1985 REPORT on the MINNESOTA LEGISLATURE



by the
LEGISLATIVE EVALUATION ASSEMBLY
of MINNESOTA, INC.
for an
INFORMED CITIZENRY
1985



The Legislative Evaluation Assembly of Minnesota, Incorporated (LEA), is a non-profit, non-partisan corporation established to keep the citizens of Minnesota informed of both important legislation and the voting performance of each Representative and Senator in the Minnesota State Legislature. LEA bases its evaluations on the traditional American principles of constitutionalism, limited government, free enterprise, legal and moral order with justice, and individual liberty and dignity. LEA conducts its analysis and all its other activities solely with voluntary efforts and has no income other than from donations and the sale of its reports. Your donations and orders are needed to make it possible for LEA to continue its work. LEA encourages the usage of the material in this Report, in whole or in part, by any group or individual.



Sen. Bernhagen



Rep. Blatz



Rep. Boerboom



Rep. Dempsey



Rep. Den Ouden



Rep. Dimler



Rep. Dyke



Rep. Gruenes



Rep. Gutknecht



Rep. Haukoos



PERMIT



Sen. Kamrath



Rep. Kiffmeyer



Rep. Kvam



Rep. McPherson



Rep. Miller



Rep. Onnen



Rep. Peipho



Rep. Quist



Sen. Ramstad



Rep. Richter



Rep. Schafer



Sen. Taylor



Rep. Thiede



Rep. Tjornhom



Rep. Tompkins



Rep. Waltman



Rep. Valento

HIGHEST AVERAGE RATINGS EVER

LEA is pleased to present its evaluation of the 67 Senators and 134 Representatives for the 1985 Session. The overall individual average of 57% is the highest in the 14 years of LEA ratings. Senator Randy Kamrath (Canby) is the first Senator ever to achieve a perfect score from LEA. Other Senators with a 90% or better rating are John Bernhagen (Hutchinson), Doran Isackson (Storden), Jim Ramstad (Wayzata), and Glen Taylor (Mankato). Seven Representatives achieved 100% ratings - Jim Boerboom (Cottonwood), Gaylin Den Ouden (Prinsburg), Chuck Dimler (Chanhassen), Adolph Kvam (Litchfield), Howard Miller (Redwood Falls), Don Valento (Little Canada), and Bob Waltman (Elgin). Other Representatives scoring above 90% are:

Kathleen Blatz (Bloomington) Terry Dempsey (New Ulm) Carol Dyke (Worthington) David Gruenes (St. Cloud)

Gil Gutknecht (Rochester) Bob Haukoos (Albert Lea) Ralph Kiffmeyer (Big Lake) Harriet McPherson (Stillwater) Tony Onnen (Cokato) Mark Piepho (Mankato) Allen Quist (St. Peter) Don Richter (Wadena) Gary Schafer (Gibbon)
Paul Thiede (Pequot Lakes)
Chris Tjornhom (Richfield)
Eileen Tompkins (Apple Valley)

Whether or not you agree with LEA's stand on all the legislation rated herein, this report will be useful in questioning your Senator and Representative. If they have represented your wishes on these issues, thank them. But if you object to their vote on any of these bills, we suggest that you confront them with your views. Your expressed opinion will have an effect!

Bob Knudson LEA Chairman

HOUSE

DONTAROUSE															'85
30010300	1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.	8.	9.	10.	11.	12.	13.	14.	%
r ANDERSON, B. (Ottertail 10B)	Y*	Y*	Y	Y*	Y	Y*	N	Y*	Y*	N*	N*	Y	_	Y*	69
d ANDERSON, G. (Bellingham 20A)	_	N	Y	Y*	Y	N	Y*	Y*	Y*	Υ	Υ	N*		N	42
r BACKLUND, G. (Fridley 51A)	Y*	N	Y	Y*	Y	Y*	Y*	Y*	Y*	Y	N*	_	Y*	Y*	
d BATTAGLIA, D. (Two Harbors 6A)	N	N	Y	Y*	Y	Y*	Y*	Y*	N	Y	Y	Y	Y*	N	36
d BEARD, P. (Cottage Grove 56B)	N	N	Y	Y*	Y	N	Y*	Y*	N	Y	Y	Y	Y*	N	- 29
r BECKLIN, L. (Cambridge 19A)	Y*	Y*	Y	Y*	Y	Y*	Y*	Y*	Y*	N*	N*	Y	Y*	Y*	79
d BEGICH, J. (Eveleth 6B)	N	N	Y	Y*	Y	N	Y*	Y*	N	N*	Y	Y	Y*	N	36
r BENNETT, T. (Shoreview 53A)	Y*	Y*	Y	Y*	N*	Y*	_	Y*	Y*	Υ	N*	Y	Y*	Y*	77
r BISHOP, D. (Rochester 33B)	Y*	_	Y	Y*	Y	Y*	N	N	Y*	Y	N*	N*	Y*	Y*	62
r BLATZ, K. (Bloomington 41B)	Y*	Y*	N*	Y*	N*	Y*	Y*	Y*	Y*	N*	N*	Y	Y*	Y*	93
r BOERBOOM, J. (Cottonwood 27A)	Y*	Y*	N*	Y*	N*	Y*	Y*	Y*	Y*	N*	N*	N*	Y*	Y*	100
r BOO, B. (Duluth 8B)	Y*	Y*	Y	Y*	Y	Y*	N	Y*	Y*	Y	N*	Y	N	Y*	57
d BRANDL, J. (Mpls. 62B)	N	N	Y	Y*	N*	N	N	N	N	Υ	Y	N*	_	N	23
d BRINKMAN, B. (Richmond 16B)	N	Y*	Y	Y*	N*	N	Y*	Y*	N	N*	Y	Υ	Y*	N	50
d BROWN, C. (Appleton 11A)	N	Y*	Y	Y*	Y	N	Y*	Y*	Y*	N*	Υ	N*	Y*	N	57
r BURGER, J. (Long Lake 43A)	Y*	Y*	Y	Y*	Υ	Y*	Y*	Y*	Y*	Y	N*	N*	N	Y*	71
r CARLSON, D. (Sandstone 14B)	Y*	Y*	Υ	Y*	N*	Y*	Y*	Y*	Y*	N*	Υ	Y	Y*	Y*	79
r CARLSON, J. (Moorhead 9A)	Y*	Y*	N*	Y*	Y	Y*	Y*	Y*	Y*	Y	N*	N*	Y*	Y*	86
d CARLSON, L. (Crystal 46B)	N	N	Y	Y*	Y	N	Y*	N	N	N*	Y	N*	N	N	29
d CLARK, K. (Mpls. 60A)	N	N	Y	Y*	Y	N	Y*	N	N	Y	Y	N*	N	N	21
r CLAUSNITZER, D. (Maple Grove 48A)	Y*	Y*	N*	Y*	Y	Y*	N	Y*	Y*	N*	N*	Y	Y*	Y*	79
d COHEN, R. (St. Paul 64B)	N	N	Y	Y*	Y	Y*	Y*	N V*	N Y*	Y	Y	Y	Y*	N V*	23
r DEMPSEY, T. (New Ulm 23A)	Y*	Y*		Y*	Y	Y*	Y*	Y* Y*	Y*	N*	N*	N*	Y*	Y* Y*	92
r DEN OUDEN, G. (Prinsburg 21B)	Y* Y*	Y* Y*	N* N*	Y* Y*	N* N*	Y* Y*	Y* Y*	Y*	Y*	N* N*	N* N*	N* N*	Y*	Y*	100 100
r DIMLER, C. (Chanhassen 36A)	Y*	Y*	N*	Y*	Y	Y*	Y*	Y*	Y*	N*	N*	N*	Y*	Y*	93
r DYKE, C. (Worthington 28A)	N	N	Y	Y*	Y	N	Y*	Y*	N	N*	Y	Y	Y*	<u> </u>	38
d ELIOFF, D. (Virginia 5A) d ELLINGSON, B. (Brooklyn Ctr. 47B)	N	N	Y	Y*	Y	N	Y*	Y*	N	Y	Y	N*	Y*	N.	36
r ERICKSON, W. (Hills 27B)	Y*		Y	<u>.</u>	_	Y*	Y*	Y*	_	N*	N*	Y	Y*	Y*	80
r FJOSLIEN, D. (Brandon 11B)	Y*	Y*	N*	Y*	Y	Y*	Y*	Y*	Y*	N*	N*	Y	Y*	Y*	86
r FORSYTHE, M. (Edina 42B)	Y*	Y*	Y	Y*	Y	Y*		Y*	Y*	Y	N*	Y	Y*	Y*	69
r FREDERICK, M. (Mankato 24B)	Y*	Y*	N*	Y*	Y	Y*	Y*	Y*	Y*	N*	N*	Y	Y*	Y*	
r FREDERICKSON, D. (Windom 28B)	Y*	Y*	N*	Y*	Y	Y*	Y*	Y*	Y*	Y	N*	N*	Y*	Y*	
r FRERICHS, D. (Rochester 32A)	Y*	Y*	N*	Y*	Y	Y*	Y*	N	Y*	N*	N*	N*	Y*	Y*	86
d GREENFIELD, L. (Mpls. 61A)	N	N	Y	Y*	Y	N	N	N	N	Y	Y	N*	N	N	14
r GRUENES, D. (St. Cloud 17B)	Y*	Y*	N*	Y*	Y	Y*	Y*	Y*	Y*	N*	N*	N*	Y*	Y*	93
r GUTKNECHT, G. (Rochester 33A)	Y*	Y*	N*	Y*	N*	Y*	Y*	Y*	Y*	N*	N*	Y	Y*	Y*	93
r HALBERG, C. (Burnsville 38A)	Y*	N	N*	Y*	Y	Y*	Y*	N	Y*	Y	_	Y	Y*	Y*	62
r HARTINGER, J. (Coon Rapids 50A)	Y*	N	Y	Y*	Y	Y*	Y*	Y*	Y*	N*	N*	Y	Y*	Y*	71
r HARTLE, D. (Owatonna 30A)	Y*	Y*	N*	Y*	Y	Y*	N	N	Y*	Υ	N*	Υ	Y*	Y*	64
r HAUKOOS, B. (Albert Lea 31A)	Y*	Y*	N*	Y*	N*	Y*	N	Y*	Y*	N*	N*	N*	Y*	Y*	93
r HEAP, J. (Plymouth 45B)	Y*	Y*	Y	Y*	Υ	Y*	Y*	Y*	_	Y	N*	Y	_	Y*	67
r HIMLE, J. (Bloomington 41A)	Y*	Y*	_	Y*	N*	Y*	Y*	N	Y*	Y	N*	Y	Y*	Y*	77
d JACOBS, J. (Coon Rapids 49B)	N	Y*	Y	Y*	Y	Y*	-	Y*	Y*	N*	Y	Y	Y*	_	58
d JAROS, M. (Duluth 7B)	N	N	Y	N V*	Y	N Y*	Y* Y*	N Y*	N Y*	Y	Y N*	Y	N Y*	Y*	8
r JENNINGS, D. (Truman 29A)	Y*	Y* Y*	Y	Y* Y*	Y	N	Y*	N	Y*	N* N*	Y		Y*	Y*	79 54
d JENNINGS, L. (Rush City 19B) r JOHNSON, V. (Caledonia 34A)	N Y*	Y*	N*	Y*	Y	Y*	Y*	Y*	Y*	N*	N*	Y	Y*	Y*	86
I KALINI D (M. I. EGD)	N	N	Y	Y*	N*	N	Y*	N	N	Y	Y	Y	N	N	21
d KAHN, P. (Mpls. 58B) d KALIS, H. (Walters 29B)	Y*	Y*	Y	Y*	Y	N	100	Y*	Y*	Ý	Y	N*	Y*	N	54
d KELLY, R. (St. Paul 67A)	N	Y*	Y	Y*	N*	N	N	Y*	N	Y	Y	Y	N	N	29
r KIFFMEYER, R. (Big Lake 18B)	Y*	Y*	N*	Y*	N*	Y*	Y*	Y*	Y*	N*	N*	Y	Y*	· Y*	93
r KNICKERBOCKER, G. (Hopkins 43B)	Y*	Y*	Y	Y*	Y	Y*	Y*	Y*	Y*	Y	N*	Y	Y*	Y*	71
d KNUTH, D. (New Brighton 52B)	N	N	Y	Y*	Y	N	Y*	N	Y*	Y	Υ	Y	N	N	21
d KOSTOHRYZ, R. (North St. Paul 54B)	N	Y*	Y	Y*	N*	N	Y*		N	N*	_	Y	N	N	42
d KRUEGER, R. (Staples 12B)	Y*	Y*		Y*	Y	N	N	Y*	Y*	N*	Y	Y	Y*	N	54
r KVAM, A. (Litchfield 21A)	Y*	Y*		Y*	N*	Y*	Y*	Y*	Y*	N*	N*	N*	Y*	Y*	100
r LEVI, C. (Dellwood 55A)	Y*	Y*	Y	Y*	Y	Y*	Y*	Y*	Y*	N*	N*	Y	Y*	Y*	79
d LIEDER, B. (Crookston 2A)	Y*	Y*	Y	Y*	Y	N	Y*	Y*	Y*	N*	Y	Y	Y*	N	57
d LONG, D. (Mpls. 59A)	N	N	Y	Y*	Y	N	N	N	N	Y	Y	Y	N	N	7
r MARSH, M. (Sauk Rapids 17A)	Y*	Y*	N*	Y*	Y	Y*	Y*	Y*	Y*	N*	N*	Y	Y*	Y*	-0
r McDONALD, K. (Watertown 35B)	Y*	Y*	N*	Y*	Υ	Y*	Y*	Y*	Y*	Y	N*	Y	Y*	Y*	
d McEACHERN, B. (St. Michael 22A)	N	N	Y	Y*	N*	N	Y*	Y*	N	N*	Y	Y	Y*		46
r McKASY, B. (Mendota Heights 39A)	Y*	Y*	_	Y*	Y	Y*		Y*	Y*	Y	N*	N*	N	Y*	75
d McLAUGHLIN, P. (Mpls. 60B)	N	N	Y	Y*	Y	N	Y*	N	N V*	Y	Y	N*	N V*	N V*	21
r McPHERSON, H. (Stillwater 55B)	Y*	Y*	N*	Y*	Y	Y*	Y*	Y*	Y*	N*	N*	N*	Y*	Y*	93
d METZEN, J. (South St. Paul 39B)	N	Y*	Y	Y*	Υ	N	Y*	Y*	N	N*	Y	Y	Y*	N	43

2

HOUSE — Continued

																'85
r MILLER, H. (Redwood	Falls 20Bl	1. Y*	2. Y*	3. N*	4. Y*	5. N*	6. Y*	7.	8. Y*	9. Y*	10. N*	11. N*	12. N*	13. Y*	14. Y*	% 100
d MINNE, L. (Hibbing 5B		N	N	Y	Y*	Y	N	N	N	N	Υ	Y	Y	Y*	N	14
MUNGER, W. (Duluth 7		N	N	Y	Y*	Y	N	Y*	N V*	N	Y	Y	Y	N V*	N	14
 d MURPHY, M. (Hermant d NELSON, D. (Champlin 		N	N	Y	Y* Y*	Y	N	N	Y*	N Y*	Υ .	Y	Y N*	Y* Y*	N	23
d NELSON, K. (Mpls. 62A		N	N	Y	Y*	Y	N	Y*	_	N	Y	Y	N*	N	N	23
d NEUENSCHWANDER,	B. (Int' Falls 3A)	N	Y*	Y	Y*	Y	N	N	Y*	Y*	N*	_	Y	Y*	N	46
d NORTON, F. (St. Paul 6 d O'CONNOR, R. (St. Paul		N	N	Y	Y* Y*	N* Y	N	N	N Y*	N	Y N*	Y	Y	N	N	15 23
d OGREN, P. (Aitkin 14A)		N	N	Ý	Y*	N*	_	_	Y*	N	N*	Y	Ÿ	Y*	N	42
r OLSEN, S. (St. Louis P	ark 44A)	Y*	N	Y	Y*	N*	Y*	N	Y*	Y*	Y	N*	N*	N	Y*	64
d OLSON, E. (Fosston 2E r OMANN, B. (St. Joseph		N Y*	Y* Y*	Y N*	Y* Y*	Y N*	_ Y*	Y*	Y* Y*	Y* Y*	N* Y	Y N*	Y	Y* Y*	N	50 85
r ONNEN, T. (Cokato 22)		Y*	Y*	N*	Y*	Y	Y*	Y*	Y*	Y*	N*	N*	N*	Y*	Y*	93
d OSTHOFF, T. (St. Paul		N	N	Y	Y*	Y	N	N	Y*	_	Υ	Υ	Υ	N	N	15
d OTIS, T. (Mpls. 59B)	int 27P)	N Y*	N Y*	Y	Y* Y*	Y	N Y*	Y*	N Y*	N Y*	Y N*	Y N*	N* N*	N Y*	N Y*	21 86
r OZMENT, D. (Rosemou d PAPPAS, S. (St. Paul 6		N	_	Y	Y*	Y	N	Y*	N	N	Y	Y	N*	N	N	23
r PAULY, S. (Eden Prairie	e 42A)	Y*	Y*	Y	Y*	Y	Y*	Y*	Y*	Y*	Υ	N*	-	Y*	Y*	77
d PETERSON, J. (Princet r PEIPHO, M. (Mankato 2		N Y*	N Y*	Y N*	Y* Y*	Y	N Y*	Y* Y*	Y* Y*	N Y*	N* N*	Y N*	Y N*	Y* Y*	_ Y*	38 93
r PEIPHO, M. (Mankato 2 d PIPER, P. (Austin 31B)	24A)	N	N	Y	Y*	N*	N	N	N	Y*	Y	Y	N*	N	N	29
r POPPENHAGEN, D. (D		Y*	Y*	N*	Y*	Y	Y*	Y*	Y*	Y*	N*	N*	Υ	Y*	Y*	86
d PRICE, L. (Woodbury 5 d QUINN, J. (Coon Rapid		N	Y*	Y	Y* Y*	Y	N	Y*	Y* Y*	N	Y N*	Y	Y _	N Y*	N	29 33
d QUINN, J. (Coon Rapid r QUIST, A. (St. Peter 23		Y*	Y*	N*	Y*	N*	Y*	Y*	Y*	Y*	Y	N*	Y	Y*	Y*	93
r REDALEN, E. (Fountain	n 32B)	Y*	Y*	N*	Y*	Y	Y*	Y*	Y*	Y*	N*	N*	Y	Y*	Y*	86
r REES, T. (Lakeville 36E d REST, A. (New Hope 46		Y*	Y*	N* Y	Y* Y*	Y	Y*	Y* Y*	Y*	Y* N	_ N*	N* Y	Y N*	Y*	Y* N	85 29
d REST, A. (New Hope 46 d RICE, J. (Mpls. 57A)		N	N	Y	Y*	Y	N	Y*	_	N	Y	Y	N*	N	N	23
r RICHTER, D. (Wadena		Y*	Y*	N*	Y*	N*	Y*	Y*	Y*	Y*	N*	N*	Y	Y*	Y*	93
RIVENESS, P. (Bloomir RODOSOVICH, P. (Fari		N Y*	N Y*	Y	Y* Y*	N* N*	N	Y*	N Y*	N Y*	N* N*	Y	N* Y	_ Y*	N	38 62
r ROSE, J. (Roseville 63)		Y*	N	Y	Y*	N*	Y*	Y*	Y*	Y*	Y	N*	N*	Y*	Y*	79
d SARNA, J. (Mpls. 58A)		N	N	Y	Y*	N*	N	Y*	Y*	N	N*	Y	Y	_	N	38
r SCHAFER G. (Gibbon 3 d SCHEID, L. (Brooklyn F		Y*	Y*	N* Y	Y* Y*	N* Y	Y*	Y*	Y* Y*	Y*	N* Y	N* Y	Y _	Y*	Y*	93 15
d SCHOENFELD, J. (Was		Y*	Y*	Y	Y*	Υ	N	N	Y*	N	Y	Y	_	Y*	N	38
r SCHREIBER, W. (Brook		Y*	Y*	-	Y*	N*	Y*	N	Y*	Y*	Y	N*	— NI*	Y*	Y*	83
r SEABERG, A. (Mendota d SEGAL, G. (St. Louis P		Y*	Y*	N* Y	Y* Y*	Y	Y*	Y*	Y*	Y* Y*	Y	N* Y	N* Y	N	Y*	79 14
r SHAVER, C. (Wayzata	45A)	Y*	Y*	N*	Y*	N*	Y*	Y*	N	Y*	Ÿ	N*	Υ .	Y*	Y*	79
r SHERMAN, T. (Winona		Y*	Y*	Y	Y*	Y	Y*	Y*	Y*	Y*	N*	N*	Y	Y*	N	71
d SIMONEAU, W. (Fridley d SKOGLUND W. (Mpls.)		N	N	Y	Y* Y*	Y	N	N	N	N	Y	Y	N* N*	N	N	15 14
d SOLBERG, L. (Bovey 3)	B)	N	N	Y	Y*	Y	N	N	Y*	N	N*	Y	Y	Y*	N	29
d SPARBY, W. (Thief Rive		N Y*	Y* Y*	Y	Y* Y*	Y	_ Y*	Y* Y*	Y* Y*	Y*	N*	Y N*	Y	Y* Y*	N Y*	54 85
r STANIUS, B. (White Be d STATEN, R. (Mpls. 57B		N	N	N* Y	Y*	Y	N	N	N	N	Y	Y	N*	N	N	14
r SVIGGUM, S. (Kenyon	26A)	Y*	Y*	N*	Y*	Υ	Y*	N	Y*	Y*	N*	N*	_	Y*	Y*	85
r THEIDE, P. (Pequot La		Y* Y*	Y* Y*	N* N*	Y* Y*	N* Y	Y* Y*	Y* Y*	Y* Y*	Y* Y*	N* N*	N* N*	Y	Y* Y*	Y*	93 86
r THORSON, T. (Bemidji r TJORNHOM, C. (Richfi		Y*	Y*	N*	Y*	N*	Y*	Y*	Y*	Y*	N*	N*	Y	Y*	Y*	93
d TOMLINSON, J. (St. Pa	aul 67B)	N	Y*	N*	Y*	N*	N	N	N	N	Υ	Y	N*	N	_	38
r TOMPKINS, E. (Apple V		Y*	Y* Y*	Y	Y* Y*	N* Y	Y* Y*	Y* Y*	Y* Y*	Y* Y*	N*	N* Y	N* Y	Y* Y*	Y*	93 58
d TUNHEIM, J. (Kennedy r UPHUS, S. (Sauk Centr		Y*	Y*	N*	Y*	Y	Y*	Y*	Y*	Y*	N*	N*	Y	Y*	Y*	86
r VALAN, M. (Moorhead	9B)	Y*	Y*	N*	Y*	Y	Y*	Y*	Y*	Y*	Y	N*	N*	Y*	Y*	86
r VALENTO, D. (Little Ca d VANASEK, R. (New Pra		Y*	Y*	N* N*	Y* Y*	N* N*	Y*	Y*	Y* Y*	Y* Y*	N* Y	N* Y	_	Y* Y*	Y*	100 50
VELLENGA, K. (St. Pau		N	N	Y	Y*	N*	N	N	N	N	Y	Y	N*	N		23
VOSS, G. (Blaine 52A)		N	Y*	N*	Y*	N*	N	Y*	Y*	N V*	N*	Y	Y	N.	N V*	50
r WALTMAN, B. (Elgin 2 d WELLE, A. (Willmar 15		Y*	Y* Y*	N* Y	Y* Y*	N* N*	Y*	Y*	Y* Y*	Y* Y*	N* N*	N* Y	N* N*	Y* N	Y*	100 54
d WENZEL, S. (Little Fal		N	N	Y	Y*	Y	N	Y*	Y*	Y*	N*	Y	Y	Y*	N	43
d WYNIA, A. (St. Paul 63	B)	N	N	Y	Y*	N*	N V*	N V*	N V*	N V*	Y	Y	N*	N	N	21
r ZAFFKE, M. (Backus 4	B)	Y*	Y*	N*	Y*	Y	Y*	Y*	Y*	Y*	N*	N*	Y	Y*	Y*	86

KEY VOTES

Y = Yes d = Democratic-Farmer-LaborN = No r = Independent-Republican

means excused, absent, or not voting

* denotes vote favored by LEA

1985% means percentage of legislator's votes that were correct according to LEA

Legislators absent for more than 4 votes are not rated

- 1. Unemployment Insurance Compensation (HF 847): One of the major reasons for Minnesota's continuing poor business climate is the failure to reform its unemployment insurance compensation (UI) structure. Even though Minnesota's businesses pay higher UI premiums than most states, its UI fund continues to be in debt. Why? because benefits are not in line with other states. Consider the following:
 - Minnesota now pays the highest maximum UI benefits in the nation.
 - Workers qualify for benefits after working just 15 weeks per year.
 - Seasonal workers continue to collect benefits (tax free) year after year to supplement their seasonal work.
 - Automatic escalators built into the system allow taxes and benefits to skyrocket without any legislative review. A 40% increase in business UI taxes and a 90% increase in UI benefits are scheduled over the next five years.

LEA supports the House version of this bill, which makes some good steps toward solving these problems. It passed 74-59. LEA opposes the vastly different Senate version of the bill, which called for raising employer UI taxes. It passed 37-28. No agreement was worked out by the House-Senate conference committee, who got little help from the Governor. Authors: GUTKNECHT, CHMIELEWSKI

- 2. Environmental Superfund Law changes (HF 6, SS): This bill, now law, repairs much of the damage to the business climate done by the 1983 Superfund law, which made it difficult (if not impossible) for Minnesota business owners to obtain insurance to cover potential liabilities. (see key vote 12 on 1983 LEA report) Provisions of the new law are: Makes the business liability retroactive to 1983 instead of 1960; repeals a provision that allowed victims to sue the wealthiest polluter in a group of polluters, regardless of the amount the polluter had contributed to the problem; eliminates the causation section of the bill that made it easier than usual for victims to get their case before the jury; creates a \$2 million compensation fund for victims of hazardous waste; (this last provision we did not favor) LEA supports the badly needed changes in this legislation which passed 82-49 in the House and 46-13 in the Senate. Authors: SVIGGUM, MERRIAM
- 3. Saturn proposal (HF 1645): The Governor and Legislature hung every economic gimmick possible on an unsuccessful bid to lure General Motor's new Saturn auto plant to Minnesota. The \$1.3 billion incentive package proposal included 30 years of property and corporate tax abatements, 30 years of salestax exemption on equipment and building materials, a free site, a \$31 million job-training center, and a \$20 million manufacturing technologies center at the U of M. The fact the state had to promise the world even to be considered for the plant illustrates the gloominess of Minnesota's business climate. Moreover, it is ironic that many of the same people who oppose most legislation that would help Minnesota's own businesses would pledge all this to the third largest corporation in the nation. LEA opposes this constitutionally questionable offer which passed on final votes of 82-46 in the House and 41-26 in the Senate. Authors: BEARD, LUTHER

- 4. Tax Cut (HF 10 SS): After months of fanfare, our solons finally passed a monstrous, 535 page omnibus tax bill. Probably no one person understands everything in this new law. However, we do know that it provides \$866.1 million in in dividual income, sales, corporate and property tax relief. Other good provisions include a one-page tax form and not requiring IRA's to be included with federal adjusted gross income. This tax cut reverses recent increases such as the \$1.2 billion tax hike in 1983. Even with the cut, according to the Minnesota Taxpayers Association, we will still likely be among the ten highest in state and local taxes. LEA supports these good measures in this legislation which won final passage on votes of 132-1 in the House and 66-0 in the Senate. We sincerely hope this is the start of a lasting trend toward making Minnesota tax-competative with other states and that history won't be repeated in 1987 by another tax increase. Authors: SCHRIEBER, DOUG JOHNSON
- 5. Capital Improvements Bonding Bill (HF 1 SS): This \$198 million bonding bill, now law, funds a new University of Minnesota computer center \$42.8 million), projects in the Capital complex (\$12.3 million), and a new convention center in Duluth (\$16 million). It included some needed expenditures, but many unnecessary ones. Passage of the bill was aided by legislative log-rolling as it funded building projects in more than 80 of the 134 House districts. (There was a plum for nearly everyone.) LEA opposes this pork barrel type of legislation, which passed 90-43 in the House and 64-2 in the Senate. Authors: FORSYTHE, WILLET
- 6. State Departments Appropriations (HF 1641): The major differences in the House and Senate versions of this bill were not resolved in the regular session. LEA opposes the Senate form which called for \$100 million more in spending and a pay. raise for the Senators. It passed 39-24. LEA supports the House version which contained no legislative pay raise and asked \$35 million less for the Department of Energy and Economic Development (DEED) (See key vote -1 on 1984 report), \$14 million less for the Department of Administration and \$10 million less for the DNR. It passed 73-57. Authors: FORSYTHE, WILLET. A compromise bill which did become law after the special session held state department funding increases to 10 percent, but contained objectional items including a legislative pay raise. It was a "mixed bag", and in our opinion the votes on HF 1641 better reflect the legislators' genuine views.

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KEY VOTES—Continued

- 7. "Comparable Worth" Exclusions (HF 418): The "comparable worth" bill passed last year (see key vote 11 on 1984 LEA report) required city and county governments to evaluate jobs and establish equitable compensation relationships between "female-dominated", "male-dominated", and "balanced" classes of employees. We opposed the bill since it does result in more litigation, increased government spending and taxation, and the substitution of opinions of bureaucrats and judges for free economic principles. This bill (HF 418) in the House version would exclude police and firefighters from the 1984 law. It passed the House 90-31. We support this movement back toward common sense. Unfortunately, the Senate version of the bill does little or nothing and we did not use the Senate vote on the report. We hope the Senate will adopt the House provisions next year. Better yet would be the repeal of the whole "cockamamie idea". Authors: DEMPSEY, MERRIAM.
- 8. Abortion Ban Bill (HF 771, SF 1150): This bill would restore Minnesota's pre-1973 law, which banned abortions except to save the life of the mother, if the U.S. Supreme Court reverses or modifies its Roe vs. Wade decision. It passed the House 98-33, but was not let out of committee in the Senate. LEA strongly supports this bill and urges all others who do to work for Senate passage in 1986. Authors: DEMPSEY, WALDORF
- 9. Health and Human Services Omnibus Appropriations (SF 19, SS): This \$2.1 billion bill, now law, finances mainly the Departments of Human Services, Corrections, Employment and Health. Although the final form of the bill, in our opinion, is not as good as the original House version, it does limit the increase to 4 percent over the current biennium. It also, believe it or not, recognizes the fact that we should not be paying welfare to able-bodied people. Many of an estimated 17,000 of them will be given work readiness training, taken off welfare, and prohibited from re-applying for another 22 months. LEA supports this shift towards fairness which passed 86-45 in the House and 63-1 in the Senate. Author: SAMUELSON
- 10. Mandatory Seat Belt Usage (SF 40): LEA believes that the wearing of seat belts should be a matter of individual freedom of choice. We oppose this bill which would have mandated usage of seat belts in a passenger vehicle by the driver, front seat passengers, and passengers under 11 sitting anywhere in the vehicle. It was defeated in the House 61-70 after passing the Senate 37-27. Authors: FRANK, FORSYTHE
- 11. Farm Mortgage Foreclosure Moratorium (SF 85): LEA favors laws that help farmers such as the Family Farm Security Act (HF 35). However, in our opinion, enactment of a moratorium would have hurt more farmers than it would have helped. The result would be a decrease in the amount of money

available for loans as lenders would be even more reluctant to lend money if the terms of a contract can later be changed by the Legislature. LEA opposes this measure which failed to be advanced in the House on a vote of 63-67 after passing the Senate 37-27. Author: BERG

- 12. Schools start after Labor Day (HF 151): Currently, two thirds of Minnesota school districts begin classes before Labor Day. This new law which will be effective in 1986, prohibits starting the school year until after that holiday. Proponents believe this will spur tourism in the northern part of the state. Even if it does, isn't the preservation of some local school district decision-making authority more important? LEA opposes this measure which passed on third reading votes of 74-49 in the House and 36-26 in the Senate. Authors: THIEDE, STUMPF
- 13. Gun Law Pre-emption (HF 576): The Governor vetoed a nearly identical bill last year (key vote #9 on 1984 report), but this year signed it. The new law helps secure the constitutional right to keep and bear arms for all law-abiding citizens by making state firearm laws pre-emp most local ordinances and preventing any local handgun bans. LEA supports this Morton Grove preventative which passed on third reading votes of 91-35 in the House and 48-18 in the Senate. Authors: BEGICH, LESSARD
- 14. Election Day Voucher Limits (HF 634, SF 1354): Minnesota is one of the few states in the nation that lets people register on election day. In fact, often the only registration criterion for an applicant is that another voter vouches that he or she knows the potential voter is also a resident of the precinct. The present law is open to abuses, such as people vouching for individuals they have not met before; and there is no limit on the number of people one person can vouch for. This bill would limit the number of people one could vouch for for to three. It would help restore some lost integrity to our voting system. We support this move in the right direction which passed on a third reading vote in the House 68-57, but as of yet has not been voted on by the Senate. Authors SHAVER, LAIDIG

Important Legislation Currently Pending in the Minnesota Legislature

Unemployment Insurance Compensation: Major reforms are needed. (See key vote #1)

Comparable Worth Exclusions: We believe "comparable worth" is a notion that would destroy the basis of free enterprise. (See key vote #7)

Abortion Ban: (See key vote #8)

Election Day Voucher Limit: (See key vote #14)

Workers' Compensation Insurance: Major changes are urgently needed to make Minnesota's business climate competitive with other states. (No specific bill pending)

LEA 2525 County Road I Minneapolis, MN 55432

