FIFTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATIVE DAY

St. Paul, Minnesota, Wednesday, April 15, 2026

The Senate met at 11:00 a.m. and was called to order by the President.

CALL OF THE SENATE

Senator Murphy imposed a call of the Senate. The Sergeant at Arms was instructed to bring in the absent members.

Prayer was offered by the Chaplain, Father Bobby Pish.

The members of the Senate gave the pledge of allegiance to the flag of the United States of America.

The roll was called, and the following Senators were present:

Abeler	Duckworth	Housley	Limmer	Port
Bahr	Farnsworth	Howe	Lucero	Pratt
Boldon	Fateh	Jasinski	Mann	Putnam
Carlson	Frentz	Johnson	Marty	Rarick
Champion	Green	Johnson Stewart	Mathews	Rasmusson
Clark	Gruenhagen	Klein	Maye Quade	Rest
Coleman	Gustafson	Koran	McEwen	Seeberger
Cwodzinski	Hauschild	Kreun	Mohamed	Utke
Dahms	Hawj	Kunesh	Murphy	Wesenberg
Dibble	Heintzeman	Kupec	Nelson	Westlin
Dornink	Hemmingsen-Jaeger	Lang	Oumou Verbeten	Westrom
Draheim	Hoffman	Latz	Pappas	Wiklund
Drazkowski	Holmstrom	Lieske	Pha	Xiong

The President declared a quorum present.

The reading of the Journal was dispensed with and the Journal, as printed and corrected, was approved.

EXECUTIVE AND OFFICIAL COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were received.

April 14, 2026

The Honorable Bobby Joe Champion
President of the Senate

Dear Senator Champion:

As the Senate Majority Leader, I hereby make the following appointment:

Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes

3.732: LCC Joint Subcommittee on Claims - Senator Oumou Verbeten to serve at the pleasure of the appointing authority.

Sincerely,
Erin Murphy
Senate Majority Leader

April 14, 2026

The Honorable Bobby Joe Champion
President of the Senate

Dear President Champion:

I have received, approved, signed, and deposited in the Office of the Secretary of State, Chapter 45, S.F. No. 3602 and Chapter 46, S.F. No. 3402.

Sincerely,
Tim Walz, Governor

April 14, 2026

The Honorable Lisa Demuth
Speaker of the House of Representatives

The Honorable Bobby Joe Champion
President of the Senate

I have the honor to inform you that the following enrolled Acts of the 2026 Session of the State Legislature have been received from the Office of the Governor and are deposited in the Office of the Secretary of State for preservation, pursuant to the State Constitution, Article IV, Section 23:

S.F. No.	H.F. No.	Session Laws Chapter No.	Time and Date Approved 2026	Date Filed 2026
	3556	44	9:41 a.m. April 14	April 14
3602		45	9:42 a.m. April 14	April 14
3402		46	9:45 a.m. April 14	April 14

Sincerely,
Steve Simon
Secretary of State

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

Senator Murphy moved that the Committee Reports at the Desk be now adopted, with the exception of the report on S.F. No. 4144. The motion prevailed.

Senator Marty from the Committee on Finance, to which was re-referred

S.F. No. 3593: A bill for an act relating to state government; proposing an amendment to the Minnesota Constitution, article XI, section 8; modifying the investment, management, and distribution policy for the permanent school fund; amending Minnesota Statutes 2024, sections 11A.16, subdivisions 5, 6; 127A.32.

Reports the same back with the recommendation that the bill be amended as follows:

Page 2, line 4, delete ", minus necessary administrative"

Page 2, line 5, delete "spending,"

Page 2, line 6, delete "Administrative spending shall be" and insert "Reasonable and necessary administrative costs associated with managing the fund or school trust lands may be paid from the fund"

Page 3, line 2, delete "five" and insert "4.5"

And when so amended the bill do pass and be re-referred to the Committee on Rules and Administration. Amendments adopted. Report adopted.

Senator Marty from the Committee on Finance, to which was re-referred

S.F. No. 4282: A bill for an act relating to education finance; making forecast adjustments to prekindergarten through grade 12 education programs; appropriating money; amending Laws 2025, First Special Session chapter 10, article 1, section 28, subdivisions 2, 3, 5, 8, 10, 11, 12; article 2, section 24, subdivisions 2, 14, 15, 24; article 3, section 15, subdivisions 3, 13; article 5, section 19, subdivision 2; article 6, section 6, subdivisions 2, 7; article 7, section 11, subdivisions 2, 4, 7, 8, 9; article 8, section 18, subdivisions 3, 6; article 9, section 11, subdivisions 2, 3, 4, 6, 10; article 10, section 10, subdivisions 3, 4, 6; article 11, section 2, subdivisions 2, 4.

Reports the same back with the recommendation that the bill be amended as follows:

Page 1, after line 10, insert:

"ARTICLE 1

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION"

Page 13, line 10, delete "Sections 1 to 33 are" and insert "This article is"

Page 13, after line 10, insert:

"ARTICLE 2

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

Section 1. **HUMAN SERVICES FORECAST ADJUSTMENTS.**

The sums shown in the columns marked "Appropriations" are added to or, if shown in parentheses, subtracted from the appropriations in Laws 2025, First Special Session chapter 3, article 20, and Laws 2025, First Special Session chapter 9, article 12, to the commissioner of human services from the general fund or other named fund for the purposes specified in section 2 and are available for the fiscal years indicated for each purpose. The figures "2026" and "2027" used in this article mean that the addition to or subtraction from the appropriation listed under them is available for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, or June 30, 2027, respectively.

	APPROPRIATIONS Available for the Year Ending June 30	
	2026	**2027**

Sec. 2. **COMMISSIONER OF HUMAN SERVICES.**

Subdivision 1. **Total Appropriation**			**$ 739,634,000**	**$ 775,035,000**
Appropriations by Fund				
General Fund	652,953,000	615,407,000		
Health Care Access Fund	86,681,000	159,628,000		
Subd. 2. **Forecasted Programs**				
(a) **General Assistance**			7,909,000	9,653,000
(b) **Minnesota Supplemental Aid**			2,976,000	3,233,000
(c) **Housing Support**			29,593,000	44,727,000
(d) **MinnesotaCare**			86,681,000	159,628,000
These appropriations are from the health care access fund.				
(e) **Medical Assistance**			589,777,000	525,140,000
(f) **Behavioral Health Fund**			22,698,000	32,654,000

Sec. 3. **EFFECTIVE DATE.**

This article is effective the day following final enactment.

ARTICLE 3

DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND FAMILIES

Section 1. **CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND FAMILIES FORECAST ADJUSTMENTS.**

The sums shown in the columns marked "Appropriations" are added to or, if shown in parentheses, subtracted from the appropriations in Laws 2025, First Special Session chapter 3, article 22, to the commissioner of children, youth, and families from the general fund or other named fund for the purposes specified in section 2 and are available for the fiscal years indicated for each purpose. The figures "2026" and "2027" used in this article mean that the addition to or subtraction from the appropriation listed under them is available for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, or June 30, 2027, respectively.

			APPROPRIATIONS Available for the Year Ending June 30	
			2026	**2027**
Sec. 2. **COMMISSIONER OF CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND FAMILIES.**				
Subdivision 1. **Total Appropriation**		**$**	**(45,161,000)**	**$** **(36,451,000)**
	Appropriations by Fund			
General Fund	(22,395,000)	(10,320,000)		
Federal TANF	(22,766,000)	(26,131,000)		
Subd. 2. **Forecasted Programs**				
(a) **MFIP/DWP**				
	Appropriations by Fund			
General Fund	(7,245,000)	(3,125,000)		
Federal TANF	(22,766,000)	(26,131,000)		
(b) **MFIP Child Care Assistance**			(26,220,000)	(18,822,000)
(c) **Northstar Care for Children**			11,070,000	11,627,000

Sec. 3. **EFFECTIVE DATE.**

This article is effective the day following final enactment.

ARTICLE 4

TRANSPORTATION; METRO MOBILITY

Section 1. Laws 2025, First Special Session chapter 8, article 1, section 3, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

		~~**114,258,000**~~		~~**120,091,000**~~
Subdivision 1. **Total Appropriation**	**$**	**123,181,000**	**$**	**131,011,000**

The appropriations in this section are from the general fund to the Metropolitan Council.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 2. Laws 2025, First Special Session chapter 8, article 1, section 3, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

	~~112,507,000~~	~~118,340,000~~
Subd. 3. **Special Transportation Service**	121,430,000	129,260,000

This appropriation is for special transportation service under Minnesota Statutes, section 473.386, including Metro Mobility and Metro Move.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective the day following final enactment."

Amend the title as follows:

Page 1, line 2, delete "education finance" and insert "forecast adjustments"

Page 1, line 3, after "programs" insert ", human services, the Department of Children, Youth, and Families, and Metro Mobility"

Amend the title numbers accordingly

And when so amended the bill do pass. Amendments adopted. Report adopted.

Senator Latz from the Committee on Judiciary and Public Safety, to which was referred

S.F. No. 4144: A bill for an act relating to public safety; requiring disclosure of chemical irritants used in certain buildings; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 626.

Reports the same back with the recommendation that the bill be amended as follows:

Delete everything after the enacting clause and insert:

"Section 1. **[626.745] USE OF CHEMICAL IRRITANTS; DISCLOSURE REQUIRED.**

Subdivision 1. **Definition.** For purposes of this section, "building" has the meaning given in section 609.581, subdivision 2.

Subd. 2. **Notice of use; identification of products deployed.** (a) Notwithstanding any data classification under chapter 13, a peace officer, law enforcement agency, and local unit of government must provide information about the use of any chemical irritant, smoke screen, or diversionary device deployed within a building as required under this section.

(b) A peace officer from a law enforcement agency that deploys a chemical irritant within a building, or an officer from the lead law enforcement agency if officers from multiple agencies deploy chemical irritants, must provide notice of the deployment to the owner of the building and, if the building is a private residence, the occupant of the residence. If the building contains two or more dwelling units, a peace officer must notify the occupant of any unit in which a chemical irritant was deployed. A peace officer may notify the occupant of any other unit. A peace officer may provide notice by giving a building owner or occupant the standard form created by the commissioner of public safety, leaving the form in a place where it is likely to be seen by a building owner or occupant, or providing the information contained in the form orally or in another format.

(c) Upon request, the law enforcement agency or local government unit that employs a peace officer who deployed a chemical irritant, smoke screen, or diversionary device within a building must disclose information about the products deployed to:

(1) the building owner;

(2) any tenant in the building;

(3) any applicable insurer; and

(4) any person retained to provide cleaning or other remediation services related to the deployment of chemical irritants, smoke screens, or diversionary devices.

(d) Information about any products deployed within a building must include the name, product number, and total number of all chemical irritants, smoke screens, and diversionary devices deployed by a peace officer employed by the law enforcement agency or local government unit.

(e) If officers from multiple law enforcement agencies deployed chemical irritants, smoke screens, or diversionary devices, the lead law enforcement agency must identify the other law enforcement agencies involved when responding to a request described in paragraph (c).

Subd. 3. **Standard form.** (a) The commissioner of public safety must create a standard notification form for use by peace officers and law enforcement agencies. At a minimum, the form must state that:

(1) a chemical irritant was deployed within the building;

(2) specialized cleanup or treatment of the building may be appropriate; and

(3) the building owner or occupant may contact the law enforcement agency or local government unit that employs the peace officer for more information about what substance was deployed in the building.

(b) The commissioner must provide the standard form to law enforcement agencies and local government units upon request and at no cost."

Delete the title and insert:

"A bill for an act relating to public safety; requiring disclosure of chemical irritants used in certain buildings; requiring the commissioner of public safety to develop a standard form; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 626."

And when so amended the bill do pass.

Pursuant to Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 6, the bill was referred to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

Senator Rest from the Committee on Taxes, to which was re-referred

S.F. No. 3900: A bill for an act relating to state government; implementing recommendations of the legislative auditor regarding agency grant, inventory, and debt collection practices; making lottery retailers responsible for lost, stolen, or missing lottery tickets; requiring the lottery director to amend rules; amending Minnesota Statutes 2024, sections 3.978, subdivision 3; 16B.24, by adding a subdivision; 16B.97, subdivisions 3, 4; 16B.98, subdivisions 3, 6, by adding subdivisions; 16D.03, by adding a subdivision; 349A.06, by adding a subdivision; Minnesota Statutes 2025 Supplement, sections 16A.057, subdivision 5; 16B.98, subdivision 6a; 16D.09, subdivision 1; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 16A.

Reports the same back with the recommendation that the bill be amended as follows:

Page 4, line 22, delete everything after "on" and insert "grantees that a commissioner has determined, based on objective criteria, pose a substantial risk of not performing duties required under the grant agreement"

Page 4, line 23, delete everything before the semicolon

Page 8, line 12, after "is" insert "financially"

Page 8, line 16, after "retailer's" insert "financial" and delete "not"

Page 8, line 17, after "tickets" insert "if granting a waiver is consistent with the secure, fair, and efficient operation of the lottery"

Page 8, after line 17, insert:

"(d) Notwithstanding paragraph (c), the director of the lottery may not waive a lottery retailer's financial responsibility for packs or portions of packs of lost, stolen, or missing tickets if any ticket in those packs or portions of packs has been cashed."

And when so amended the bill do pass and be re-referred to the Committee on Finance. Amendments adopted. Report adopted.

Senator Frentz from the Committee on Energy, Utilities, Environment, and Climate, to which was referred

S.F. No. 4504: A bill for an act relating to energy; clarifying the use of certain money provided to the Minnesota Climate Innovation Finance Authority; amending Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 216C.441, subdivision 3.

Reports the same back with the recommendation that the bill be amended as follows:

Delete everything after the enacting clause and insert:

"ARTICLE 1

ENERGY FINANCE AND POLICY

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 115C.08, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

Subd. 4. **Expenditures.** (a) Money in the fund may only be spent:

(1) to administer the petroleum tank release cleanup program established in this chapter;

(2) for agency administrative costs under sections 116.46 to 116.50, sections 115C.03 to 115C.06, and costs of corrective action taken by the agency under section 115C.03, including investigations;

(3) for costs of recovering expenses of corrective actions under section 115C.04;

(4) for training, certification, and rulemaking under sections 116.46 to 116.50;

(5) for agency administrative costs of enforcing rules governing the construction, installation, operation, and closure of aboveground and underground petroleum storage tanks;

(6) for reimbursement of the environmental response, compensation, and compliance account under subdivision 5 and section 115B.26, subdivision 4;

(7) for administrative and staff costs as set by the board to administer the petroleum tank release program established in this chapter;

(8) for corrective action performance audits under section 115C.093;

(9) for contamination cleanup grants, as provided in paragraph (c);

(10) to assess and remove abandoned underground storage tanks under section 115C.094 and, if a release is discovered, to pay for the specific consultant and contractor services costs necessary to complete the tank removal project, including, but not limited to, excavation soil sampling, groundwater sampling, soil disposal, and completion of an excavation report; ~~and~~

(11) to acquire interests in real or personal property, including easements, environmental covenants under chapter 114E, and leases, that the agency determines are necessary for corrective actions or to ensure the protectiveness of corrective actions. A donation of an interest in real property to the agency is not effective until the agency executes a certificate of acceptance. The state is not

liable under this chapter solely as a result of acquiring an interest in real property under this clause. Agency approval of an environmental covenant under chapter 114E is sufficient evidence of acceptance of an interest in real property when the agency is expressly identified as a holder in the covenant. Acquisition of real property under this clause, except environmental covenants under chapter 114E, is subject to approval by the board.; and

(12) to partially reimburse the cost of replacing pressurized single-walled steel piping related equipment in underground petroleum storage tank systems under section 115C.09, subdivision 3l.

(b) Except as provided in paragraph (c), money in the fund is appropriated to the board to make reimbursements or payments under this section.

(c) In fiscal years 2010 and 2011, $3,700,000 is annually appropriated from the fund to the commissioner of employment and economic development for contamination cleanup grants under section 116J.554. Beginning in fiscal year 2012 and each year thereafter, $6,200,000 is annually appropriated from the fund to the commissioner of employment and economic development for contamination cleanup grants under section 116J.554. Of this amount, the commissioner may spend up to $225,000 annually for administration of the contamination cleanup grant program. The appropriation does not cancel and is available until expended. The appropriation shall not be withdrawn from the fund nor the fund balance reduced until the funds are requested by the commissioner of employment and economic development. The commissioner shall schedule requests for withdrawals from the fund to minimize the necessity to impose the fee authorized by subdivision 2. Unless otherwise provided, the appropriation in this paragraph may be used for:

(1) project costs at a qualifying site if a portion of the cleanup costs are attributable to petroleum contamination or new and used tar and tar-like substances, including but not limited to bitumen and asphalt, but excluding bituminous or asphalt pavement, that consist primarily of hydrocarbons and are found in natural deposits in the earth or are distillates, fractions, or residues from the processing of petroleum crude or petroleum products as defined in section 296A.01; and

(2) the costs of performing contamination investigation if there is a reasonable basis to suspect the contamination is attributable to petroleum or new and used tar and tar-like substances, including but not limited to bitumen and asphalt, but excluding bituminous or asphalt pavement, that consist primarily of hydrocarbons and are found in natural deposits in the earth or are distillates, fractions, or residues from the processing of petroleum crude or petroleum products as defined in section 296A.01.

Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 115C.09, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 3l. **Reimbursement; single-walled steel piping.** (a) For the purposes of this subdivision, the following terms have the meanings given:

(1) "eligible equipment" means all equipment between the underground petroleum storage tank and the dispenser, including piping, probes, monitors, pumps, containment, and electrical equipment to support the equipment. Eligible equipment does not include underground petroleum storage tanks, dispensers, canopies, site improvements, or signage replacement;

(2) "eligible location" means an underground petroleum storage tank system that is located in Minnesota, has pressurized single-walled steel piping, and was installed before the effective date of this subdivision; and

(3) "qualified person" means someone who is registered as a contractor under sections 115C.11 to 115C.12 and, as part of the person's trade or business, installs or repairs pressurized underground petroleum storage tank systems.

(b) Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter or any rules adopted under this chapter, for replacement projects beginning after January 1, 2027, the board must reimburse an owner 50 percent of the cost of replacing existing eligible equipment at eligible locations with eligible equipment that meets all current applicable federal and Minnesota regulations and standards, provided that:

(1) the owner considered at least two bids and selected the bid with the lowest total cost; and

(2) the board determines that the costs incurred were reasonable.

(c) The board must not reimburse costs that the board determines were unreasonable.

(d) Reimbursement under paragraph (b) must not exceed $100,000 per eligible location.

(e) The maximum annual expenditure from the fund established under section 115C.08 for purposes of this subdivision must not exceed $4,000,000.

(f) An owner that owns or operates multiple eligible locations must not receive reimbursement for more than two eligible locations per calendar year.

(g) An owner may be reimbursed for the costs of:

(1) all eligible equipment;

(2) labor completed by a qualified person and associated with eligible equipment installation;

(3) labor completed by a qualified person and associated with dirt and concrete work directly associated with installing eligible equipment; and

(4) permits, freight, and shipping directly related to eligible equipment.

(h) Nothing in this subdivision prohibits an owner from receiving reimbursement from other sources for costs that are not reimbursed under this subdivision.

(i) This subdivision expires June 30, 2037.

Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2025 Supplement, section 216B.16, subdivision 15, is amended to read:

Subd. 15. **Low-income affordability programs.** (a) The commission must consider ability to pay as a factor in setting utility rates and may establish affordability programs for low-income residential ratepayers in order to ensure affordable, reliable, and continuous service to low-income

utility customers. A public utility serving low-income residential ratepayers who use natural gas or service from a thermal energy network, as defined in section 216B.2427, subdivision 1, for heating must file an affordability program with the commission.

(b) Any affordability program the commission orders a utility to implement must:

(1) lower the percentage of income that participating low-income households devote to energy bills;

(2) increase participating customer payments over time by increasing the frequency of payments;

(3) decrease or eliminate participating customer arrears;

(4) lower the utility costs associated with customer account collection activities; and

(5) coordinate the program with other available low-income bill payment assistance and conservation resources.

(c) In ordering affordability programs, the commission may require public utilities to file program evaluations that measure the effect of the affordability program on:

(1) the percentage of income that participating households devote to energy bills;

(2) service disconnections; and

(3) frequency of customer payments, utility collection costs, arrearages, and bad debt.

(d) The commission must issue orders necessary to implement, administer, and evaluate affordability programs, and to allow a utility to recover program costs, including administrative costs, on a timely basis. The commission may not allow a utility to recover administrative costs, excluding start-up costs, in excess of five percent of total program costs, or program evaluation costs in excess of two percent of total program costs. The commission must permit deferred accounting, with carrying costs, for recovery of program costs incurred during the period between general rate cases.

(e) Public utilities may use information collected or created for the purpose of administering energy assistance to administer affordability programs.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 4. **[216B.2413] PLUG-IN SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC DEVICE.**

Subdivision 1. **Definitions.** (a) "Electric utility" means a public utility, cooperative electric association, or municipal utility that provides electric service at retail to customers in Minnesota.

(b) "Energy storage system" has the meaning given in section 216B.2422, subdivision 1.

(c) "Photovoltaic device" has the meaning given in section 216C.06, subdivision 16.

(d) "Plug-in solar photovoltaic device" means a portable photovoltaic device that:

(1) is intended primarily to offset a portion of a customer's electricity consumption;

(2) has a maximum power output of 1,200 watts;

(3) is capable of being connected with an on-site energy storage system; and

(4) is listed or certified to UL 3700 as compliant with the requirements for interactive plug-in photovoltaic equipment and systems.

(e) "UL 3700" means a standard that is compliant with the National Electric Code and was developed by Underwriters Laboratories, a testing laboratory that is recognized under the federal Occupational Safety and Health Agency's Nationally Recognized Testing Laboratory program to certify photovoltaic equipment and systems.

Subd. 2. **Exemptions.** (a) A plug-in solar photovoltaic device is exempt from:

(1) a requirement to enter into an interconnection agreement with an electric utility;

(2) the net metering provisions under section 216B.164; and

(3) an electric utility's establishment of any fee, condition, required approval, or reporting requirement, except as specified in subdivision 3, on its installation or operation.

(b) An electric utility is not liable for damage or injury caused by a plug-in solar photovoltaic device.

Subd. 3. **Registration.** An electric utility may require a customer to register a plug-in solar photovoltaic device installed by the customer and provide the following information:

(1) the customer's name and contact information;

(2) the customer's service address and utility account number;

(3) the brand and model of the plug-in solar photovoltaic device; and

(4) the size of the plug-in solar photovoltaic device in kilowatts.

Subd. 4. **Installation.** A customer must install a plug-in solar photovoltaic device according to the manufacturer's installation instructions.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 5. **[216B.2429] THERMAL ENERGY NETWORKS.**

Subdivision 1. **Definitions.** For the purposes of this section, "thermal energy network" or "TEN" has the meaning given in section 216B.2427, subdivision 1.

Subd. 2. **Thermal energy network service.** A public utility may offer service by a thermal energy network.

Subd. 3. **Cost recovery.** A public utility must, subject to commission review and approval, recover reasonable and prudently incurred costs of implementing an approved TEN in a general rate case or, before December 31, 2036, in a thermal energy network service rider.

Subd. 4. **TEN consumer protection.** A utility's provision of service by a TEN is subject to the same laws, protections, and commission authority to which a utility's provision of natural gas service is subject under this chapter.

Subd. 5. **TEN siting; priorities.** In assessing locations at which to site a TEN, a utility must give preference to an area:

(1) whose residents have expressed a desire to have a TEN installed;

(2) whose characteristics resemble those of an area in which a successful TEN was completed under a natural gas innovation plan filed under section 216B.2427; or

(3) that includes or is within an environmental justice area, as defined in section 116.065, subdivision 1, paragraph (e).

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 6. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 216C.02, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Powers.** (a) The commissioner may:

(1) apply for, receive, and spend money received from federal, municipal, county, regional, and other government agencies and private sources;

(2) apply for, accept, and disburse grants and other aids from public and private sources;

(3) contract for professional services if work or services required or authorized to be carried out by the commissioner cannot be satisfactorily performed by employees of the department or by another state agency;

(4) enter into interstate or intrastate partnerships or compacts to carry out research and planning jointly with other states or the federal government, private entities, or nongovernmental organizations when appropriate;

(5) upon reasonable request, distribute informational material at no cost to the public; and

(6) enter into contracts for the performance of the commissioner's duties with federal, state, regional, metropolitan, local, and other agencies or units of government and educational institutions, including the University of Minnesota, without regard to the competitive bidding requirements of chapters 16A and 16C.

(b) The commissioner shall collect information on conservation and other energy-related programs carried on by other agencies, by public utilities, by cooperative electric associations, by municipal power agencies, by other fuel suppliers, by political subdivisions, and by private organizations. Other agencies, cooperative electric associations, municipal power agencies, and political subdivisions shall cooperate with the commissioner by providing information requested by the commissioner.

The commissioner may by rule require the submission of information by other program operators. The commissioner shall make the information available to other agencies and to the public and, as necessary, shall recommend to the legislature changes in the laws governing conservation and other energy-related programs to ensure that:

(1) expenditures on the programs are adequate to meet identified needs;

(2) the needs of low-income energy users are being adequately addressed;

(3) duplication of effort is avoided or eliminated;

(4) a program that is ineffective is improved or eliminated; and

(5) voluntary efforts are encouraged through incentives for their operators.

(c) By January 15 of each year, the commissioner shall report to the legislature on the projected amount of federal money likely to be available to the state during the next fiscal year, including grant money and money received by the state as a result of litigation or settlements of alleged violations of federal petroleum-pricing regulations. The report must also estimate the amount of money projected as needed during the next fiscal year to finance a level of conservation and other energy-related programs adequate to meet projected needs, particularly the needs of low-income persons and households, and must recommend the amount of state appropriations needed to cover the difference between the projected availability of federal money and the projected needs.

Sec. 7. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 216C.05, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Energy planning.** The legislature finds and declares that continued growth in demand for energy will cause severe social and economic dislocations, and that the state has a vital interest in providing for: increased efficiency in energy consumption, the development and use of renewable energy resources wherever possible, a secure and resilient energy system infrastructure, and the creation of an effective energy forecasting, planning, and education program.

The legislature further finds and declares that the protection of life, safety, and financial security for citizens during an energy crisis is of paramount importance.

Therefore, the legislature finds that it is in the public interest to review, analyze, and encourage those energy programs that will minimize the need for annual increases in fossil fuel consumption ~~by 1990~~ and the need for additional ~~electrical generating plants~~ electric generation, distribution, and storage, and provide for an optimum combination of energy sources and energy conservation consistent with environmental protection and the protection of citizens.

The legislature further finds that maintaining an energy security plan that addresses (1) all sources of regulated and unregulated energy, (2) a statewide risk assessment, (3) an all-hazards threat assessment, (4) analysis of cross-sector critical infrastructure interdependencies, (5) risk mitigation strategies, and (6) multistate and regional coordination is in the public interest. The responsibilities pursuant to the energy security plan must be executed under a planning, preparedness, and response framework, and in consultation with state agencies, local units of government, energy providers, community-based organizations, and others as appropriate.

The legislature intends to monitor, through energy policy planning and implementation, the transition from historic growth in energy demand to a period when demand for traditional fuels becomes stable and the supply of renewable energy resources is readily available and adequately utilized.

The legislature further finds that for economic growth, environmental improvement, and protection of citizens, it is in the public interest to encourage ~~those~~ energy programs and planning processes that ~~will~~ provide an optimum combination of energy resources, including energy savings.

Therefore, the legislature, through its committees, must monitor and evaluate progress toward greater reliance on cost-effective energy efficiency and renewable energy and lesser dependence on fossil fuels in order to reduce the economic burden of fuel imports, diversify utility-owned and consumer-owned energy resources, reduce utility costs for businesses and residents, improve the competitiveness and profitability of Minnesota businesses, increase energy security, create more energy-related jobs that contribute to the Minnesota economy, and reduce pollution and emissions that cause climate change.

Sec. 8. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 216C.377, subdivision 10, is amended to read:

Subd. 10. **Application deadline.** An application must not be submitted under this section after June 30, ~~2026~~ 2028.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective June 1, 2026.

Sec. 9. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 216C.377, subdivision 13, is amended to read:

Subd. 13. **Reporting.** Beginning January 15, 2025, and each year thereafter until January 15, ~~2027~~ 2029, the commissioner must report to the chairs and ranking minority members of the legislative committees with jurisdiction over energy finance and policy regarding grants and amounts awarded to local units of government under this section during the previous year and any remaining balances available in the account established under this section.

Sec. 10. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 216C.391, subdivision 6, is amended to read:

Subd. 6. **Grant awards; administration.** (a) An eligible entity seeking a grant award under subdivision 3 or an entity seeking a grant award under subdivision 4 must submit an application to the commissioner on a form prescribed by the commissioner. The commissioner is responsible for receiving and reviewing grant applications and awarding grants under this section, and shall develop administrative procedures governing the application, evaluation, and award process. The commissioner may not make a grant award under this section unless the commissioner has determined, and has notified the applicant in writing, that the application is complete. In awarding grants under this section, the commissioner shall endeavor to make awards to applicants from all regions of the state.

(b) The department must provide technical assistance to applicants. Applicants may also receive grant development assistance at no cost from entities awarded grants for that purpose under subdivision 4.

(c) Within ten business days of determining a grant award amount to an applicant, the commissioner must:

(1) reserve that amount for that specific grant in the state competitiveness fund account; and

(2) notify the Legislative Advisory Commission in writing of the reserved amount, the name of the applicant, the purpose of the project, and the unreserved balance of funds remaining in the account.

(d) Reserved funds are committed to the grant and use specified in the notice provided under paragraph (c) and are unavailable for reservation or appropriation for other applications unless and until the commissioner receives written notice from the applicant that the application for federal funds has been withdrawn or from the federal grantor that the application for which funds from the account were reserved has been denied federal funds.

(e) Reserved funds may only be expended upon presentation of written notice from the federal grantor to the commissioner stating that the applicant will receive federal funds for the project described in the application. If the amount of federal funds awarded to an applicant differs from the amount requested in the application, the commissioner may adjust the award made under this section accordingly. Notwithstanding sections 16B.98, subdivisions 5 and 7, and 16C.05, a reimbursement may cover cost-sharing expenses incurred after the start of the federal award agreement but before the date the contract with the state of Minnesota is effective, to ensure the applicant's compliance with federal award schedule requirements.

(f) Reserved funds must be made for projects that demonstrate they will help meet the state's clean energy and energy-related climate goals through renewable energy development, energy conservation, efficiency, or energy-related greenhouse gas reduction benefits.

(g) The commissioner must notify the chairs and ranking minority members of the legislative committees with jurisdiction over energy finance when the unreserved balance of the competitiveness fund account reaches the following amounts: 50 percent, unreserved; 25 percent, unreserved; 15 percent, unreserved; and five percent. The notification must be within ten days after each level of unreserved balance is reached.

Sec. 11. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 216C.391, subdivision 7, is amended to read:

Subd. 7. **Report; audit.** ~~Beginning February 15, 2024, and each~~ By February 15 ~~thereafter~~ each year until February 15, 2035, the commissioner must submit a written report to the chairs and ranking minority members of the legislative committees with jurisdiction over energy finance on the activities taken and expenditures made under this section. The report must, at a minimum, include the following information for the most recent calendar year:

(1) the number of applications for grants filed with the commissioner and the total amount of grant funds requested;

(2) each grant awarded;

(3) the number of additional personnel hired for the purposes of this section;

(4) expenditures on activities conducted under this section, reported separately for these areas:

(i) the provision of technical assistance;

(ii) grants made under subdivision 4 to entities to assist applicants with grant development;

(iii) application review and evaluation, including applicants that were denied federal or state grant awards and the reason for the denial;

(iv) information technology activities; and

(v) other expenditures;

(5) the unreserved balance remaining in the state competitiveness fund account;

(6) a copy of a financial audit of the department's expenditures under this section for the previous fiscal year, conducted by an independent auditor;

(7) recommendations for legislation to enhance the ability of eligible entities to successfully compete for federal funds;

(8) additional available funding opportunities to obtain energy-related funding from federal agencies; and

(9) federal grant program changes that would affect the federal funds available to the state and eligible applicants, including changes that would affect the required match for receiving federal funds.

Sec. 12. **[216C.392] SUPPLEMENTAL ENERGY ASSISTANCE GRANT PROGRAM.**

Subdivision 1. **Definitions.** (a) For the purposes of this section, the following terms have the meanings given.

(b) "LIHEAP" has the meaning given in section 142G.02, subdivision 59.

(c) "Crisis grant" means a grant to a low-income household to prevent shut-off of residential energy services, reinstate residential energy services, or enable delivery of residential fuels.

(d) "Primary energy grant" means a grant to help a low-income household maintain and continue affordable energy service.

Subd. 2. **Establishment.** A supplemental energy assistance grant program is established in the department to award grants to eligible applicants. The purpose of the program is to assist low-income households experiencing energy burden to pay the costs of heating, cooling, and other home energy costs throughout the year.

Subd. 3. **Applications; procedures.** (a) The commissioner must develop policies and procedures governing the grant application and award process, and must leverage existing LIHEAP application processes and infrastructure to the maximum degree practicable.

(b) An eligible applicant must file an application with the commissioner on a form developed by the commissioner. The form must be available to eligible applicants in both a paper and electronic format.

Subd. 4. **Eligibility.** (a) A Minnesota resident whose household income is below the income eligibility threshold identified in the Minnesota LIHEAP Detailed Model Plan submitted to the United States Department of Health and Human Services for the applicable program year is eligible to receive a grant award under this section. If the LIHEAP Detailed Model Plan is not available, the commissioner may develop a similar income eligibility threshold.

(b) An organization with experience conducting outreach for programs designed for low-income households is eligible for grants awarded under subdivision 6, clause (4).

Subd. 5. **Grant awards.** (a) When awarding grants under this section, the commissioner may give priority to expanding the number of households receiving energy assistance over increasing grant amounts to households that already received assistance under LIHEAP during the same year.

(b) To the extent practicable, available LIHEAP funds must be awarded to all eligible applicants for primary energy and crisis grants before energy and crisis grants are awarded under this section.

Subd. 6. **Types of grants.** The commissioner may award grants under this section for:

(1) crisis grants to households that received a LIHEAP primary energy grant from federal funds but did not receive the maximum crisis grant amount while federal funds allocated for crisis grants were available;

(2) primary energy and crisis grants to eligible households that did not receive LIHEAP primary energy and crisis grants from federal funds;

(3) emergency heating system repair or replacement; and

(4) outreach activities.

Subd. 7. **Reporting.** (a) Beginning January 31, 2028, and annually thereafter until January 31, 2030, the commissioner must submit a report to the chairs and ranking minority members of the senate and house of representatives committees with primary jurisdiction over energy policy and finance that documents state supplemental energy assistance grant awards made under this section during the previous program year from October 1 to September 30.

(b) To the extent practicable, the following information on grants awarded under this section must be reported by statewide total, by county, and by census tract within cities with populations over 30,000:

(1) the number of households awarded a grant;

(2) the number of households served that did not receive a LIHEAP primary energy grant;

(3) the average primary energy grant award;

(4) the average crisis grant award; and

(5) average annual costs of heating and electricity for households served.

(c) The following information on grants awarded under this section may be reported as statewide totals:

(1) the average household income of grant recipients;

(2) a distribution of grant awards by grant recipients' household income, expressed as a percentage of the federal poverty level established by the United States Department of Health and Human Services;

(3) the number of households that include a person over 60 years old;

(4) the number of households that include a disabled person;

(5) the number of households that include a child under six years old; and

(6) the number of households served by race or ethnicity.

(d) A report under this section must comply with chapter 13, including provisions establishing data on individuals as not public in order to ensure the individual privacy of applicants.

Sec. 13. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 216C.441, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

Subd. 3. **General powers.** (a) For the purpose of exercising the specific powers granted in this section, the authority has the general powers granted in this subdivision.

(b) The authority may:

(1) hire an executive director and staff to conduct the authority's operations;

(2) sue and be sued;

(3) have a seal and alter the seal;

(4) acquire, hold, lease, manage, and dispose of real or personal property for the authority's corporate purposes;

(5) enter into agreements, including cooperative financing agreements, contracts, or other transactions, with a Tribal government, any federal or state agency, county, local unit of government, regional development commission, person, domestic or foreign partnership, corporation, association, or organization;

(6) acquire by purchase real property, or an interest therein, in the authority's own name where acquisition is necessary or appropriate;

(7) provide general technical and consultative services related to the authority's purpose;

(8) promote research and development in matters related to the authority's purpose;

(9) conduct market analysis to determine where the market is underserved;

(10) analyze greenhouse gas emissions reduction project financing needs in the state and recommend measures to alleviate any shortage of financing capacity;

(11) contract with any governmental or private agency or organization, legal counsel, financial advisor, investment banker, or others to assist in the exercise of the authority's powers;

(12) borrow money or other property for any purpose pertaining to the authority's activities;

~~(12)~~ (13) enter into agreements with qualified lenders or others insuring or guaranteeing to the state the payment of qualified loans or other financing instruments; ~~and~~

(14) sell at a public or private sale a note, mortgage, or other interest or obligation that evidences or secures a loan; and

~~(13)~~ (15) accept on behalf of the state any gift, grant, or interest in money or personal property tendered to the state for any purpose pertaining to the authority's activities. Money received under this clause must be deposited in the account under subdivision 11.

Sec. 14. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 216C.441, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

Subd. 4. **Authority duties.** (a) The authority must:

(1) serve as a financial resource to reduce the upfront and total costs of implementing qualified projects;

(2) ensure that all financed projects reduce greenhouse gas emissions;

(3) ensure that financing terms and conditions offered are well-suited to qualified projects;

(4) strategically prioritize the use of the authority's funds to leverage private investment in qualified projects, with the aim of achieving a high ratio of private to public money invested through funding mechanisms that support, enhance, and complement private lending and investment;

(5) coordinate with existing federal, state, local, utility, and other programs to ensure that the authority's resources are being used most effectively to add to and complement those programs;

(6) stimulate demand for qualified projects by:

(i) contracting with the department to provide, including through subcontracts with community navigators, information to project participants about federal, state, local, utility, and other authority financial assistance for qualifying projects, and technical information on energy conservation and renewable energy measures;

(ii) forming partnerships with contractors and informing contractors about the authority's financing programs;

(iii) developing innovative marketing strategies to stimulate project owner interest, especially in underserved communities; and

(iv) incentivizing financing entities to increase activity in underserved markets;

(7) finance projects in all regions of the state;

(8) develop participant eligibility standards and other terms and conditions for financial support provided by the authority;

(9) develop and administer:

(i) policies to collect reasonable fees for authority services; and

(ii) risk management activities to support ongoing authority activities;

(10) develop consumer protection standards governing the authority's investments to ensure that financial support is provided responsibly and transparently and is in the financial interest of participating project owners;

(11) develop methods to accurately measure the impact of the authority's activities, particularly on low-income communities and on greenhouse gas emissions reductions;

(12) hire an executive director and sufficient staff with the appropriate skills and qualifications to carry out the authority's programs, making an affirmative effort to recruit and hire a director and staff who are from, or share the interests of, the communities the authority must serve;

(13) apply for, either as a direct or subgrantee applicant, and accept Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund grants authorized by the federal Clean Air Act, United States Code, title 42, section 7434, paragraph (a), clauses (1), (2), and (3). Until the Climate Innovation Finance Authority is established, the commissioner shall apply for and receive funding through Public Law 117-169 in order to leverage state investment, on behalf of the authority. To the extent practicable, applications for these funds by or on behalf of the authority should be made in coordination with other Minnesota applicants;

(14) acting under its powers as a state energy financing institution under United States Code, title 42, section 16511, collaborate with the United States Department of Energy Loan Programs Office to ensure that authorities made available under the Inflation Reduction Act of 2022, Public Law 117-169, maximally benefit Minnesotans. Until the Climate Innovation Finance Authority is established, the commissioner may engage with the United States Department of Energy Loan Programs Office on behalf of the authority; and

(15) ensure that authority contracts with all third-party administrators, contractors, and subcontractors contain required covenants, representations, and warranties specifying that contracted third parties are agents of the authority and that all acts of contracted third parties are considered acts of the authority, provided that the act is within the contracted scope of work.

(b) The authority may:

(1) employ credit enhancement mechanisms that reduce financial risk for financing entities by providing assurance that a limited portion of a loan or other financial instrument is assumed by the authority via a loan loss reserve, loan guarantee, or other mechanism;

(2) co-invest in a qualified project by providing senior or subordinated debt, equity, or other mechanisms in conjunction with other investment, co-lending, or financing;

(3) aggregate small and geographically dispersed qualified projects in order to diversify risk; ~~or~~

(4) secure additional private investment through securitization or similar resale of the authority's interest in a completed qualified project;

~~(4)~~ (5) expend up to 25 percent of funds appropriated to the authority for start-up purposes, which may be used for financing programs and project investments authorized under this section, prior to adoption of the strategic plan required under subdivision 7 and the investment strategy under subdivision 8; and

~~(5)~~ (6) require a specific project to agree to implement a project labor agreement as a condition of receiving financing from the authority.

Sec. 15. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 216C.441, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 4a. **Liability; limitation.** (a) The state is not liable on notes, loans, or other interests or obligations evidencing or securing a loan entered into by the authority under this section. A note, loan, or other interest or obligation securing a loan under this section is not a debt of the state.

(b) A note, loan, or other agreement or contract evidencing security for a loan entered into under this section must contain a statement that clearly indicates the liability limitation under paragraph (a).

Sec. 16. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 216C.46, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

Subd. 3. **Application.** (a) An application for a rebate under this section must be made to the commissioner on a form developed by the commissioner. The application must be accompanied by documentation, as required by the commissioner, demonstrating that:

(1) the applicant is an eligible applicant;

(2) the applicant owns the Minnesota residence in which the heat pump is to be installed or has the signed approval from the owner of the Minnesota residence in which the heat pump is to be installed;

(3) the applicant ~~has had an energy audit conducted of the residence in which the heat pump is to be installed within the last 18 months by a person with a Building Analyst Technician certification issued by the Building Performance Institute, Inc., or an equivalent certification, as determined by the commissioner~~, heat pump, and installation meet the federal Department of Energy's documentation and eligibility requirements to receive a heat pump rebate under the federal Inflation Reduction Act of 2022, Public Law 117-169;

(4) ~~either:~~ the applicant has accepted the potential impacts of replacing a natural gas primary heating system with a heat pump in the applicant's home;

~~(i) the applicant has installed in the applicant's residence, by a contractor with an Air Leakage Control Installer certification issued by the Building Performance Institute, Inc., or an equivalent~~

~~certification, as determined by the commissioner, the amount of insulation and the air sealing measures recommended by the auditor; or~~

~~(ii) the auditor has otherwise determined that the amount of insulation and air sealing measures in the residence are sufficient to enable effective heat pump performance;~~

(5) the applicant has purchased a heat pump of the capacity recommended by the auditor or contractor, and has had the heat pump installed by a contractor ~~with sufficient training and experience in installing heat pumps, as determined by the commissioner~~ approved to install heat pumps under comparable federal programs administered by the department under the federal Inflation Reduction Act of 2022, Public Law 117-169; and

(6) the total cost to purchase and install the heat pump in the applicant's residence.

(b) The commissioner must develop administrative procedures governing the application and rebate award processes.

(c) The commissioner may modify program requirements under this section when necessary to align with comparable federal programs administered by the department under the federal Inflation Reduction Act of 2022, Public Law ~~117-189~~ 117-169.

Sec. 17. **APPROPRIATION; PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION.**

$40,000 in fiscal year 2027 is appropriated from the general fund to the Public Utilities Commission for thermal energy network services provided under Minnesota Statutes, section 216B.2429.

Sec. 18. **APPROPRIATION; DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE.**

(a) $15,000,000 in fiscal year 2027 is appropriated from the general fund to the commissioner of commerce for the supplemental energy assistance grant program under Minnesota Statutes, section 216C.392. This is a onetime appropriation and is available until December 31, 2029.

(b) Of the amount appropriated in paragraph (a):

(1) up to 12.5 percent may be used for staffing and other costs associated with administering the supplemental energy assistance grant program under Minnesota Statutes, section 216C.392, including program planning and preparation, reviewing applications and verifying information, and entering data into a central electronic system maintained by the Department of Commerce. Of this funding, up to 2.5 percent may be used by the Department of Commerce. The remaining amount allocated under this clause may be used to reimburse reasonable administrative costs incurred under Minnesota Statutes, section 216C.392, by service providers contracted by the Department of Commerce to deliver LIHEAP services; and

(2) up to five percent may be used to reimburse the reasonable costs incurred under Minnesota Statutes, section 216C.392, by organizations the department has contracted with to provide outreach and assistance to households to complete grant applications under Minnesota Statutes, section 216C.392. Priority for grants awarded under this clause must be given to organizations that have

the ability to conduct outreach to underserved communities and populations, including current service providers and other organizations.

ARTICLE 2

RENEWABLE DEVELOPMENT FINANCE

Section 1. **RENEWABLE DEVELOPMENT FINANCE.**

The sums shown in the columns marked "Appropriations" are appropriated to the agencies and for the purposes specified in this article. Notwithstanding Minnesota Statutes, section 116C.779, subdivision 1, paragraph (j), the appropriations are from the renewable development account in the special revenue fund established in Minnesota Statutes, section 116C.779, subdivision 1, and are available for the fiscal years indicated for each purpose. The figures "2026" and "2027" used in this article mean that the appropriations listed under them are available for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, or June 30, 2027, respectively. "The first year" is fiscal year 2026. "The second year" is fiscal year 2027. "The biennium" is fiscal years 2026 and 2027. The appropriations in this article are onetime.

	APPROPRIATIONS Available for the Year Ending June 30	
	2026	**2027**
Sec. 2. **DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**		
Subdivision 1. **Total Appropriation**	**$ -0-**	**$ 22,335,000**
The amounts that may be spent for each purpose are specified in the following subdivisions.		
Subd. 2. **Microgrid Research and Application**		
$800,000 the second year is for a grant to the University of St. Thomas Center for Microgrid Research, which must be used to:		
(1) increase the center's capacity to provide industry partners with opportunities to test near-commercial microgrid products on a real-world scale and to multiply opportunities for innovative research;		
(2) procure advanced equipment and controls to enable the extension of the university's microgrid to additional buildings; and		

(3) expand (i) hands-on educational opportunities for undergraduate and graduate electrical engineering students to increase understanding of microgrid operations, and (ii) partnerships with community colleges. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2029.

Subd. 3. **Green Hydrogen Project**

$3,500,000 the second year is for a grant to the city of St. Cloud for the Green Hydrogen Project to incorporate a battery and renewable energy system. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2029.

Subd. 4. **Anaerobic Digester Energy System**

$5,000,000 the second year is for a grant to Ramsey/Washington Recycling and Energy, in partnership with Dem-Con HZI Bioenergy, LLC, to construct an anaerobic digester energy system in Louisville Township. For the purposes of this subdivision, "anaerobic digester energy system" means a facility that uses diverted food and organic waste to create renewable natural gas and biochar. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2029.

Subd. 5. **Como Zoo Geothermal Energy System**

$2,250,000 the second year is for a grant to Como Zoo in the city of St. Paul to construct a geothermal energy system that provides space heating and cooling to the large cats building. For the purposes of this subdivision, "geothermal energy system" means a system composed of a heat pump that moves a heat-transferring fluid through piping embedded in the earth and absorbs the earth's constant temperature, a heat exchanger, and ductwork to distribute heated and cooled air to a building. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2029.

Subd. 6. **Minnesota Energy Alley**

(a) $2,000,000 the first year is for a grant to Clean Energy Economy Minnesota for the

Minnesota Energy Alley initiative. The initiative is designed to promote energy innovation through supporting energy entrepreneurs and emerging businesses to commercialize energy solutions by matching promising innovators with established and trustworthy Minnesota-based public and private partners to demonstrate emerging technologies in real-world applications. The grant may be used to provide seed funding for businesses, develop a training and development program, support recruitment of entrepreneurs to Minnesota, and secure funding from federal programs and corporate partners to establish a self-sustaining, long-term revenue model. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2028.

(b) By January 15, 2028, the commissioner of commerce must submit a written report to the chairs and ranking minority members of the house of representatives and senate committees with jurisdiction over energy finance and policy on the activities and accomplishments of the Minnesota Energy Alley initiative during the previous fiscal year and the disposition of this appropriation, including a separate statement of the amount of administrative costs.

Subd. 7. **Ammonia, Hydrogen, and Renewable Energy Certificate Tracking**

(a) $2,000,000 the second year is for a grant to CleanCounts for technology that enables tradable ammonia, hydrogen, and renewable energy certificates.

(b) Beginning January 1, 2027, and through January 1, 2031, an entity that receives a grant under this subdivision must submit a report to the legislative auditor that details how the grant money received has been spent.

(c) Beginning January 1, 2031, and through January 1, 2036, an entity that receives a grant under this subdivision must report to

the commissioners of commerce and agriculture regarding the number of ammonia certificates issued in Minnesota as a result of the grant money received.

(d) This appropriation is available until June 30, 2029.

Subd. 8. **Great Plains Institute**

$500,000 the second year is for a grant to the Great Plains Institute for work related to identifying existing and future areas of the state that are suitable for additional distributed ammonia production and that have nearby wind or other curtailed power. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2029.

Subd. 9. **Macalester College Geothermal Energy System**

(a) $2,570,000 the second year is for a grant to Macalester College in St. Paul to construct an aquifer-based geothermal energy system that provides space heating and cooling to a new campus residence hall and welcome center, with the capacity for future expansion to serve as a district heating and cooling plant for all campus buildings north of Grand Avenue. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2029.

(b) For purposes of this section, "aquifer-based geothermal energy system" means a system composed of wells that access underground aquifers, heat pumps that transfer thermal energy between buildings and the aquifer, heat exchangers, and associated distribution infrastructure.

Subd. 10. **Biomass Energy Facility**

(a) $715,000 the second year is for a grant to Liberty Paper, Inc. to study and plan for an anaerobic digester or a biomass thermal generation facility in the city of Becker. This is a onetime appropriation and is available until June 30, 2029.

(b) For purposes of this section, the following terms have the meanings given: (1) "anaerobic digester" means a facility that uses diverted food and organic waste to generate renewable natural gas and biochar; (2) "biochar" means a solid substance, made from burning organic material, that sequesters carbon and is capable of being used as a soil application; and (3) "biomass thermal generation facility" means a facility that generates energy for commercial heat or industrial process heat from the combustion of organic material.

Subd. 11. **Geothermal Energy System; The Heights Community Energy**

(a) $3,000,000 in the second year is for a grant to The Heights Community Energy to construct a geothermal energy system.

(b) For purposes of this section, "geothermal energy system" means a system composed of one or more heat pumps connected to piping embedded in the earth that exchanges thermal energy with the earth and associated distribution and building mechanical infrastructure to provide heating and cooling to one or more buildings.

Subd. 12. **Grant Administration**

Notwithstanding Minnesota Statutes, section 16B.98, subdivision 14, the commissioner may use up to $250,000 of the amount in this section for the administrative costs of the grants in this section.

Sec. 3. **UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA** **$ -0- $ 2,900,000**

(a) $1,500,000 the second year is for research, development, outreach, and demonstration of energy systems that use hydrogen and ammonia production from renewable energy resources and other sources of clean energy as a means of storing and generating electricity. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2029.

(b) $650,000 the second year is for the Natural Resources Research Institute to evaluate the state's geological hydrogen potential. The evaluation must include: (1) the availability of the mined hydrogen resource; (2) the feasibility of extracting the hydrogen from underground deposits; (3) the potential groundwater management challenges; and (4) cost-effective strategies for storing and transporting mined hydrogen. The Natural Resources Research Institute must submit the evaluation and an interim report to the chairs and ranking minority members of the legislative committees with jurisdiction over energy policy and finance by May 15, 2028, and a final report by May 15, 2029.

(c) $750,000 the second year is for the Natural Resources Research Institute to evaluate new feedstock resources for a globally competitive, next generation iron ore industry. The study must include but is not limited to quantification and characterization of resources related to iron ore, energy, water, hydrogen, biomass, carbon materials, process technologies, transportation, and manufacturing infrastructure that support cross-coupling of iron production with industries such as liquid fuels and ammonia. The Natural Resources Research Institute must submit the results of the study and an interim report to the chairs and ranking minority members of the legislative committees with jurisdiction over energy policy and finance by May 15, 2028, and a final report by May 15, 2029.

Sec. 4. **POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY** **$** **-0-** **$** **3,000,000**

$3,000,000 the second year is for a grant to the owner of a biomass energy generation plant in Shakopee that uses waste heat from the generation of electricity in the malting process to purchase equipment to facilitate the disposal of wood that is infested by emerald ash borer. This appropriation is

available until June 30, 2029. Notwithstanding Minnesota Statutes, section 16B.98, subdivision 14, the commissioner of the Pollution Control Agency may use up to $25,000 of the amount in this section for the administrative costs of this grant.

Sec. 5. **DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE** **$ -0- $ 4,000,000**

$4,000,000 the second year is for a grant to TalusAg for the production and operation of at least two green fertilizer production systems located in Minnesota. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2029. Notwithstanding Minnesota Statutes, section 16B.98, subdivision 14, the commissioner of agriculture may use up to $25,000 of the amount in this section for the administrative costs of this grant.

Sec. 6. **PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION** **$ -0- $ 300,000**

(a) $300,000 the second year is to contract with a third party to conduct a study to inform policymakers regarding the potential impact of new nuclear generation on the public interest of Minnesota, including affordability, reliability, environmental protection, public health, and equitable outcomes.

(b) The commission must issue a competitive request for proposals and contract with an independent, qualified entity or consortium with demonstrated expertise in relevant subject matter, and with no material financial interest in the expansion of nuclear generation. The commission must ensure balanced representation of perspectives in the study. The selected entity must disclose any potential conflicts of interest to the commission. If the commission determines that issuing a competitive request for proposals would unreasonably delay completion of the study within the required timeline, the commission may contract on a sole-source basis, provided that the selected

entity meets the qualifications and independence requirements under this paragraph.

(c) The study must be completed no later than January 30, 2027, and must include, at a minimum, discussion of:

(1) changes in federal regulations governing the licensing of nuclear-powered facilities that may speed the review and approval process;

(2) technological advances made with respect to conventional nuclear-powered facilities that affect safety and cost;

(3) full lifecycle costs, including capital costs, financing costs, construction risk, cost overruns, decommissioning costs, waste management, and long-term liability exposure compared to alternative resource options. The analysis must include historical evidence from comparable projects in the United States and internationally;

(4) ratepayer impacts where new nuclear generation has been developed, including effects on electricity rates, cost and schedule overruns, and the allocation of financial risk between ratepayers and developers;

(5) public finance protections such as public subsidies, tax expenditures, and financial incentives required, and the opportunity cost of those public investments;

(6) the prospects for small modular reactors and factory-built portable modules with a capacity up to 300 megawatts, including:

(i) the types of technologies available;

(ii) current licensing status; and

(iii) estimated costs;

(7) siting issues, including:

(i) the degree to which the requirement for proximity to water resources sufficient for cooling purposes restricts possible locations of nuclear facilities, and what locations meeting that requirement are available in this state;

(ii) the potential for colocating nuclear facilities with businesses that demand very large amounts of electricity;

(iii) the environmental impacts of nuclear facilities, including impacts on the health of nearby residents;

(iv) the prospects for acceptance of nuclear facilities by host communities, and best practices for engaging communities on this issue; and

(v) how interconnection and transmission issues affect potential plant locations;

(8) nuclear waste issues, including:

(i) the amount and toxicity of radioactive waste produced by both conventional nuclear technologies and small modular reactors;

(ii) the costs of on-site storage;

(iii) the prospects for developing permanent storage of radioactive waste at either a federally-owned or privately-owned repository to which Minnesota's waste could be transported; and

(iv) the feasibility and cost of reprocessing nuclear waste;

(9) the economic impacts of various nuclear technologies on a host community, including:

(i) increased employment levels during construction and operations;

(ii) increased local economic activity resulting from purchases made by the

nuclear-powered facility and the facility's employees; and

(iii) potential tax revenue to local communities, local schools, and the state;

(10) impacts of new nuclear-powered electric generating plants on public safety officials and emergency responders in host communities and adjacent areas with respect to emergency planning efforts;

(11) system integration, including impacts on grid flexibility, compatibility with high levels of renewable energy, ramping capability, and implications for achieving Minnesota's greenhouse gas reduction goals;

(12) how new nuclear generation could accelerate or delay achievement of, and assist or hinder ongoing compliance with, Minnesota's statutory greenhouse gas reduction and carbon-free electricity goals, including comparison of deployment timelines;

(13) expected timelines from permitting through operation, including historical averages and delays for similar projects;

(14) current Minnesota statutes and administrative rules that would require modification in order to enable the construction and operation of advanced nuclear reactors;

(15) the feasibility of replacing retiring generation assets in host communities with advanced nuclear reactors; and

(16) the workforce required and available, and the training capacity to construct and operate new nuclear reactors.

(d) The study must be conducted transparently, with all data, assumptions, and models publicly available.

(e) No later than February 1, 2027, the commission must submit the study to the chairs and ranking minority members of the senate and house of representatives committees responsible for energy policy and finance.

Sec. 7. **TRANSFERS.**

(a) $2,000,000 in fiscal year 2027 is transferred from the renewable development account in the special revenue fund to the geothermal planning grant account under Minnesota Statutes, section 216C.47, subdivision 3. This is a onetime transfer.

(b) $4,465,000 in fiscal year 2027 is transferred from the renewable development account in the special revenue fund to the preweatherization account under Minnesota Statutes, section 216C.264, subdivision 1c. This is a onetime transfer.

Sec. 8. **RENEWABLE DEVELOPMENT ACCOUNT; ONETIME REDUCTION.**

(a) The amount transferred to the renewable development account under Minnesota Statutes, section 116C.779, subdivision 1, paragraph (c), on January 15, 2027, is reduced by $2,000,000.

(b) The amount transferred to the renewable development account under Minnesota Statutes, section 116C.779, subdivision 1, paragraph (d), on January 15, 2027, is reduced by $2,000,000.

(c) The public utility subject to Minnesota Statutes, section 116C.779, must reduce the public utility's cost recovery under Minnesota Statutes, section 216B.1645, subdivision 2, to reflect the reduced transfers in paragraphs (a) and (b) in calendar year 2027."

Delete the title and insert:

"A bill for an act relating to energy; establishing and modifying provisions related to petroleum, thermal energy network service, solar, and other energy policy; establishing the supplemental energy assistance grant program; establishing a supplemental budget for energy and renewable energy purposes; requiring reports; amending Minnesota Statutes 2024, sections 115C.08, subdivision 4; 115C.09, by adding a subdivision; 216C.02, subdivision 1; 216C.05, subdivision 1; 216C.377, subdivisions 10, 13; 216C.391, subdivisions 6, 7; 216C.441, subdivisions 3, 4, by adding a subdivision; 216C.46, subdivision 3; Minnesota Statutes 2025 Supplement, section 216B.16, subdivision 15; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapters 216B; 216C."

And when so amended the bill do pass and be re-referred to the Committee on Finance. Amendments adopted. Report adopted.

Senator Murphy, from the Committee on Rules and Administration, to which was referred

H.F. No. 3437 for comparison with companion Senate File, reports the following House File was found not identical with companion Senate File as follows:

GENERAL ORDERS		CONSENT CALENDAR		CALENDAR	
H.F. No.	S.F. No.	H.F. No.	S.F. No.	H.F. No.	S.F. No.
3437	4168				

Pursuant to Rule 45, the Committee on Rules and Administration recommends that H.F. No. 3437 be amended as follows:

Delete all the language after the enacting clause of H.F. No. 3437, the first engrossment; and insert the language after the enacting clause of S.F. No. 4168, the first engrossment; further, delete the title of H.F. No. 3437, the first engrossment; and insert the title of S.F. No. 4168, the first engrossment.

And when so amended H.F. No. 3437 will be identical to S.F. No. 4168, and further recommends that H.F. No. 3437 be given its second reading and substituted for S.F. No. 4168, and that the Senate File be indefinitely postponed.

Pursuant to Rule 45, this report was prepared and submitted by the Secretary of the Senate on behalf of the Committee on Rules and Administration. Amendments adopted. Report adopted.

Senator Murphy, from the Committee on Rules and Administration, to which was referred

H.F. No. 3467 for comparison with companion Senate File, reports the following House File was found not identical with companion Senate File as follows:

GENERAL ORDERS		CONSENT CALENDAR		CALENDAR	
H.F. No.	S.F. No.	H.F. No.	S.F. No.	H.F. No.	S.F. No.
3467	3956				

Pursuant to Rule 45, the Committee on Rules and Administration recommends that H.F. No. 3467 be amended as follows:

Delete all the language after the enacting clause of H.F. No. 3467, the first engrossment; and insert the language after the enacting clause of S.F. No. 3956, the first engrossment; further, delete the title of H.F. No. 3467, the first engrossment; and insert the title of S.F. No. 3956, the first engrossment.

And when so amended H.F. No. 3467 will be identical to S.F. No. 3956, and further recommends that H.F. No. 3467 be given its second reading and substituted for S.F. No. 3956, and that the Senate File be indefinitely postponed.

Pursuant to Rule 45, this report was prepared and submitted by the Secretary of the Senate on behalf of the Committee on Rules and Administration. Amendments adopted. Report adopted.

Senator Murphy, from the Committee on Rules and Administration, to which was referred

H.F. No. 3479 for comparison with companion Senate File, reports the following House File was found identical and recommends the House File be given its second reading and substituted for its companion Senate File as follows:

GENERAL ORDERS		CONSENT CALENDAR		CALENDAR	
H.F. No.	S.F. No.	H.F. No.	S.F. No.	H.F. No.	S.F. No.
3479	3791				

and that the above Senate File be indefinitely postponed.

Pursuant to Rule 45, this report was prepared and submitted by the Secretary of the Senate on behalf of the Committee on Rules and Administration. Report adopted.

Senator Murphy, from the Committee on Rules and Administration, to which was referred

H.F. No. 3544 for comparison with companion Senate File, reports the following House File was found identical and recommends the House File be given its second reading and substituted for its companion Senate File as follows:

GENERAL ORDERS		CONSENT CALENDAR		CALENDAR	
H.F. No.	S.F. No.	H.F. No.	S.F. No.	H.F. No.	S.F. No.
3544	4072				

and that the above Senate File be indefinitely postponed.

Pursuant to Rule 45, this report was prepared and submitted by the Secretary of the Senate on behalf of the Committee on Rules and Administration. Report adopted.

Senator Murphy, from the Committee on Rules and Administration, to which was referred

H.F. No. 3699 for comparison with companion Senate File, reports the following House File was found identical and recommends the House File be given its second reading and substituted for its companion Senate File as follows:

GENERAL ORDERS		CONSENT CALENDAR		CALENDAR	
H.F. No.	S.F. No.	H.F. No.	S.F. No.	H.F. No.	S.F. No.
3699	4374				

and that the above Senate File be indefinitely postponed.

Pursuant to Rule 45, this report was prepared and submitted by the Secretary of the Senate on behalf of the Committee on Rules and Administration. Report adopted.

Senator Murphy, from the Committee on Rules and Administration, to which was referred

H.F. No. 4118 for comparison with companion Senate File, reports the following House File was found not identical with companion Senate File as follows:

GENERAL ORDERS		CONSENT CALENDAR		CALENDAR	
H.F. No.	S.F. No.	H.F. No.	S.F. No.	H.F. No.	S.F. No.
4118	4444				

Pursuant to Rule 45, the Committee on Rules and Administration recommends that H.F. No. 4118 be amended as follows:

Delete all the language after the enacting clause of H.F. No. 4118, the first engrossment; and insert the language after the enacting clause of S.F. No. 4444; further, delete the title of H.F. No. 4118, the first engrossment; and insert the title of S.F. No. 4444.

And when so amended H.F. No. 4118 will be identical to S.F. No. 4444, and further recommends that H.F. No. 4118 be given its second reading and substituted for S.F. No. 4444, and that the Senate File be indefinitely postponed.

Pursuant to Rule 45, this report was prepared and submitted by the Secretary of the Senate on behalf of the Committee on Rules and Administration. Amendments adopted. Report adopted.

Senator Murphy, from the Committee on Rules and Administration, to which was referred

H.F. No. 4241 for comparison with companion Senate File, reports the following House File was found not identical with companion Senate File as follows:

GENERAL ORDERS		CONSENT CALENDAR		CALENDAR	
H.F. No.	S.F. No.	H.F. No.	S.F. No.	H.F. No.	S.F. No.
4241	4660				

Pursuant to Rule 45, the Committee on Rules and Administration recommends that H.F. No. 4241 be amended as follows:

Delete all the language after the enacting clause of H.F. No. 4241, the first engrossment; and insert the language after the enacting clause of S.F. No. 4660; further, delete the title of H.F. No. 4241, the first engrossment; and insert the title of S.F. No. 4660.

And when so amended H.F. No. 4241 will be identical to S.F. No. 4660, and further recommends that H.F. No. 4241 be given its second reading and substituted for S.F. No. 4660, and that the Senate File be indefinitely postponed.

Pursuant to Rule 45, this report was prepared and submitted by the Secretary of the Senate on behalf of the Committee on Rules and Administration. Amendments adopted. Report adopted.

SECOND READING OF SENATE BILLS

S.F. No. 4282 was read the second time.

SECOND READING OF HOUSE BILLS

H.F. Nos. 3437, 3467, 3479, 3544, 3699, 4118, and 4241 were read the second time.

INTRODUCTION AND FIRST READING OF SENATE BILLS

The following bills were read the first time.

Senator Dahms introduced--

S.F. No. 5130: A bill for an act relating to legacy; appropriating money from the clean water fund for a demonstration project to treat landfill leachate for PFAS, chloride, and other contaminants.

Referred to the Committee on Environment, Climate, and Legacy.

Senator Dahms introduced--

S.F. No. 5131: A bill for an act relating to environment; appropriating money from the environment and natural resources trust fund for a demonstration project to treat landfill leachate for PFAS, chloride, and other contaminants.

Referred to the Committee on Environment, Climate, and Legacy.

Senator Xiong introduced--

S.F. No. 5132: A bill for an act relating to taxation; sales and use; providing a refundable exemption for the city of Oakdale for the construction of certain government facilities.

Referred to the Committee on Taxes.

Senator Xiong introduced--

S.F. No. 5133: A bill for an act relating to capital investment; appropriating money for water infrastructure in the city of Oakdale; authorizing the sale and issuance of state bonds.

Referred to the Committee on Capital Investment.

Senator Fateh introduced--

S.F. No. 5134: A bill for an act relating to labor; creating and regulating collective bargaining rights for transportation network company drivers; authorizing rulemaking; establishing a civil penalty; amending Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 181C.03; proposing coding for new law as Minnesota Statutes, chapter 179B.

Referred to the Committee on Labor.

Senator Oumou Verbeten introduced--

S.F. No. 5135: A bill for an act relating to capital investment; appropriating money for rehabilitation of the Gateway State Trail; authorizing the sale and issuance of state bonds.

Referred to the Committee on Capital Investment.

Senator Johnson introduced--

S.F. No. 5136: A bill for an act relating to civil law; establishing a civil cause of action for disparagement of perishable food products; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 604.

Referred to the Committee on Judiciary and Public Safety.

Senator Kunesh introduced--

S.F. No. 5137: A bill for an act relating to education; modifying provisions for the Office of the Inspector General within the Department of Education; providing for access to records by the Office of the Inspector General; classifying data; providing for immunity and confidentiality in reporting or participating in an investigation; establishing a process for notice, appeal, and withholding of payments; amending Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 127A.21, subdivisions 1, 1a, 4, 6, by adding subdivisions; Minnesota Statutes 2025 Supplement, sections 13.82, subdivision 1; 127A.21, subdivision 5; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 13.

Referred to the Committee on Education Policy.

Senator Mathews introduced--

S.F. No. 5138: A bill for an act relating to public safety; providing criminal penalties for bribing or corruptly influencing a juror; amending Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 609.425; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 609.

Referred to the Committee on Judiciary and Public Safety.

Senator Rarick introduced--

S.F. No. 5139: A bill for an act relating to taxation; property; modifying class 2 agricultural property classification to include certain farm wineries; amending Minnesota Statutes 2025 Supplement, section 273.13, subdivision 23.

Referred to the Committee on Taxes.

Senators Rasmusson and Weber introduced--

S.F. No. 5140: A bill for an act relating to health occupations; authorizing the operation of remote pickup sites from which patients may obtain drugs and devices dispensed by a managing pharmacy; authorizing rulemaking; amending Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 151.19, subdivision 1; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 151.

Referred to the Committee on Health and Human Services.

Senator Kreun introduced--

S.F. No. 5141: A bill for an act relating to public safety; prohibiting the Department of Public Safety from accepting private funds for any purpose; amending Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 299A.012.

Referred to the Committee on Judiciary and Public Safety.

Senators Coleman, Hemmingsen-Jaeger, and Housley introduced--

S.F. No. 5142: A bill for an act relating to health insurance; requiring coverage of medical services and prescription medications for the treatment of dementia; modifying step therapy requirements for medical assistance; amending Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 256B.0625, subdivision 13f; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 62Q.

Referred to the Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection.

Senators Mohamed, Marty, McEwen, and Mann introduced--

S.F. No. 5143: A bill for an act relating to public safety; prohibiting the sale and possession of toxic ammunition; amending Minnesota Statutes 2024, sections 87A.02, subdivision 2; 87A.10; 97A.045, by adding a subdivision; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapters 325F; 624.

Referred to the Committee on Judiciary and Public Safety.

Senators Mohamed, Johnson Stewart, McEwen, Wiklund, and Maye Quade introduced--

S.F. No. 5144: A bill for an act relating to airports; requiring transparency regarding immigrant detention flights at Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport; requiring reports; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 473.

Referred to the Committee on Transportation.

Senator Pha introduced--

S.F. No. 5145: A bill for an act relating to workforce development; appropriating money for a grant to the city of Brooklyn Park.

Referred to the Committee on Jobs and Economic Development.

Senator Pha introduced--

S.F. No. 5146: A bill for an act relating to economic development; defining the Brooklyn Park City Council as the economic development authority; amending Laws 2024, chapter 120, article 2, section 12, subdivision 1.

Referred to the Committee on Jobs and Economic Development.

MOTIONS AND RESOLUTIONS

Senator Putnam moved that the name of Senator Coleman be added as a co-author to S.F. No. 3120. The motion prevailed.

Senator Latz moved that the name of Senator Murphy be added as a co-author to S.F. No. 3699. The motion prevailed.

Senator Rest moved that the name of Senator Hemmingsen-Jaeger be added as a co-author to S.F. No. 3965. The motion prevailed.

Senator Johnson Stewart moved that the name of Senator Westrom be added as a co-author to S.F. No. 4010. The motion prevailed.

Senator Abeler moved that the name of Senator Xiong be added as a co-author to S.F. No. 4306. The motion prevailed.

Senator Dahms moved that the name of Senator Howe be added as a co-author to S.F. No. 4937. The motion prevailed.

Senator Lang moved that the name of Senator Howe be added as a co-author to S.F. No. 4954. The motion prevailed.

Senator Mathews moved that the name of Senator Nelson be added as a co-author to S.F. No. 5111. The motion prevailed.

Senator Hauschild moved that S.F. No. 4634 be withdrawn from the Committee on Jobs and Economic Development and re-referred to the Committee on Taxes. The motion prevailed.

SPECIAL ORDERS

Pursuant to Rule 26, Senator Murphy, Chair of the Committee on Rules and Administration, designated the following bills a Special Orders Calendar to be heard immediately:

S.F. No. 4339, H.F. No. 3718, and S.F. No. 4455.

SPECIAL ORDER

S.F. No. 4339: A bill for an act relating to utilities; modifying certain requirements governing the excavation notice system, including to require electronic positive response; amending Minnesota Statutes 2024, sections 216D.01, by adding a subdivision; 216D.03, by adding a subdivision; 216D.04, subdivision 3.

S.F. No. 4339 was read the third time and placed on its final passage.

The question was taken on the passage of the bill.

The roll was called, and there were yeas 64 and nays 0, as follows:

Those who voted in the affirmative were:

Abeler	Duckworth	Housley	Limmer	Pratt
Bahr	Farnsworth	Howe	Lucero	Putnam
Boldon	Fateh	Jasinski	Mann	Rarick
Carlson	Frentz	Johnson	Marty	Rasmusson
Champion	Green	Johnson Stewart	Mathews	Rest
Clark	Gruenhagen	Klein	Maye Quade	Seeberger
Coleman	Gustafson	Koran	Mohamed	Utke
Cwodzinski	Hauschild	Kreun	Murphy	Wesenberg
Dahms	Hawj	Kunesh	Nelson	Westlin
Dibble	Heintzeman	Kupec	Oumou Verbeten	Westrom
Dornink	Hemmingsen-Jaeger	Lang	Pappas	Wiklund
Draheim	Hoffman	Latz	Pha	Xiong
Drazkowski	Holmstrom	Lieske	Port	

Pursuant to Rule 40, Senator Boldon cast the affirmative vote on behalf of the following Senators: Carlson, Maye Quade, Pha, and Port.

Pursuant to Rule 40, Senator Jasinski cast the affirmative vote on behalf of the following Senators: Heintzeman, Lucero, and Nelson.

So the bill passed and its title was agreed to.

SPECIAL ORDER

H.F. No. 3718: A bill for an act relating to animals; modifying provisions relating to the practice of veterinary medicine and veterinary technology; amending Minnesota Statutes 2024, sections 156.001, subdivisions 2, 3, 5, 7a, 8, 10b, by adding subdivisions; 156.01, subdivisions 1, 3, by adding a subdivision; 156.02, subdivisions 1, 2; 156.03; 156.04; 156.05; 156.06; 156.07; 156.071; 156.072, subdivisions 1, 2; 156.076; 156.077, subdivision 3, by adding subdivisions; 156.078; 156.081; 156.12, subdivisions 1, 2; 156.121; 156.16, subdivisions 5, 12, 14; 156.18, subdivisions 1, 2, 4; 156.19; Minnesota Statutes 2025 Supplement, section 156.015, subdivision 4; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 156; repealing Minnesota Statutes 2024, sections 156.001, subdivision 9; 156.01, subdivision 2; 156.02, subdivision 3; 156.072, subdivision 3; 156.073; 156.16, subdivisions 2, 3, 4, 7, 8, 11; 156.20.

H.F. No. 3718 was read the third time and placed on its final passage.

The question was taken on the passage of the bill.

The roll was called, and there were yeas 52 and nays 13, as follows:

Those who voted in the affirmative were:

Abeler	Duckworth	Johnson	Maye Quade	Rarick
Boldon	Farnsworth	Johnson Stewart	McEwen	Rasmusson
Carlson	Fateh	Klein	Mohamed	Rest
Champion	Frentz	Kreun	Murphy	Seeberger
Clark	Gustafson	Kunesh	Nelson	Westlin
Coleman	Hauschild	Kupec	Oumou Verbeten	Westrom
Cwodzinski	Hawj	Lang	Pappas	Wiklund
Dahms	Hemmingsen-Jaeger	Latz	Pha	Xiong
Dibble	Hoffman	Limmer	Port	
Dornink	Housley	Mann	Pratt	
Draheim	Jasinski	Marty	Putnam	

Pursuant to Rule 40, Senator Boldon cast the affirmative vote on behalf of the following Senators: Carlson and Port.

Pursuant to Rule 40, Senator Jasinski cast the affirmative vote on behalf of the following Senator: Nelson.

Those who voted in the negative were:

Bahr	Gruenhagen	Howe	Lucero	Wesenberg
Drazkowski	Heintzeman	Koran	Mathews	
Green	Holmstrom	Lieske	Utke	

Pursuant to Rule 40, Senator Jasinski cast the negative vote on behalf of the following Senators: Heintzeman and Lucero.

So the bill passed and its title was agreed to.

SPECIAL ORDER

S.F. No. 4455: A bill for an act relating to local government; modifying the port authority powers of the city of Lake City; changing the length of terms for appointees to the Red Wing Port Authority; amending Minnesota Statutes 2024, sections 469.0773; 469.081, subdivision 3a.

Senator Drazkowski moved to amend S.F. No. 4455 as follows (A-2):

Page 1, after line 6, insert:

"Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2025 Supplement, section 412.341, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

Subd. 3. **Change in membership; procedures.** (a) The number of commission members may be increased or decreased by ordinance within the permitted number of commissioner members as provided in subdivision 1, paragraph (a). The ordinance ~~changing~~ modifying the number of commission members must include a provision for maintaining staggered terms for commission members, provided that if the number of members is reduced, the reduction must be effected in such a manner that all incumbent members are permitted to serve their full terms. An ordinance adopted under this subdivision must not be effective until at least 45 days after its adoption.

(b) An ordinance ~~reducing~~ modifying the size of the commission shall not take effect and the question of whether to ~~reduce~~ modify the size of the commission must be placed on the ballot at the next general or special election if: (1) within 45 days of the ordinance's adoption by the city council, a petition is filed with the city clerk requesting that a referendum be held on ~~reducing~~ modifying the size of the commission; and (2) the petition is signed by a number of eligible voters equal to at least 15 percent of the number of electors voting at the most recent general election. The ballot question shall be substantially stated as follows:

"Shall the size of the public utilities commission be reduced (increased) from ..... members to.....members?"

The question shall be followed by the words "Yes" and "No" with an appropriate oval or similar target shape before each in which a voter may record a choice. If a majority of the votes cast on the question are in favor of ~~reducing~~ modifying the size of the commission, the ordinance shall be considered approved and shall be effective immediately. If the majority of votes cast on the question are against ~~reducing~~ modifying the size of the commission, the ordinance shall not take effect.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective the day following final enactment."

Renumber the sections in sequence and correct the internal references

Amend the title accordingly

The motion prevailed. So the amendment was adopted.

S.F. No. 4455 was read the third time, as amended, and placed on its final passage.

The question was taken on the passage of the bill, as amended.

The roll was called, and there were yeas 65 and nays 0, as follows:

Those who voted in the affirmative were:

Abeler	Duckworth	Housley	Limmer	Port
Bahr	Farnsworth	Howe	Lucero	Pratt
Boldon	Fateh	Jasinski	Mann	Putnam
Carlson	Frentz	Johnson	Marty	Rarick
Champion	Green	Johnson Stewart	Mathews	Rasmusson
Clark	Gruenhagen	Klein	Maye Quade	Rest
Coleman	Gustafson	Koran	McEwen	Seeberger
Cwodzinski	Hauschild	Kreun	Mohamed	Utke
Dahms	Hawj	Kunesh	Murphy	Wesenberg
Dibble	Heintzeman	Kupec	Nelson	Westlin
Dornink	Hemmingsen-Jaeger	Lang	Oumou Verbeten	Westrom
Draheim	Hoffman	Latz	Pappas	Wiklund
Drazkowski	Holmstrom	Lieske	Pha	Xiong

Pursuant to Rule 40, Senator Boldon cast the affirmative vote on behalf of the following Senators: Carlson and Port.

Pursuant to Rule 40, Senator Jasinski cast the affirmative vote on behalf of the following Senators: Heintzeman, Lucero, and Nelson.

So the bill, as amended, was passed and its title was agreed to.

MEMBERS EXCUSED

Senators Miller and Weber were excused from the Session of today.

ADJOURNMENT

Senator Murphy moved that the Senate do now adjourn until 11:00 a.m., Thursday, April 16, 2026. The motion prevailed.

Thomas S. Bottern, Secretary of the Senate