

1988 REPORT on the MINNESOTA LEGISLATURE

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

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Gen Olson
Top
Senator



Duane Benson
Top
Senator



Brad Stanius
Top
Representative



Paul Thiede
Top
Representative



Rep.
Clausnitzer



Rep. Gutknecht



Rep. Haukoos



Rep. Heap



Rep. Hugoson



Rep.
Knickerbocker



Rep. Marsh



Rep.
McPherson



Rep. Miller



Rep. Onnen



Rep. Richter



Rep. Schafer



Rep. Schreiber



Rep. Svinggum



Rep. Tjornhom



Rep. Valento

THE SEVENTY-SIXTH: A DAMAGE CONTROL SESSION

The 1988 session of the Minnesota Legislature repaired some of the damage inflicted by the 1987 session and then did some damage of its own. One big plus was the repeal of the "trigger tax" enacted in 1987. A major depressant to the State's business and employment climate, and this was more the Governor's fault than the Legislators', was the failure to enact any kind of workers' compensation reform. The usual plethora of task forces, study committees, etc. were created to ensure that new spending will be recommended in future sessions. Still, a stalwart though outnumbered group of Representatives and Senators fought the good fight — about the same number of them as in recent years. Their scores are a bit lower than in 1987 because LEA changed its rating formula somewhat (as explained elsewhere) — not because they performed less well than in 1987. We salute them. The top rated Senators are Duane Benson (Lanesboro) and Gen Olson (Minnetrissa). Tied for top rating in the House are Paul Thiede (Pequot Lakes) and Brad Stanius (White Bear Lake). Other Representatives rating highly are:

Gene Clausnitzer (Maple Grove)
Gil Gutknecht (Rochester)
Bob Haukoos (Albert Lea)
Jim Heap (Plymouth)

Gene Hugoson (Granada)
Jerry Knickerbocker (Hopkins)
Marcus Marsh (Sauk Rapids)
Harriet McPherson (Stillwater)

Howard Miller (Redwood Falls)
Tony Onnen (Cokato)
Don Richter (Wadena)
Gary Schafer (Gibbon)

Bill Schreiber (Brooklyn Park)
Steve Svinggum (Kenyon)
Chris Tjornhom (Richfield)
Don Valento (Little Canada)

HOUSE

	1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.	8.	9.	10.	11.	12.	13.	14.	15.	16.	17.	1988	C	
d — ANDERSON, G. (Bellingham 20A)	N	Y	N	Y*	N*	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y*	—	N	N	N	17	53	
r — ANDERSON, R. (Ottertail 10B)	Y*	Y	Y*	Y*	Y	Y*	—	Y	Y	—	Y	—	Y*	Y	N	Y*	N	37	23	
d — BATTAGLIA, D. (Two Harbors 6A)	N	Y	N	N	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y*	Y	N	Y*	N	12	31	
d — BAUERLY, J. (Sauk Rapids 18B)	Y*	Y	Y*	Y*	Y	N	Y	—	Y	Y	Y	N	—	Y	Y*	Y*	N	29	22	
d — BEARD, P. (Cottage Grove 56B)	N	Y	N	N	Y	N	Y	N*	Y	—	—	N	Y*	Y	Y*	N	N	16	28	
d — BEGICH, J. (Eveleth 6B)	N	Y	N	N	Y	N	Y	N*	Y	Y	Y	N	Y*	Y	N	Y*	Y*	N	18	69
r — BENNETT, T. (Shoreview 53A)	Y*	N*	Y*	Y*	N*	Y*	N*	N*	Y	N*	Y	Y*	Y*	Y	Y*	Y*	Y*	82	46	
d — BERTRAM, J. (Paynesville 16B)	Y*	Y	Y*	Y*	N*	N	Y	N*	Y	N*	Y	N	Y*	Y	Y*	Y*	N	53	54	
r — BISHOP, D. (Rochester 33B)	Y*	Y	Y*	—	—	N	Y	Y	Y	N*	—	Y*	Y*	Y	N	N	—	30	65	
r — BLATZ, K. (Bloomington 41B)	Y*	N*	Y*	—	—	Y*	N*	N*	N*	N*	Y	Y*	Y*	Y	N	Y*	Y*	76	64	
r — BOO, B. (Duluth 8B)	Y*	N*	Y*	Y*	N*	—	N*	N*	Y	—	Y	—	—	Y	Y*	Y*	Y*	69	42	
d — BROWN, C. (Appleton 11A)	N	N*	Y*	Y*	Y	—	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y*	Y	N	Y*	N	29	80	
r — BURGER, J. (Long Lake 43A)	Y*	N*	Y*	Y*	N*	Y*	Y	N*	N*	N*	Y	Y*	Y*	Y	Y*	Y*	Y*	82	58	
r — CARLSON, D. (Sandstone 14B)	Y*	Y	Y*	Y*	N*	Y*	N*	Y	N*	N*	Y	Y*	Y*	Y	—	Y*	Y*	73	17	
d — CARLSON, L. (Crystal 46B)	N	Y	N	N	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y*	Y	N	Y*	N	12	9	
d — CARRUTHERS, P. (Brooklyn Center 47B)	N	Y	N	N	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y*	Y	—	Y*	N	11	13	
d — CLARK, K. (Mpls. 60A)	N	Y	N	N	Y	N	Y	Y	N*	Y	Y	N	Y*	Y	N	N	N	12	88	
r — CLAUSNITZER, D. (Maple Grove 48A)	Y*	N*	Y*	Y*	N*	Y*	—	N*	N*	N*	Y	Y	Y*	Y	Y*	Y*	Y*	86	27	
d — COOPER, R. (Bird Island 21B)	N	Y	Y*	Y*	Y	N	—	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y*	Y	N	Y*	N	23	40	
d — DAUNER, M. (Hawley 9B)	Y*	Y	Y*	Y*	Y	N	Y	Y	N*	Y	Y	N	Y*	Y	Y*	N	Y*	41	-2	
d — DAWKINS, A. (St. Paul 65A)	N	Y	N	N	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N	Y	N	N	—	-2	27	
d — DeBLIECK, N. (Milroy 27A)	N	Y	Y*	Y*	Y	N	Y	Y	N*	Y	N	Y*	Y	Y*	Y*	Y*	N	35	78	
r — DEMPSEY, T. (New Ulm 23A)	Y*	N*	Y*	Y*	N*	—	N*	N*	N*	N*	Y	Y*	—	Y	Y*	Y*	Y*	83	69	
r — DeRAAD, D. (Waseca 30B)	Y*	Y	Y*	Y*	N*	—	—	N*	Y	N*	Y	Y*	Y*	—	Y*	—	Y*	69	68	
r — DILLE, S. (Dassel 21A)	Y*	Y	Y*	Y*	N*	—	Y	Y	—	N*	Y	Y*	Y*	Y	Y*	Y*	Y*	63	29	
d — DORN, J. (Mankato 24A)	Y*	Y	Y*	Y*	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y*	Y	N	Y*	N	29	58	
r — FORSYTHE, M. (Edina 42B)	Y*	N*	Y*	Y*	N*	Y*	Y	N*	N*	N*	Y	Y*	Y*	Y	—	Y*	Y*	79	81	
r — FREDERICK, M. (Mankato 24B)	Y*	N*	Y*	Y*	N*	Y*	Y	N*	Y	N*	Y	Y*	Y*	Y	Y*	Y*	Y*	76	89	
r — FRERICH, D. (Rochester 32A)	Y*	N*	Y*	Y*	N*	Y*	Y	N*	N*	N*	Y	Y*	Y*	Y	—	Y*	Y*	79	8	
d — GREENFIELD, L. (Mpls. 61A)	N	Y	N	N	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N	Y	N	N	N	0	79	
r — GRUENES, D. (St. Cloud 17B)	Y*	N*	Y*	Y*	N*	Y*	Y	N*	N*	N*	Y	Y*	Y*	Y	—	Y*	Y*	79	86	
r — GUTKNECHT, G. (Rochester 33A)	Y*	N*	Y*	Y*	N*	—	N*	N*	N*	N*	Y	Y*	Y*	Y	Y*	Y*	Y*	86	71	
r — HARTLE, D. (Owatonna 30A)	Y*	Y	Y*	Y*	N*	Y*	Y	N*	Y	N*	Y	Y*	Y*	Y	N	Y*	Y*	65	84	
r — HAUKOOS, B. (Albert Lea 31A)	Y*	N*	Y*	Y*	N*	Y*	N*	N*	N*	N*	Y	Y*	Y*	Y	Y*	Y*	Y*	88	67	
r — HEAP, J. (Plymouth 45B)	Y*	N*	Y*	Y*	N*	Y*	N*	N*	N*	—	Y	Y*	Y*	Y	Y*	Y*	Y*	86	66	
r — HIMLE, J. (Bloomington 41A)	Y*	N*	Y*	Y*	N*	Y*	N*	N*	N*	N*	Y	Y*	—	Y	N	—	Y*	76	88	
r — HUGOSON, G. (Granada 29A)	Y*	N*	Y*	Y*	N*	Y*	N*	N*	N*	N*	Y	Y*	Y*	Y	Y*	Y*	Y*	88	20	
d — JACOBS, J. (Coon Rapids 49B)	N	Y	N	N	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y*	Y	Y*	Y*	N	18	6	
d — JAROS, M. (Duluth 7B)	N	—	N	N	Y	—	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	—	Y*	Y	N	N	N	1	3	
d — JEFFERSON, R. (Mpls. 57B)	N	Y	N	N	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y*	Y	N	N	N	6	53	
d — JENNINGS, L. (Rush City 19B)	Y*	N*	Y*	Y*	N*	Y*	N*	Y	Y	—	Y	Y*	Y*	Y	N	N	Y*	61	27	
d — JENSEN, B. (Lakeville 36B)	N	Y	Y*	Y*	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	—	Y	Y*	Y*	N	23	9	
d — JOHNSON, A. (Spring Lake Park 51A)	N	Y	N	N	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y*	Y	—	N	N	4	24	
d — JOHNSON, R. (Bemidji 4A)	N	Y	Y*	N	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	—	N	Y*	Y	Y*	Y*	N	23	82	
r — JOHNSON, V. (Caledonia 34A)	Y*	N*	Y*	Y*	N*	Y*	Y	N*	N*	N*	Y	Y*	Y*	Y	Y*	Y*	Y*	82	9	
d — KAHN, P. (Mpls. 58B)	N	Y	N	N	Y	N	Y	Y	N*	Y	Y	N	N	—	N	N	N	4	43	
d — KALIS, H. (Walters 29B)	N	Y	Y*	Y*	N*	N	Y	Y	Y	—	Y	N	Y*	Y	Y*	Y*	N	36	23	
d — KELLY, R. (St. Paul 67A)	N	Y	N	N	Y	N	Y	Y	N*	Y	Y	N	Y*	Y	N	—	N	11	35	
d — KELSO, R. (Shakopee 36A)	N	N*	Y*	Y*	N*	—	Y	Y	Y	Y	—	Y*	Y	N	Y*	—	Y*	37	18	
d — KINKEL, A. (Park Rapids 4B)	N	Y	N	N	Y	N	Y	N*	Y	Y	—	N	Y*	Y	Y*	Y*	N	23	22	
d — KLUDDT, K. (Moorhead 9A)	Y*	Y	Y*	N	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y*	Y	N	Y*	Y*	24	53	
r — KNICKERBOCKER, G. (Hopkins 43B)	Y*	N*	Y*	Y*	N*	Y*	N*	N*	N*	N*	Y	Y*	Y*	Y	Y*	Y*	Y*	88	19	
d — KNUTH, D. (New Brighton 52B)	N	Y	Y*	Y*	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y*	Y	N	N	N	18	21	
d — KOSTOHRZY, R. (North St. Paul 54B)	N	Y	N	N	Y	N	Y	N*	N*	Y	Y	N	Y*	Y	N	Y*	N	24	39	
d — KRUEGER, R. (Staples 12B)	N	Y	Y*	Y*	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	—	Y	N	Y*	Y	N	Y*	N	23	9	
d — LARSEN, E. (Ramsey 50A)	N	Y	N	N	Y	N	Y	—	Y	Y	Y	N	Y*	Y	N	Y*	N	11	19	
d — LASLEY, H. (Cambridge 19A)	N	Y	Y*	N	Y	N	Y	Y	N*	Y	Y	N	Y*	Y	N	Y*	N	24	44	
d — LIEDER, B. (Crookston 2A)	N	Y	Y*	Y*	Y	N	Y	Y	—	Y	N	N	Y*	Y	—	Y*	N	23	11	
d — LONG, D. (Mpls. 59A)	N	Y	N	N	Y	N	Y	—	N*	Y	Y	N	N	—	N	N	N	3	72	
r — MARSH, M. (Sauk Rapids 17A)	Y*	N*	Y*	Y*	N*	Y*	N*	N*	N*	N*	Y	Y*	Y*	Y	Y*	Y*	Y*	88	80	
r — McDONALD, K. (Watertown 35B)	Y*	N*	Y*	Y*	N*	—	N*	—	N*	N*	Y	Y*	Y*	Y	Y*	Y*	Y*	83	73	
d — McEACHERN, B. (St. Michael 22A)	N	Y	Y*	—	Y	—	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y*	Y	Y*	Y*	Y*	23	10	
r — McKASY, B. (Mendota Heights 39A)	Y*	Y	Y*	Y*	N*	—	Y	N*	N*	N*	Y	Y	Y*	Y	Y	Y*	Y*	73	85	
d — McLAUGHLIN, P. (Mpls. 60B)	N	Y	N	N	Y	—	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	—	Y	N	N	N	-4	26	
r — McPHERSON, H. (Stillwater 55B)	Y*	N*	Y*	Y*	N*	Y*	N*	N*	N*	N*	Y	—	Y*	Y	Y*	Y*	Y*	86	85	
d — MILBERT, B. (South St. Paul 39B)	N	Y	N	N	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y*	Y	Y*	Y*	N	18	95	
r — MILLER, H. (Redwood Falls 20B)	Y*	N*	Y*	Y*	N*	Y*	—	N*	N*	N*	Y	Y*	Y*	Y	Y*	Y*	Y*	86		

HOUSE

	1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.	8.	9.	10.	11.	12.	13.	14.	15.	16.	17.	1988	C	
MINNE, L. (Hibbing 5B)	N	Y	N	—	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y*	Y	N	—	—	1	17	
r — MORRISON, C. (Burnsville 38A)	Y*	N*	Y*	Y*	N*	Y*	Y	N*	N*	N*	—	Y*	Y*	Y	—	Y*	Y*	83	78	
d — MUNGER, W. (Duluth 7A)	N	—	N	N	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	—	Y	N	N	—	-6	10	
d — MURPHY, M. (Hermantown 8A)	N	Y	N	N	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y*	Y	N	Y*	N	12	19	
d — NELSON, C. (Barrett 11B)	N	Y	Y*	Y*	Y	N	Y	N*	Y	Y	Y	N	Y*	Y	N	Y*	N	29	27	
d — NELSON, D. (Champlin 49A)	N	N*	N	N	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y*	Y	N	—	N	11	20	
d — NELSON, K. (Mpls. 62A)	N	Y	N	N	Y	—	Y	Y	N*	Y	Y	—	Y*	Y	N	N	N	9	14	
d — NEUENSCHWANDER, B. (Int'l. Falls 3A)	N	Y	N	N	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	—	Y*	—	Y*	N	—	8	25	
d — O'CONNOR, R. (St. Paul 66B)	N	Y	N	N	Y	—	Y	N*	Y	Y	Y	N	Y*	Y	N	Y*	N	17	16	
d — OGREN, P. (Aitkin 14A)	N	Y	N	N	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	—	N	Y*	Y	—	Y*	N	9	20	
r — OLSEN, S. (St. Louis Park 44A)	Y*	N*	Y*	Y*	N*	Y*	N*	N*	Y	Y	Y	Y*	Y*	Y	—	Y*	Y*	79	67	
d — OLSON, E. (Fosston 2B)	N	Y	Y*	Y*	Y	N	Y	Y	N*	Y	N	—	Y	N	N	N	N	17	39	
d — OLSON, K. (Sherburn 28B)	Y*	N*	Y*	Y*	Y	N	Y	Y	N*	Y	Y	N	Y*	Y	N	N	N	35	37	
r — OMANN, B. (St. Joseph 16A)	Y*	Y	Y*	Y*	N*	—	Y	N*	Y	Y	Y	Y*	Y*	Y	Y*	Y*	Y*	61	72	
r — ONNEN, T. (Cokato 22B)	Y*	Y	Y*	Y*	N*	Y*	N*	N*	N*	N*	Y	Y*	Y*	N*	Y*	Y*	Y*	88	74	
d — ORENSTEIN, H. (St. Paul 64B)	Y*	Y	N	N	Y	N	—	Y	Y	Y	Y	—	Y*	Y	N	N	N	9	11	
d — OSTHOFF, T. (St. Paul 66A)	Y*	Y	N	N	Y	Y*	N*	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y*	Y	Y*	N	N	29	28	
d — OTIS, T. (Mpls. 59B)	N	Y	N	N	Y	N	Y	Y	N*	Y	Y	N	Y*	Y	N	N	N	12	16	
r — OZMENT, D. (Rosemount 37B)	Y*	N*	Y*	Y*	N*	—	Y	N*	N*	N*	Y	Y*	Y*	Y	Y*	Y*	Y*	79	74	
d — PAPPAS, S. (St. Paul 65B)	N	Y	N	N	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	—	Y	—	Y*	Y	N	N	N	3	18	
r — PAULY, S. (Eden Prairie 42A)	Y*	N*	Y*	Y*	N*	—	N*	Y	N*	N*	Y	Y*	Y*	Y	—	Y*	Y*	76	74	
d — PELOWSKI, G. (Winona 34B)	Y*	Y	Y*	Y*	Y	N	Y	N*	Y	Y	Y	N	Y*	Y	Y*	Y*	N	41	41	
d — PETERSON, J. (Princeton 18A)	N	Y	Y*	Y*	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y*	Y	N	Y*	N	24	23	
r — POPPENHAGEN, D. (Detroit Lakes 10A)	Y*	Y	Y*	Y*	N*	Y*	—	N*	N*	N*	Y	Y*	Y*	Y	Y*	Y*	Y*	79	86	
d — PRICE, L. (Woodbury 56A)	N	Y	N	N	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y*	Y	N	N	N	6	20	
d — QUINN, J. (Coon Rapids 50B)	N	Y	N	N	Y	—	Y	N*	Y	Y	Y	N	Y*	Y	N	Y*	N	17	20	
r — QUIST, A. (St. Peter 23B)	Y*	Y	Y*	Y*	N*	—	—	N*	N*	—	—	Y*	Y*	Y	Y*	Y*	Y*	77	88	
r — REDALEN, E. (Fountain 32B)	Y*	N*	Y*	Y*	N*	Y*	N*	Y	Y	N*	Y	Y*	Y*	—	Y*	Y*	Y*	79	73	
d — REDING, L. (Austin 31B)	N	Y	N	—	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y*	Y	N	—	N	3	20	
d — REST, A. (New Hope 46A)	N	Y	N	N	Y	N	Y	N*	Y	Y	Y	N	Y*	Y	—	Y*	N	17	32	
d — RICE, J. (Mpls. 57A)	N	Y	N	N	Y	N	Y	Y	N*	Y	—	N	—	Y	N	—	N	1	15	
d — RICHTER, D. (Wadena 12A)	Y*	N*	Y*	Y*	N*	Y*	N*	N*	N*	N*	Y	Y*	Y*	Y	Y*	Y*	Y*	88	94	
d — RIVENESS, P. (Bloomington 40B)	N	N*	N	N	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y*	Y	N	—	N	11	25	
d — RODOSOVICH, P. (Faribault 25B)	N	Y	Y*	Y*	Y	N	Y	Y	N*	Y	N*	Y	N	Y*	Y	N	—	N	23	32
r — ROSE, J. (Roseville 63A)	Y*	N*	Y*	Y*	N*	Y*	N*	N*	Y	N*	Y	Y*	Y*	Y	Y*	—	Y*	79	62	
d — RUKAVINA, T. (Virginia 5A)	N	Y	N	N	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y*	Y	N	N	N	6	7	
d — SARNA, J. (Mpls. 58A)	N	Y	N	N	Y	N	Y	N*	Y	Y	Y	N	Y*	Y	N	Y*	N	18	23	
r — SCHAFFER, G. (Gibbon 35A)	Y*	N*	Y*	Y*	N*	Y*	N*	N*	N*	N*	Y	Y*	Y*	Y	Y*	Y*	Y*	88	92	
d — SCHEID, L. (Brooklyn Park 47A)	N	Y	N	N	Y	N	N*	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y*	Y	Y*	N	N	18	21	
r — SCHREIBER, W. (Brooklyn Park 48B)	Y*	N*	Y*	Y*	N*	Y*	N*	N*	N*	N*	Y	Y*	Y*	Y	Y*	Y*	Y*	88	64	
r — SEABERG, A. (Eagan 38B)	Y*	N*	Y*	Y*	N*	—	Y	Y	N*	—	Y	Y*	Y*	Y	Y*	Y*	Y*	69	70	
d — SEGAL, G. (St. Louis Park 44B)	N	Y	N	N	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y*	Y	N	N	N	6	14	
r — SHAVER, C. (Wayzata 45A)	Y*	N*	Y*	Y*	N*	Y*	N*	—	N*	N*	Y	Y*	Y*	Y	N	N	Y*	73	80	
d — SIMONEAU, W. (Fridley 51B)	N	—	N	—	—	N	Y	—	—	Y	Y	N	—	Y	—	N	N	—	12	
d — SKOGLUND, W. (Mpls. 61B)	—	Y	N	N	Y	N	Y	N*	N*	Y	Y	N	Y*	Y	N	N	N	17	17	
d — SOLBERG, L. (Bovey 3B)	N	Y	N	N	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y*	Y	N	Y*	N	12	18	
d — SPARBY, W. (Thief River Falls 1B)	Y*	Y	Y*	Y*	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y*	Y	Y*	Y*	N	35	33	
r — STANIUS, B. (White Bear Lake 53B)	Y*	N*	Y*	Y*	N*	—	N*	N*	N*	—	—	Y*	Y*	—	Y*	Y*	Y*	92	83	
d — STEENSMA, A. (Luverne 27B)	N	N*	Y*	Y*	Y	Y*	Y	Y	N*	Y	Y	N	Y*	Y	Y*	Y*	N	47	42	
r — SVIGGUM, S. (Kenyon 26A)	Y*	N*	Y*	Y*	N*	—	N*	N*	N*	N*	Y	Y*	Y*	Y	Y*	Y*	Y*	86	79	
r — SWENSON, D. (Forest Lake 55A)	Y*	Y	Y*	Y*	N*	Y*	Y	N*	Y	N*	Y	Y*	Y*	Y	Y*	Y*	Y*	71	64	
r — THIEDE, P. (Pequot Lakes 13A)	Y*	N*	Y*	Y*	N*	Y*	N*	N*	N*	N*	Y	Y*	Y*	—	Y*	Y*	Y*	92	90	
r — TJORNHOM, C. (Richfield 40A)	Y*	N*	Y*	Y*	N*	Y*	N*	N*	N*	N*	Y	Y*	Y*	Y	Y*	Y*	Y*	88	89	
r — TOMPKINS, E. (Apple Valley 37A)	Y*	Y	Y*	Y*	N*	Y*	Y	N*	N*	N*	Y	Y*	Y*	Y	Y*	Y*	Y*	76	77	
d — TRIMBLE, S. (St. Paul 67B)	N	Y	N	N	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y*	Y	N	N	N	6	7	
d — TUNHEIM, J. (Kennedy 1A)	N	Y	Y*	Y*	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y*	Y	Y*	N	N	24	33	
r — UPHUS, S. (Sauk Centre 15A)	—	Y	Y*	Y*	N*	Y*	Y	N*	Y	Y	Y	Y*	Y*	Y	Y*	Y*	Y*	61	78	
r — VALENTO, D. (Little Canada 54A)	Y*	N*	Y*	Y*	N*	Y*	N*	N*	N*	N*	Y	Y*	Y*	Y	Y*	Y*	Y*	88	81	
d — VANASEK, R. (New Prague 25A)	N	Y	N	Y*	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y*	Y	N	Y*	—	17	24	
d — VELLENGA, K. (St. Paul 64A)	N	Y	N	N	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y*	Y	N	N	N	6	17	
d — VOSS, G. (Blaine 52A)	N	Y	N	N	Y	N	Y	N*	N*	Y	Y	N	Y*	Y	N	Y*	N	24	26	
d — WAGENIUS, J. (Mpls. 62B)	Y*	Y	N	N	Y	N	Y	N*	N*	Y	N	Y	Y*	Y	N	N	N	24	19	
d — WALTMAN, B. (Elgin 26B)	Y*	Y	Y*	Y*	N*	Y*	N*	N*	N*	N*	Y	Y*	Y*	Y	Y*	Y*	Y*	82	85	
d — WELLE, A. (Willmar 15B)	N	N*	Y*	Y*	Y	N	Y	Y	—	Y	—	Y*	Y	N	—	Y*	—	30	32	
d — WENZEL, S. (Little Falls 13B)	N	Y	N	N	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y*	Y	Y*	Y*	N	18	29	
d — WINTER, T. (Fulda 28A)	N	N*	Y*	Y*	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	N*	Y	N	Y*	Y	Y*	Y*	N	41	40	
d — WYNIA, A. (St. Paul 63B)	N	Y	N	N	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y*	Y	N	N	N	6	14	

SENATE

	1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.	8.	9.	10.	11.	12.	13.	14.	1988	C
d — ADKINS, B. (St. Michael 22)	Y*	Y	Y*	Y*	Y*		Y	N*	Y	Y	Y		Y*	Y	50	
r — ANDERSON, D. (Wadena 12)	Y*	N*	Y*	Y*	Y*		Y	N*	N*	N*	Y		Y*	Y	75	
d — BECKMAN, T. (Bricelyn 29)	Y*	Y	Y*	Y*	N		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y		Y*	Y	33	52
r — BELANGER, W. (Bloomington 41)	Y*	N*	Y*	Y*	Y*		Y	N*	N*	N*	Y		Y*	Y	75	66
r — BENSON, D. (Lanesboro 32)	Y*	N*	Y*	Y*	Y*	NO	—	N*	N*	N*	Y	NO	Y*	Y	80	75
d — BERG, C. (Chokio 11)	Y*	N*	Y*	Y*	Y*	SENATE	Y	Y	Y	N*	Y	NO	Y*	Y	58	62
d — BERGLIN, L. (Mpls. 60)	Y*	Y	N	—	N	SENATE	Y	—	—	Y	Y	NO	Y*	Y	16	12
r — BERNHAGEN, J. (Hutchinson 21)	Y*	Y	Y*	Y*	Y*	SENATE	Y	Y	N*	N*	Y	NO	Y*	Y	58	60
d — BERTRAM, J. (Paynesville 16)	Y*	Y	Y*	Y*	Y*	VOTE	Y	N*	Y	N*	Y	NO	Y*	Y	58	55
r — BRANDL, J. (Mpls. 62)	Y*	Y	Y*	Y*	N		Y	N*	N*	Y	Y		—	Y	43	29
d — BRATAAS, N. (Rochester 33)	Y*	N*	Y*	Y*	Y*		—	N*	Y	N*	Y		Y*	Y	71	46
d — CHMIELEWSKI, F. (Sturgeon Lake 14)	Y*	Y	Y*	Y*	N		Y	Y	N*	Y	Y		Y*	Y	42	40
d — COHEN, R. (St. Paul 64)	Y*	Y	N	N	—		Y	N*	Y	Y	Y		—	Y	16	8
d — DAHL, G. (Coon Rapids 50)	Y*	N*	N	N	N		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y		Y*	Y	25	23
d — DAVIS, C. (Princeton 18)	Y*	N*	Y*	Y*	Y*		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y		—	Y	43	31
r — DECKER, B. (Bemidji 4)	Y*	N*	Y*	Y*	Y*		Y	N*	Y	N*	Y		Y*	Y	67	67
d — DeCRAMER, G. (Ghent 27)	Y*	N*	Y*	Y*	Y*		—	Y	Y	Y	Y		Y*	Y	53	37
d — DICKLICH, R. (Hibbing 5)	—	Y	N	N	N		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y		Y*	Y	7	14
d — DIESSNER, B. (Afton 56)	Y*	N*	N	N	Y*		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y		Y*	Y	33	20
d — FRANK, D. (Spring Lake Park 51)	Y*	—	N	N	N		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y		Y*	Y	16	26
r — FREDERICK, M. (Owatonna 30)	Y*	Y	Y*	Y*	Y*		—	N*	Y	N*	Y		Y*	Y	62	58
d — FREDERICKSON, D.J. (Murdock 20)	Y*	Y	Y*	Y*	Y*		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y		Y*	Y	42	28
r — FREDERICKSON, D.R. (Morgan 23)	—	N*	Y*	Y*	Y*		Y	Y	Y	N*	Y		Y*	Y	53	62
d — FREEMAN, M. (Richfield 40)	Y*	Y	N	—	N		Y	N*	N*	Y	Y		Y*	Y	34	23
r — GUSTAFSON, J. (Duluth 8)	—	Y	Y*	Y*	Y*		—	N*	N*	Y	Y		Y*	Y	56	66
d — HUGHES, J. (Maplewood 54)	Y*	Y	Y*	N	N		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y		Y*	Y	25	16
r — JOHNSON, D.E. (Willmar 15)	Y*	Y	Y*	Y*	Y*		Y	Y	N*	N*	Y		Y*	Y	58	66
d — JOHNSON, D.J. (Cook 6)	Y*	Y	N	N	N		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y		Y*	Y	17	19
d — JUDE, T. (Maple Grove 48)	Y*	N*	Y*	Y*	Y*		Y	N*	N*	Y	Y		Y*	Y	67	50
r — KNAAK, F. (White Bear Lake 53)	Y*	N*	Y*	Y*	Y*		Y	N*	Y	N*	Y		Y*	Y	67	61
r — KNUTSON, H. (Burnsville 38)	Y*	N*	—	Y*	Y*		Y	Y	N*	N*	N*		Y*	Y	71	61
d — KROENING, C. (Mpls. 57)	N	Y	N	N	N		—	N*	Y	Y	Y		Y*	Y	16	
r — LAIDIG, G. (Stillwater 55)	Y*	N*	Y*	Y*	Y*		Y	N*	N*	N*	Y		Y*	Y	75	
d — LANGSETH, K. (Glyndon 9)	Y*	N*	Y*	Y*	Y*		Y	Y	Y	N*	Y		Y*	Y	58	34
d — LANTRY, M. (St. Paul 67)	Y*	Y	N	N	N		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y		Y*	Y	17	17
r — LARSON, C. (Fergus Falls 10)	Y*	Y	Y*	Y*	Y*		Y	N*	N*	N*	Y		Y*	Y	67	71
d — LESSARD, B. (International Falls 3)	Y*	Y	Y*	Y*	Y*		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y		Y*	Y	42	34
d — LUTHER, W. (Brooklyn Park 47)	Y*	Y	N	N	N		Y	Y	N*	Y	Y		Y*	Y	25	18
d — MARTY, J. (Roseville 63)	—	Y	N	N	N	NO	Y	Y	N*	Y	Y	NO	Y*	Y	16	15
r — McQUAID, P. (St. Louis Park 44)	Y*	N*	Y*	Y*	Y*	SENATE	Y	N*	N*	N*	Y	NO	Y*	Y	75	68
r — MEHRKENS, L. (Red Wing 26)	Y*	N*	Y*	Y*	Y*	VOTE	Y	Y	N*	N*	Y	NO	Y*	—	71	74
d — MERRIAM, G. (Coon Rapids 49)	Y*	N*	N	N	N		Y	Y	N*	Y	N*		Y*	Y	42	23
d — METZEN, J. (South St. Paul 39)	Y*	Y	N	N	N		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y		Y*	Y	17	27
d — MOE, D. (St. Paul 65)	Y*	N*	—	Y*	N		Y	—	N*	Y	Y		Y*	Y	46	21
d — MOE, R. (Erskine 2)	Y*	Y	Y*	Y*	N		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y		Y*	Y	33	23
d — MORSE, S. (Dakota 34)	Y*	N*	Y*	Y*	Y*		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y		Y*	Y	50	36
d — NOVAK, S. (New Brighton 52)	Y*	Y	N	N	N		Y	Y	Y	Y	—		Y*	Y	16	15
r — OLSON, G. (Minnetrista 43)	Y*	N*	Y*	Y*	Y*		Y	N*	N*	N*	Y		Y*	—	80	79
d — PEHLER, J. (St. Cloud 17)	Y*	N*	Y*	Y*	N		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y		—	Y	34	26
d — PETERSON, D. (Mpls. 61)	Y*	Y	N	N	N		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y		Y*	Y	17	12
d — PETERSON, R. (Wyoming 19)	Y*	N*	Y*	Y*	N		—	Y	N*	Y	N*		—	Y	56	28
d — PIPER, P. (Austin 31)	Y*	Y	N	N	N		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y		—	Y	7	4
d — POGEMILLER, L. (Mpls. 58)	Y*	Y	N	N	N		Y	—	Y	Y	Y		Y*	Y	16	11
d — PURFEERST, C. (Faribault 25)	Y*	Y	Y*	Y*	Y*		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y		Y*	Y	42	25
r — RAMSTAD, J. (Wayzata 45)	Y*	N*	Y*	Y*	Y*		Y	N*	N*	N*	Y		Y*	Y	75	70
d — REICHGOTT, E. (New Hope 46)	Y*	Y	N	N	N		Y	Y	N*	Y	Y		Y*	Y	25	25
r — RENNEKE, E. (LeSueur 35)	Y*	N*	Y*	Y*	Y*		Y	Y	N*	N*	Y		—	Y	62	62
d — SAMUELSON, D. (Brainerd 13)	Y*	Y	N	N	—		Y	N*	Y	Y	Y		Y*	Y	25	30
d — SCHMITZ, R. (Jordan 36)	Y*	Y	Y*	Y*	Y*		Y	Y	N*	Y	Y		Y*	Y	50	32
d — SOLON, S. (Duluth 7)	—	Y	N	Y*	Y*		—	Y	Y	Y	Y		—	Y	16	19
d — SPEAR, A. (Mpls. 59)	Y*	Y	N	N	N		Y	N*	N*	Y	Y		N	Y	25	11
r — STORM, D. (Edina 42)	Y*	N*	Y*	Y*	Y*		Y	N*	N*	N*	Y		Y*	Y	75	71
d — STUMPF, L. (Plummer 1)	Y*	Y	Y*	Y*	Y*		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y		Y*	Y	42	
r — TAYLOR, G. (Mankato 24)	Y*	N*	Y*	Y*	Y*		Y	Y	N*	—	Y		—	Y	56	
d — VICKERMAN, J. (Tracy 28)	Y*	Y	Y*	Y*	Y*		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y		Y*	Y	42	50
d — WALDORF, G. (St. Paul 66)	Y*	Y	N	—	N		Y	—	—	Y	Y		Y*	Y	16	32
d — WEGSHEID, D. (Apple Valley 37)	Y*	N*	—	Y*	Y*		Y	Y	Y	—	Y		Y*	—	50	33

KEY VOTES

Y = Yes
N = No
— means excused, absent, or not voting
denotes vote favored by LEA
1988% means percentage of legislator's votes that are correct according to LEA
C % means percentage of legislator's career votes that are correct according to LEA
Legislators absent for more than 5 votes are not rated

d = Democratic-Farmer-Labor
r = Independent-Republican

How We Calculate Rating Percentages

In the past LEA has always calculated rating percentages using the votes actually cast by each legislator, ignoring bills upon which that legislator did not cast a vote. That is, if LEA used 16 key votes and Rep. Doe voted "right" on 12 of them, "wrong" on 2, and failed to cast a vote on 2, his score would be 12/14, or 86 percent. We think it is very important that legislators vote on all legislation, even though we recognize that once in a while it is impossible to do so. Because we think voting is so important, for the 1988 session we deduct two percentage points for each vote missed. For example, in the case of Rep. Doe above, his net score would be 86 minus 4, or 82 percent.

1. TRIGGER TAX REPEAL (HF 2590 amendment, SF 1756). One of the most objectionable features of the 1987 Omnibus Tax Bill (see the 1987 LEA Report) was the "trigger tax." This would have automatically, without legislative action, raised taxes on individuals and corporations if the budget reserve fell to a low level. The increases would have continued even if a surplus developed. Whatever happened to the prudent concept of spending restraints to solve budgetary problems? In 1988 Rep. Valento proposed an amendment to HF 2590 to repeal the trigger tax. The House defeated this amendment, which LEA favored 62-70. In the Senate, Sen. Douglas Johnson introduced a separate bill (SF 1756) to repeal the trigger tax. It passed 61-1. (The trigger tax eventually was repealed in another bill.)

2. STATE DEPARTMENTS OMNIBUS BILL (HF 2344). AUTHORS: Kahn; Merriam. A "garbage bill" contains many unrelated items, some good, some bad. Many legislators vote for such bills because of benefits for their own districts and disregard accountability for the entire law. HF 2344 had plenty of "garbage" provisions including:

- \$350,000 to plan for more legislative offices.
- \$675,000 to plan Capitol landscaping and parking space.
- \$430,000 for the World Trade Center Corporation.
- \$2 million to the Minnesota Cold Climate Research Center.
- \$2 million to the Center for Transportation Studies.
- \$1 million for "Celebrate Minnesota 1990", a statewide celebration for an unspecified purpose.
- \$1.2 million for the State Zoo's whale tank.
- \$270,000 to pump the water out of an Iron Range mine.
- \$55,000 for a lawyer for "intergovernmental relations". Why this new position when the 1987 session authorized the Attorney General to add 19 lawyers to his staff?

LEA opposes this type of legislation. Many legislators held their noses and voted "yes" as this bill passed on final votes of 85-46 in the House and 37-29 in the Senate.

3. WORKERS' COMPENSATION (#1) (SF 2235). AUTHORS: Tunheim; Stumpf. Minnesota's business and jobs climate is harmed by our exorbitant \$1-billion-a-year system to compensate injured workers. Recent studies show that Minnesota's system is twice as expensive as those of Wisconsin or Iowa. The same insurance companies sell workers' compensation policies in these states. The main differences are in the benefits structures. This bill, a compromise, would have cut total costs by 16 percent, eliminating some benefits that are unique to Minnesota and go to only about three percent of recipients. It would also have re-regulated insurance companies, forced them to lower their rates, and frozen fees paid to lawyers and

medical providers. LEA favored the proposed improvement. It passed on final votes of 81-53 in the House and 41-23 in the Senate. The Governor vetoed it.

4. WORKERS' COMPENSATION (#2) (HF 1999). This bill as passed was much the same as HF 2235 (key vote 3) except that it increased insurance regulation, delayed the elimination of the workers' compensation court of appeals, and reinstated mandatory rehabilitation for some injured workers. Nevertheless LEA supported it. It passed on final votes of 77-51 in the House and 44-20 in the Senate. Once again the Governor vetoed, killing workers' compensation reform.

5. WORKERS' COMPENSATION (#3) (SF 1304). AUTHORS: Scheid; Merriam. This third workers compensation bill was called by Senator Berg a "poor relation" to the first two bills (key votes 3 and 4). It didn't address the problems of the system. Insurance companies were to reduce rates by 20.8 percent, but it cut costs by only 5 percent. Mandated rates cuts, and the likelihood that state insurance regulators would set artificially low rates, would drive many insurance companies out of the state. This sham reform passed the House 77-54. By a vote of 38-27, the Senate refused to concur. It was not enacted. LEA supported a NO vote in the House and a YES vote in the Senate.

6. LIMIT ON STATE INDEBTEDNESS (HF 1560). AUTHOR: D. Carlson. This bill would have set limitations on total state debt and debt service costs. It would have prohibited the Legislature and governor from enacting legislation that would: (1) cause biennial appropriation from the general fund for debt servicing to exceed 3% of non-dedicated general fund revenues; (2) cause long-term debt to exceed 2.5% of anticipated personal income in the state; (3) cause the total outstanding debt of all agencies and public corporations created by the Legislature to exceed 3.5% of anticipated total personal income in the state. These limitations could prevent the state from doing what the federal government has been doing - borrowing until interest on the debt alone eats a high proportion of government revenue. The House vote to recall the bill from committee failed 40-72. LEA supported the motion. There was no vote in the Senate.

7. COUNTY BONDS WITHOUT VOTER APPROVAL (HF 1796). AUTHORS: Rest; Novak. This bill, like HF 1560, involves government indebtedness. Contrary to previous law, it allows county boards to issue bonds for capital improvement without a vote of the people. It provides that such improvement must have the approval of the state Department of Trade and Development rather than the voters. It has become law. This is a movement of government away from control of the people and is looked on with disfavor by LEA. The final votes were 94-32 in the House and 59-0 in the Senate.

8. GAS TAX INCREASE (HF 1749). AUTHORS: Kalis; Purfeerst. This increased the state gasoline tax, already one of the highest in the nation, by three cents per gallon. LEA supports adequate funding for highway repair and construction, and supported the original plan designating the motor vehicle excise tax proceeds for this purpose. Recently most of the vehicle excise revenue has been kept in the general revenue fund instead of being transferred to the transportation fund. LEA sees the gas tax increase as a camouflage and subterfuge for the failure to comply with the original plan. This bill passed on final votes of 71-57 in the House and 40-23 in the Senate.

9. THE LOTTERY (HF 2182). AUTHORS: Munger; Moe, R. Recently Minnesotans were sold on how Canterbury Downs would produce revenue and reduce taxes. Now we are told that a state lottery will also do this. A

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KEY VOTES — continued

lottery might or might not produce some revenues, but the probability of reducing taxes, given the profligate record of the legislature, is essentially zero. Furthermore, HF 2182 allocates ALL monies from the lottery to the controversial Greater Minnesota Corporation and the Environmental Trust Fund. Another negative is that lotteries in other states have proved to be a tax on the poor. Also, LEA firmly believes that the state should not sponsor gambling. However, the lottery passed on final votes of 77-55 in the House and 37-28 in the Senate. This is a proposed constitutional amendment that will be on your 1988 ballot. North Dakota voters recently rejected a lottery. Let's hope Minnesota voters are as intelligent.

10. NATIONAL HEALTH INSURANCE (SF 2525). AUTHORS: Jaros; Berglin. This resolution memorializes the President and Congress to enact a program of national health insurance. This socialistic measure passed the House 74-47 and the Senate 43-22. The irony and lack of perspicacity represented by the resolution is monumental. Now that over 40 years of national health insurance in Britain and other nations has thoroughly proved how poorly it works, 130 Minnesota legislators want to establish it in the United States. Astounding!

11. TAXPAYER-PAID CHILD CARE FOR SPECIAL INTERESTS (HF 1989). AUTHORS: Trimble; Pehler. Imagine a governor-appointed task force, composed of several businessmen and a few state government representatives, chartered to recommend to the Legislature whether or not taxpayers should provide their enterprises with valuable services. Would that seem rather suspicious? Well, H.F. 1989, which passed on final votes of 125-0 in the House and 63-3 in the Senate, is a nearly exact parallel. It creates a task force composed of higher education school administrators and students, along with one representative each from the Department of Health, the Department of Human Services, and the Higher Education Coordinating Committee, to make recommendations to the state Senate as to whether, and what kind of, child care services taxpayers shall provide for higher education faculty, staff, and students. Would anybody care to guess what the recommendation would be? And would the Legislature request a report from such a loaded task force if there were not a predisposition to saddle taxpayers with the costs of child care for this special group? We doubt it.

12. POWER OF RECALL (HF 1284). AUTHORS: Thiede; Benson. This proposed constitutional amendment would have provided that an elective officer may be recalled by the eligible voters of the area from which the person was elected. Recall would be initiated by a petition signed by eligible voters equal in number to at least 25 percent of the vote cast in the last election for the office from which the person is to be recalled. No person could be recalled before completing one year of service in the office from which he is to be recalled. LEA supported this bill which was defeated on a House vote of 50-74. There was no Senate vote.

13. PORNOGRAPHY CLEANUP (SF 236). AUTHORS: Reding; Waldorf. This bill puts some teeth into the laws governing sales of obscene and pornographic materials and performances by imposing stiffer fines and other penalties. A first offense is a misdemeanor and a repeat offense a felony entailing possible jail time. This legislation, which LEA supported, passed on final votes of 120-4 in the House and 57-1 in the Senate.

14. CRIMES OF BIAS (HF 2340). AUTHORS: Orenstein; Spear. This bill, which became law, requires a peace officer to report to his superior every

violation of Minnesota Statutes 609 (or a local criminal ordinance) if the officer has reason to believe that the offender was motivated to commit the act because of the victim's race, religion, national origin, sex, age, disability, or characteristics identified as sexual orientation. This law has many flaws such as: (1) It makes a peace officer the only judge of the motive behind a crime. Even with special training, this will be sheer guesswork in most cases. (2) It will increase paperwork, leaving officers less time for keeping the peace. (3) The bureaucracy will expand to store and process all the "motivation" data. (4) It divides the population into classes (e.g., sex, race) rather than treating all people the same. (5) It is clearly based on the underlying assumption that assaulting someone to steal, for example, is somehow not as bad as assaulting someone for bias. LEA opposed this bill, which passed on final votes of 125-1 in the House and 64-0 in the Senate.

15. SEXUAL ORIENTATION PROTECTION (SF 2183). AUTHORS: Greenfield; Berglin. This bill would have increased the penalties for assault, damage to property, and harassment because of the victim's race, color, religion, sex, age, disability, national origin, or sexual orientation. It would have given special recognition to homosexuals based on their sexual practices, tending to legitimize homosexual behavior even though sodomy is still illegal. An amendment offered by Rep. Miller and others to remove sexual orientation from the classifications receiving special protection was defeated in the House 60-61. LEA supported the Miller amendment, and uses that vote in this rating. There was no similar vote in the Senate, that body did not act on the bill.

16. CONTRACEPTIVES IN SCHOOLS (SF 2137) The vote on an amendment proposed by Rep. Quist to this School Health Services bill is used for rating in this LEA Report. The amendment would have prohibited the sale, distribution, or prescription of contraceptives to students on school property. Distributing contraceptives, often without parental consent or knowledge, encourages and accelerates the sexual promiscuity that results in the spread of disease, teen-age pregnancy, and the tragedy of abortion. LEA strongly supported this amendment, which passed the House 87-36. Sadly, it was removed by a Senate-House conference committee, and was not written into law. There was no Senate vote on a like amendment.

17. VOTER REGISTRATION AT WELFARE DISPENSING OFFICES (HF 2126). This omnibus Health and Human Services bill contains a provision that requires Minnesota county welfare agencies to urge and assist welfare recipients in registering to vote. This service should not be provided by a government agency whose employees and clients have a special interest in voting for candidates who will promise them more taxpayer money. Voter registration is already easy and convenient in Minnesota. By contrast, federal regulations prohibit federal social service agencies from distributing voting information. LEA supported the amendment offered in the House by Rep. Forsythe to remove the voter registration provision from the bill. This amendment failed 53-74. That vote is used in this rating. There was no similar vote in the Senate.

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 votes 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

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