement plan.

House State Government Finance
Room: 200 State Office Building
Chair: Rep. Morrie Lanning
Agenda: HF2033 (Downey) Equal Pay and Benefits Act proposed and new method for public employee compensation determination provided

WEDNESDAY, February 15, 2012

10:15 AM
House Government Operations and Elections
Room: 5 State Office Building
Chair: Rep. Joyce Peppin
Agenda: HF1974 (Drazkowski) Public employee contract terms discontinuance in effect provided after expiration of a collective bargaining agreement.
HF1975 (Drazkowski) State government outside contract restrictions removed.
HF1976 (Drazkowski) Federal E-Verify program use by state appointing authorities required.
SF134 (Beard) Public employee definition modified.

Elections

WEDNESDAY, February 15, 2012

1:00 PM
Senate Committee on Local Government and Elections
Room: 112 Capitol
Chair: Sen. Ray Vandeveer
Note: Public testimony was completed at a prior hearing of the committee. Committee members will discuss the bill and potential amendments before voting on the bill.
Agenda: SF1577 (Newman) Constitutional amendment for voter photographic identification (photo ID) requirement.

PUBLIC SAFETY AND CORRECTIONS

The Legislature is actually entering its first full week of committee hearings since the beginning of session. The prior 3 weeks have all had shortened schedules due to breaks and special meetings. The judiciary and public safety committees in both houses have full agendas for the week. There are no major bills affecting counties on the agenda, but a few of relevance. SF1747/HF1958 would modify the Department of Corrections' early release program known as "challenge incarceration". This is a modified boot camp program that allows prisoners to earn early release upon completion of the boot camp and agreement to participate in intensive supervision upon release. These bills would limit access to the program by denying it to those who have committed crimes that resulted in serious bodily injury or vehicular homicide. The bills would also not allow those with a serious mental illness from entering the program.

The bill expanding penalties for criminal neglect of vulnerable adults is back on the calendar in the Senate Judiciary and Public Safety Committee this coming Thursday after being held over in that committee last week. The House version (HF1945 – Gottwalt) will have its first hearing in the House in front of their Judiciary Committee also on Thursday.

The House Health and Human Services Reform Committee will be holding an informational hearing regarding the first potential supervised placement in a halfway house of a civilly committed sex offender from the Minnesota Sex Offender Program (MSOP). Several other states have been able to manage these placements without them becoming negatively politicized. Unfortunately, the House Speaker and Majority Leader did a press release last week questioning this action by MSOP. Minnesota has the highest per capita placements in this type of program and has yet been able to place a patient outside of their secured facilities. Given the fact that several other states have been able to make these placements, Minnesota could be unwittingly positioning itself for a federal lawsuit ruling that the operation of the program is unconstitutional if they are not able to figure out a way to start placing some of these individuals outside of the razor wire. Such a federal suit could have long-term negative fiscal impacts on counties.

COMMITTEE HEARINGS

TUESDAY, February 14, 2012

10:15 AM
House Public Safety and Crime Prevention Policy and Finance
Room: 10 State Office Building
Chair: Rep. Tony Cornish
Agenda: HF1956 (Anderson) Offenders possessing multiple welfare electronic benefit cards required to be reported by law enforcement departments to the commissioner of human services.
HF2160 (Cornish) Fingerprints permitted to be taken by law enforcement for any offender interacting with the criminal justice system for any offense to eliminate a suspense record.

1:00 PM
Senate Judiciary and Public Safety
Room: 15 Capitol
Chair: Sen. Warren Limmer
Agenda: SF1212 (Brown) Adult children of deceased person patient definition addition.
SF1747 (Limmer) Challenge incarceration program eligibility criteria modification.
SF1759 (Latz) Corrections department report on performance measures and targets elimination.

WEDNESDAY, February 15, 2012

10:15 AM
House Public Safety and Crime Prevention Policy and Finance
Room: 10 State Office Building
Chair: Rep. Tony Cornish
Agenda: Agenda to be determined.

2:30 PM
House Health and Human Services Reform
Room: 200 State Office Building
Chair: Rep. Steve Gottwalt
Agenda: Minnesota Sex Offender Program provisional discharge process review
Other items may be added to the agenda

THURSDAY, February 16, 2012

8:15 AM
House Judiciary Policy and Finance
Room: 10 State Office Building
Chair: Rep. Ron Shimanski
Agenda: HF1872 (Runbeck) Maximum fees repealed.
HF1938 (Cornish) Fugitive apprehension unit authorized to apply search warrants.
HF1945 (Gottwalt) Criminal neglect of vulnerable adult penalty modified

10:15 AM
House Public Safety and Crime Prevention Policy and Finance
Room: 10 State Office Building
Chair: Rep. Tony Cornish
Agenda: HF2149 (Simon) Domestic violence-related offense qualifying definition expanded.
HF1958 (Hilstrom) Challenge incarceration program selection criteria narrowed.
HF1959 (Hilstrom) Department of Corrections report on performance measures and targets eliminated.
HF1711 (Daudt) Forensic Laboratory Advisory Board provisions modified.

1:00 PM
Senate Judiciary and Public Safety
Room: 15 Capitol
Chair: Sen. Warren Limmer
Agenda: SF1586 (Limmer) Criminal neglect of vulnerable adults penalties modifications.
SF1161 (Hall) Marriage dissolution education program participation requirement for couples with Children

TRANSPORTATION

On Monday the House Transportation will hear HF1971 (Beard), which provides for contingency appropriations for highways in the event of a future state government shutdown. MnDOT will present their biennial expenditures report and give an update on the contractor claims process. The committee will also have an informational hearing on the Transportation Economic Development Fund bonding proposal. The Senate Capital Investment Committee will hear a presentation on debt capacity from Department of Management and Budget.

On Tuesday the Senate Jobs and Economic Growth Committee will hear SF1567 (Ingebrigtsen), which makes further modifications to legislation passed in 2011 regarding environmental permits and the environmental review process. The House companion bill HF2095 (Fabian) will be heard in the Environment, Energy and Natural Resources Committee.

Also on Tuesday, the Senate Transportation Committee will hear SF1731 (Stumpf), which raises the speed limit from 55 to 60 miles per hour and SF1530 (Gimse), which provides for contingency appropriations for highways in the event of a future state government shutdown.

On Wednesday the House Transportation Committee will hear HF518 (Leidiger). A delete everything amendment will be offered which among other provisions establishes a bridge inspection and signing account funded by fees for special overweight truck permits. The amendment also includes a provision directing several state agencies and local road authorities to make recommendations on how water related permitting for transportation projects can best be streamlined through creation of a single-point of issuance system.

On Thursday the Senate Finance will hear SF1072 (Gimse), the Omnibus Transportation Policy Bill.

COMMITTEE HEARINGS

MONDAY, February 13, 2012

12:30 PM
Transportation Policy and Finance
Room: 5 State Office Building
Chair: Rep. Michael Beard
Bill(s) Added:
Agenda: HF39 (Norton) Highway 14 designated as Black and Yellow Trail.
HF1971 (Beard) Highways contingent appropriations provided. Department of Transportation (MnDOT) presentation of the biennial expenditures report. Update from MnDOT on contractor claims process. Informational hearing on Transportation Economic Development Fund bonding proposal.

3:00 PM
Committee on Capital Investment
Room: 123 Capitol
Chair: Sen. David H. Senjem
Agenda: MMB discussion on bonding and debt capacity.

TUESDAY, February 14, 2012

8:15 AM
Environment, Energy and Natural Resources Policy and Finance
Room: 5 State Office Building
Chair: Rep. Denny McNamara
Agenda: HF2095 (Fabian) Environmental permitting efficiency provided, and environmental review requirements modified. Presentation on school trust land management in other states. Walk-through and public testimony on HF2095. An author's delete-everything amendment is being prepared for HF2095 and will be posted as soon as it is completed. To testify on the bill, please contact Amy Zipko at 651-296-1774 as soon as possible.

10:30 AM
Committee on Jobs and Economic Growth
Room: 107 Capitol
Chair: Sen. Geoff Michel
Agenda: SF1567 (Ingebrigtsen) Environmental permits efficiency; environmental review modifications; conservation rate structure requirement elimination.

1:00 PM
Committee on Transportation
Room: 123 Capitol
Chair: Sen. Joe Gimse
Agenda: SF1731 (Stumpf) Speed limit increase from 55 to 60 mile per hour.
SF1530 (Gimse) Contingent appropriation for highways authorization.

WEDNESDAY, February 15, 2012

12:30 PM
Transportation Policy and Finance
Room: Basement State Office Building
Chair: Rep. Michael Beard
Agenda: HF518 (Leidiger) Commissioner of Transportation rule adoption authority limited for county state-aid roads and municipal state-aid streets, and complete streets policy promotion for local road authorities provision abolished.
Meeting Documents: Author's delete-all amendment to HF518.

THURSDAY, February 16, 2012

8:30 AM
Committee on Finance
Room: 123 Capitol
Chair: Sen. Claire A. Robling
Agenda: SF1072 (Gimse) Miscellaneous transportation provisions.

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

After a couple of abbreviated weeks, the legislative pace will pick up dramatically this week.

On Monday, the Senate Health and Human Services Committee will hear from the Departments of Health and Human Services regarding a number of Federal grant requests.

On Tuesday, the House Public Safety and Crime Prevention Policy and Finance Committee will address HF1956 (S. Anderson - R: Plymouth). Under the proposal, law enforcement will be required to report offenders who possess multiple EBT cards to DHS.

Also on Tuesday, two bills relating to Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT) cards will be heard in the Senate Health and Human Services Committee.

The House Health and Human Services Finance and Reform Committees will hold a joint hearing to discuss transparency as it relates to HMOs on Tuesday.

On Wednesday, the House HHS Reform Committee will review the Minnesota Sex Offender Program (MSOP) provisional discharge process. There was a fair amount of press last week upon the announcement of the first planned release of an individual from the MSOP program.

Also on Wednesday, the House HHS Finance Committee will review the recommendations of the Minnesota Health Insurance Exchange Task Force. DHS will also provide an update on waivers.

Finally, on Thursday, both the House and Senate Judiciary Committees will address increasing the penalty for the neglect of vulnerable adults.

COMMITTEE HEARINGS

MONDAY, February 13, 2011

1:00 PM
Senate Health and Human Services
Room: 15 Capitol
Chair: Sen. David W. Hann
Agenda: Federal Grant Request Reviews: Minn. Dept. of Health; Minn. Dept. of Human Services
HHS Bonding Requests, Minn. Dept. of Human Services

TUESDAY, February 14, 2011

10:15 AM
House Public Safety and Crime Prevention Policy and Finance
Room: 10 State Office Building
Chair: Rep. Tony Cornish
Agenda: HF1956 (Anderson) Offenders possessing multiple welfare electronic benefit cards required to be reported by law enforcement departments to the commissioner of human services.
HF2160 (Cornish) Fingerprints permitted to be taken by law enforcement for any offender interacting with the criminal justice system for any offense to eliminate a suspense record.

10:30 AM
Senate Health and Human Services
Room: 15 Capitol
Chair: Sen. David W. Hann
Agenda: SF1507 (Gazelka) Electronic benefit transfer (EBT) debit cards photo requirement; general assistance (GA) residency requirement.
SF1674 (Benson) Electronic benefit transfer (EBT) debit cards issuance requirements modification.

12:30 PM
Joint House Health and Human Services Finance and Reform
Room: 200 State Office Building
Chairs: Rep. Jim Abeler; Rep. Steve Gottwalt
Agenda: HMO Transparency

WEDNESDAY, February 15, 2011

10:30 AM
Senate Health and Human Services
Room: 15 Capitol
Chair: Sen. David W. Hann
Agenda: SF1675 (Benson) Children and family services modifications; adoption of children under guardianship of commissioner reform; newborn relinquishment provisions modifications; child maltreatment review panel repeal.
SF1679 (Hall) American Indian Advisory Council, alcohol and other drug abuse citizens advisory council, traumatic brain injury program advisory committee and American Indian Child Welfare Advisory Council expiration dates extension.

12:30 PM
Health and Human Services Finance
Room: 200 State Office Building
Chair: Rep. Jim Abeler
Agenda: Mayo and University of Minnesota Biotechnology & Genomics Presentation
MN Waiver Update from DHS
MN Health Insurance Exchange Advisory Task Force Recommendations

2:30 PM
House Health and Human Services Reform
Room: 200 State Office Building
Chair: Rep. Steve Gottwalt
Agenda: Minnesota Sex Offender Program Provisional Discharge Process Review
Other items may be added to the agenda

THURSDAY, February 16, 2011

8:15 AM
House Judiciary Policy and Finance
Room: 10 State Office Building
Chair: Rep. Ron Shimanski
Agenda: HF1872 (Runbeck) Maximum fees repealed.
HF1938 (Cornish) Fugitive apprehension unit authorized to apply search warrants.
HF1945 (Gottwalt) Criminal neglect of vulnerable adult penalty modified.

12:30 PM
House Health and Human Services Finance
Room: 200 State Office Building
Chair: Rep. Jim Abeler
Agenda: SF288 (Kelly) Dental laboratories regulated, and money appropriated.
HF2062 (Banaian) Family assets for independence program modified, and money appropriated.
HF1014 (Morrow) Medical assistance employed persons with disabilities program modified, asset limitation provisions changed, and money appropriated.
Other bills maybe added to the agenda.
If you wish to testify on any of the bills, email Christine Kiel at christine.kiel@house.mn

1:00 PM
Senate Judiciary and Public Safety
Room: 15 Capitol
Chair: Sen. Warren Limmer
Agenda: SF1586 (Limmer) Criminal neglect of vulnerable adults penalties modifications.
SF1161 (Hall) Marriage dissolution education program participation requirement for couples with children.

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