

2015 Session Summary



19TH ANNUAL

LEGISLATIVE SCORECARD 2015

Scorecard
INSIDE!

The legislators pictured below **RECEIVED THE HIGHEST SCORES ON OUR LEGISLATIVE SCORECARD**. They deserve special recognition for their efforts to limit the growth and reach of State Government and are the **2015 "FREINDS OF THE TAXPAYER."** **Senator Dave Osmek** noted with an orange border in addtion to his 100% score deserves special recognition for signing the taxpayers protection pledge and is the 2015 **"BEST FREIND OF THE TAXPAYER."**



Senator
Roger Chamberlain
R-Lino Lakes
38



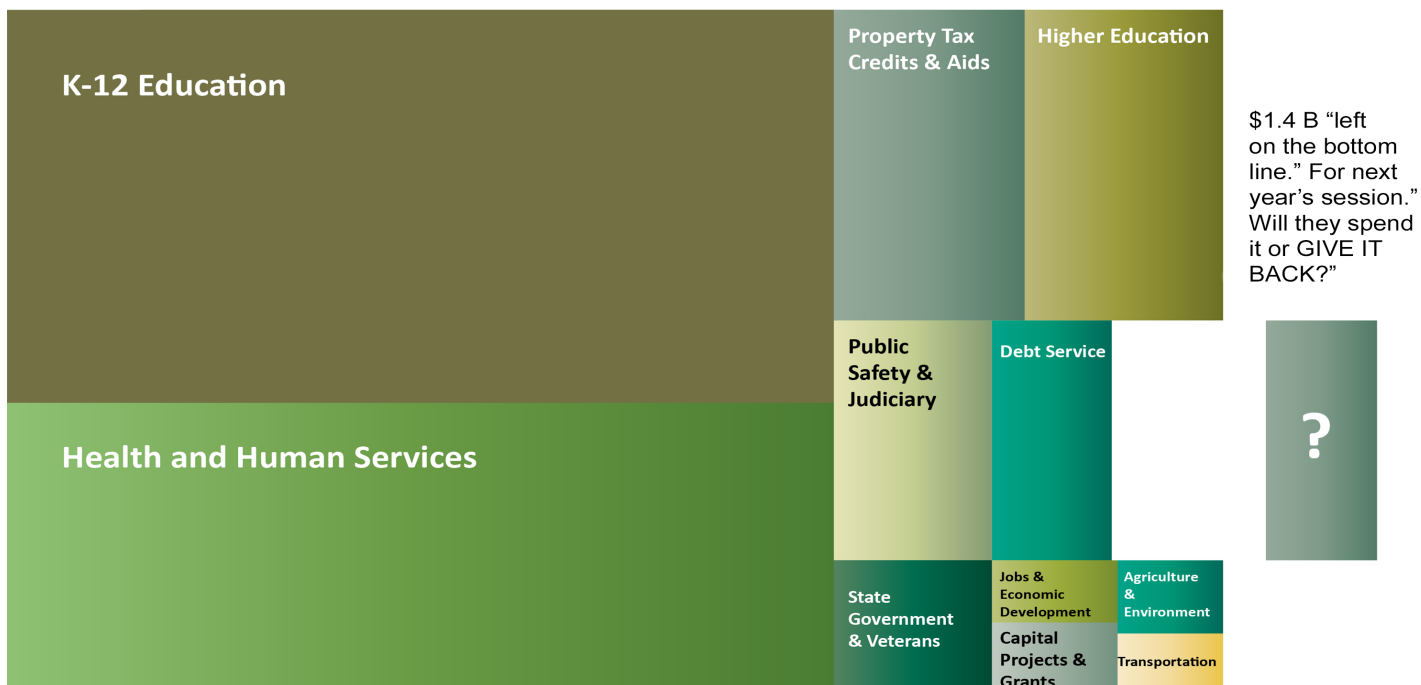
Senator
Dan Hall
R-Burnsville
56



Senator
Dave Osmek
R-Mound
33



Senator
Dave Thompson
R-Lakeville
58



WHAT HAPPENED IN THE 2015 LEGISLATIVE SESSION?

The regular 2015 Legislative Session ended in a chaotic, frantic finale on May 22, 2015. DFL Senate Majority Leader Tom Bakk and Republican Speaker of the House Kurt Daudt signed an agreement on the budget. But immediately, there was trouble. Governor Mark Dayton held an angry press conference about not getting his version of an early childhood education spending plan. He vetoed the K-12 bill just 16 hours after the end of session, followed by vetoes of two other omnibus bills: Environment and Agriculture and Jobs and Energy.

That was the set up for a special session on June 15, which produced new versions of the Education bill (with more money added but not the Governor's proposal), a new Environment and Agriculture Bill and compromise versions of other bills.

The special session, which lasted one day, brought with it its own drama over the Environment and Agriculture bill. The House stuck to the agreement signed with the Governor and didn't cave to the demands of a few DFL senators to strip sections relating to environmental degregation. Iron Rangers in both bodies agreed with the Republicans that the Mining industry could do without more layers of regulation if the Federal laws and the underlying state statutes were in place. This unusual coalition came together to restore the original agreement. But compromise has a cost. In many

areas of the budget we see increases in spending across the board. With a projected \$2 Billion surplus DFLers openly taunted GOPers in the final moments of the regular session about the "Not a penny more" campaign of 2011/12 session, when a group of Republican legislators tried to hold the budget to \$32 Billion. This year, the Republican House presented first a \$39.9 then finally a \$41.8 B Budget, including "tax expenditures" i.e. tax credits and other mechanisms for lowering or even phasing out taxes. The final number that was passed was \$42 Billion, with a \$373 Million bonding bill

And that brings us to this year's scorecard. There are very few faces on our front cover. And none from the House. We do want to give honorable mention to these House members who managed to get a passing grade on this year/s scorecard: .



REPRESENTATIVE

Eric Lucero

R-Dayton
30-B



REPRESENTATIVE

Jim Nash

R-Waconia
47-A



REPRESENTATIVE

Jim Newberger

R-Becker
15-B



REPRESENTATIVE

Pat Garofalo

R-Farmington
58-B



REPRESENTATIVE

Jerry Hertaus

R-Greenfield
33-A



REPRESENTATIVE

Cindy Pugh

R-Chanhassen
33-B

WHAT DIDN'T HAPPEN IN THE 2015 LEGISLATIVE SESSION?

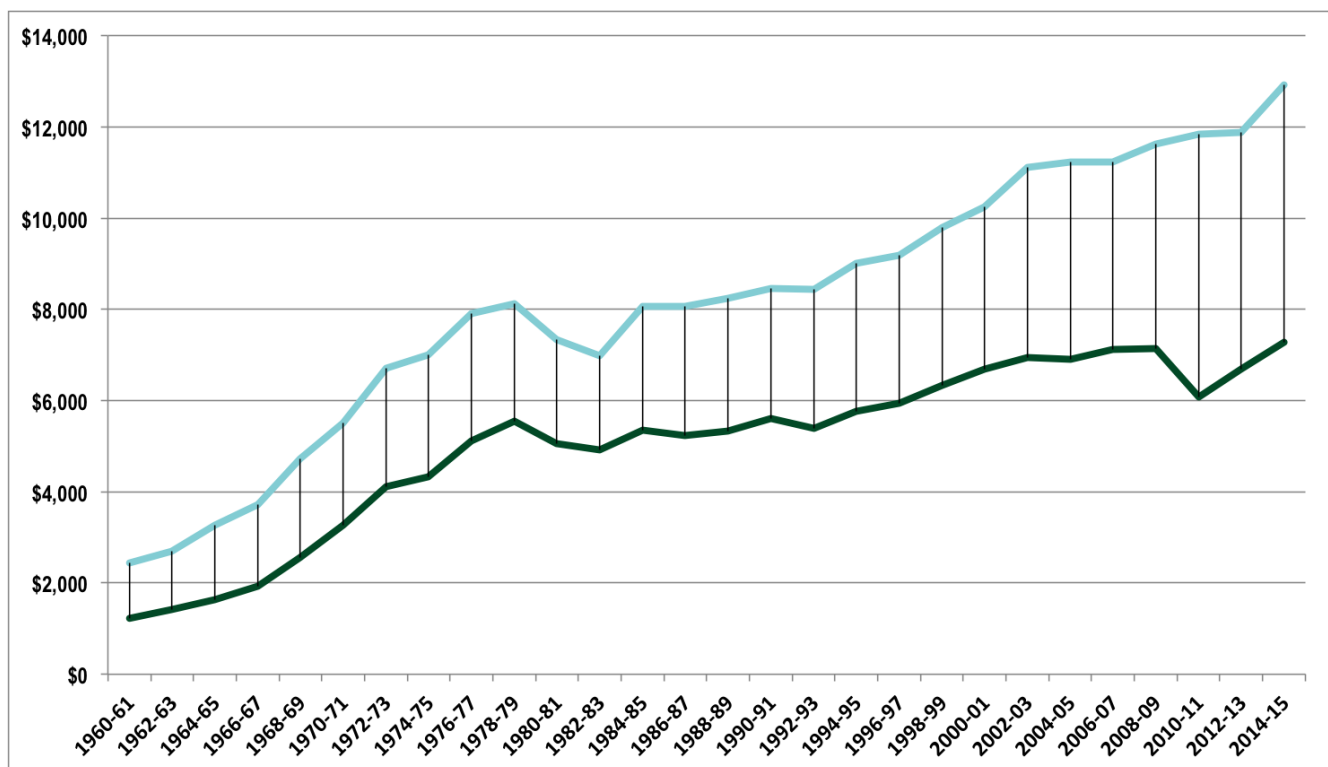
No Gas Tax The House GOP, which held this position, stood strong against Governor Dayton and the Senate DFLers. But it came at a price of no real reform in this funding area. The Republicans had proposed a transportation bill that realigned “dedicated funds” to spending priorities in infrastructure like roads and bridges and away from metro area transit, where it has been focused in the past several years. In an effort to end the session, the DFL Senate and the Republican House compromised on a “lights on bill” with increased and rearranged spending and NO GAS TAX.

No Reduction in State Spending. As previously mentioned, the budget bills that were agreed to by the House and Senate left about a billion and a half dollars on “the bottom line” unspent that could have gone to tax relief. The standoff between the Governor and the Legislature and differences between the two bodies meant more spending.

No Met Council Reform. There were several bills and provisions in bills that changed the way that the Met Council is funded and the way it's governed. They would have made the Met Council more accountable to local governments. None of these made it all the way through the process. They all are being sent back to their committee of origin to start the journey over next session. House Speaker Daudt created a subcommittee on the Met Council in the House, chaired by Rep. Linda Runbeck specifically for the purpose of crafting and hearing bills on this topic. The Governor does not seem to be interested in any changes, however, which will make it hard to do any kind of reform.

No Tax reform or reduction. There was no change at all on taxes without a tax omnibus bill. The Governor made it clear he wasn't interested signing a tax bill and efforts at negotiations stalled. Both the House and Senate bills had tax relief for ordinary Minnesotans. The House bill had a family tax credit and credit for student loans. It also had a phase out of the tax on Social Security Benefits that would have helped seniors, which along with bringing the Estate tax down to the federal level would have encouraged more of them to stay in Minnesota.

MINNESOTA STATE GOVERNMENT SPENDING PER PERSON (2015 DOLLARS)



Sources: MMB “Consolidated Fund Statement August 11, 2015. General and All Funds Spending from 1960. CPI from the Bureau of Labor Statistics and Minnesota Population from the Minnesota State Demographic Center..



TAXPAYERS LEAGUE OF MINNESOTA

taxpayersleague.org/scorecards



2015 MINNESOTA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES SCORECARD

Dist														2015	Life%	
			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12		
55B	R	Albright, Tony	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	+	+	A	+	+	42	78
62B	DFL	Allen, Susan	-	A	A	A	A	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	33	17
09A	R	Anderson, Mark	A	A	-	+	+	-	-	A	+	+	+	A	42	68
44A	R	Anderson, Sarah	A	A	-	+	-	-	-	A	+	+	+	+	42	81
12B	R	Anderson, Paul	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	+	-	+	+	+	42	71
05B	DFL	Anzelc, Tom	+	-	-	+	-	-	+	+	-	+	-	-	42	6
44B	DFL	Applebaum, Jon	A	A	-	+	-	-	+	A	-	+	-	-	25	0
52B	DFL	Atkins, Joe	-	A	-	+	-	-	A	A	-	-	+	-	17	8
12A	R	Backer, Jeff	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	+	-	+	+	+	42	42
17B	R	Baker, Dave	-	-	A	A	A	-	-	+	-	+	+	+	33	33
32B	R	Barrett, Bob	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	+	-	+	+	+	42	75
27A	R	Bennett, Peggy	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	+	-	+	+	+	42	42
41A	DFL	Bernardy, Connie	-	+	-	+	-	+	+	-	-	+	-	-	42	10
20B	DFL	Bly, David	-	+	-	+	-	-	+	-	-	+	-	-	33	8
45A	DFL	Carlson., Lyndon	-	-	-	+	-	-	+	-	-	+	-	-	25	18
56A	R	Christensen, Drew	-	-	-	+	+	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	58	58
62A	DFL	Clark, Karen	-	A	-	+	-	-	+	+	-	-	+	-	33	12
19B	DFL	Considine, Jack	-	-	-	+	-	+	+	-	-	+	-	-	33	33
23B	R	Cornish, Tony	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	+	-	+	-	+	33	56
24B	R	Daniels, Brian	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	+	-	-	+	+	42	85
31A	R	Daudt, Kurt	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	50	42
28B	R	Davids, Greg	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	+	-	+	+	+	42	64
63A	DFL	Davnie, Jim	-	-	-	+	-	+	+	-	-	+	-	-	33	13
38B	R	Dean, Matt	-	+	-	+	+	+	-	+	-	+	+	+	58	83
59B	DFL	Dehn, Raymond	A	A	-	-	-	-	+	A	-	+	-	-	17	8
39A	R	Dettmer, Bob	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	+	-	+	+	+	42	84
03A	DFL	Dill, David	-	-	-	+	-	-	A	A	-	+	-	-	25	9
21B	R	Draskowski, Steve	A	A	-	+	+	-	-	A	+	+	+	+	50	87
49A	DFL	Erhardt, Ron	-	-	-	+	-	+	-	-	-	+	-	+	33	13
15A	R	Erickson, Sondra	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	+	-	+	+	+	42	82
01A	R	Fabian, Dan	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	+	-	+	+	+	42	48
53B	R	Fenton, Kelly	-	+	-	+	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	58	58
43A	DFL	Fischer, Peter	-	+	-	+	-	-	+	-	-	+	-	-	33	13
08B	R	Franson, Mary	-	-	-	A	+	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	50	78
45B	DFL	Freiberg, Mike	-	-	-	+	-	-	+	-	+	+	-	-	33	13
58B	R	Garofalo, Pat	-	+	-	+	+	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	67	77
02B	R	Green, Steve	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	+	-	+	+	+	42	42
18B	R	Gruenhagen, Glenn	+	-	-	+	-	-	-	+	-	+	+	+	50	85
23A	R	Gunther, Bob	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	+	-	+	+	+	42	66
31B	R	Hackbarth, Tom	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	+	-	+	+	+	42	79
51B	DFL	Halverson, Laurie	A	-	-	+	-	-	+	-	-	+	-	-	25	11
22B	R	Hamilton, Rod	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	+	-	+	+	+	42	63
02A	R	Hancock, Dave	-	+	-	+	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	58	75
52A	DFL	Hansen, Rick	-	+	-	+	-	+	+	-	-	+	-	-	42	10
66A	DFL	Hausman, Alice	-	-	-	+	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	42	12
10A	R	Heintzeman, Josh	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	+	-	+	+	+	42	42
33A	R	Hertaus, Jerry	-	+	-	+	+	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	67	88
40B	DFL	Hilstrom, Debra	-	A	-	+	-	+	+	-	-	+	-	-	33	13
47B	R	Hoppe, Joe	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	+	-	+	+	+	42	80
61A	DFL	Hornstein, Frank	-	-	-	+	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	42	12
36B	DFL	Hortman, Melissa	-	A	-	+	-	-	+	A	-	+	-	-	25	9
13A	R	Howe, Jeff	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	+	A	+	+	+	42	78
42B	DFL	Isaacson, Jason	-	-	-	A	-	-	+	-	A	+	-	-	17	8
32A	R	Johnson, Brian	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	+	-	+	+	+	42	78
19A	DFL	Johnson, Clark	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	+	-	+	+	+	33	13
67B	DFL	Johnson, Sheldon	-	-	-	+	-	+	+	-	-	+	-	-	33	12
60B	DFL	Kahn, Phyllis	-	-	-	+	-	-	A	A	-	+	+	-	25	12
21A	R	Kelly, Tim	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	+	-	+	+	+	42	60
01B	R	Kiel, Debra	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	50	70
14B	R	Knoblach, Jim	-	+	-	-	-	-	A	A	+	-	+	+	42	31
58A	R	Koznick, Jon	-	-	-	+	+	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	58	58
09B	R	Kresha, Ron	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	+	-	+	+	+	42	70
41B	DFL	Laine, Carolyn	-	-	-	+	-	+	+	-	-	+	-	-	33	7
50B	DFL	Lenczewski, Ann	-	-	-	+	-	+	+	-	-	+	-	-	33	33
66B	DFL	Lesch, John	+	+	-	+	-	+	+	-	-	+	-	-	50	14
26A	DFL	Liebling, Tina	-	-	-	+	-	+	+	-	+	-	+	-	42	18
04A	DFL	Lien, Ben	-	-	-	+	-	+	+	-	-	+	-	+	42	10
43B	DFL	Lillie, Leon	-	-	-	+	-	+	+	-	-	+	-	-	33	9
60A	DFL	Loeffler, Diane	-	-	-	+	-	+	+	-	-	+	+	-	42	12
39B	R	Lohmer, Kathy	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	+	-	+	+	42	77
48B	R	Loon, Jenifer	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	50	79
55A	R	Loonan, Bob	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	50	50
30B	R	Lucero, Eric	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	75	75
10B	R	Lueck, Dale	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	+	-	+	+	+	42	42
57A	R	Mack, Tara	A	A	-	+	-	-	-	-	A	-	+	+	33	74
67A	DFL	Mahoney, Tim	-	-	-	+	-	-	+	-	-	+	-	-	25	13
65B	DFL	Mariani, Carlos	-	-	-	+	-	+	+	-	-	+	-	-	33	9
04B	DFL	Marquart, Paul	-	-	-	+	-	+	+	-	-	+	-	-	33	22
51A	DFL	Masin, Sandra	-	-	-	+	-	-	+	-	+	-	+	-	25	9
29A	R	McDonald, Joe	-	+	A	A	A	-	-	+	-	+	+	+	42	70
54B	R	McNamara, Denny	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	50	65
06A	DFL	Melin, Carly	+	-	-	+	-	-	+	+	-	+	-	-	42	10
06B	DFL	Metsa, Jason	-	-	-	+	-	-	+	+	-	+	-	-	33	8
17A	R	Miller, Tim	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	50	50
65A	DFL	Moran, Rena	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	-	-	+	-	-	25	7
59A	DFL	Mullery, Joe	-	+	-	+	-	+	+	-	-	+	-	-	42	17
03B	DFL	Murphy, Mary	-	-	-	+	-	+	+	-	+	-	+	-	33	5
64A	DFL	Murphy, Erin	+	-	-	+	-	-	+	-	-	+	-	-	33	13
47A	R	Nash, Jim	-	+	-	+	+	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	67	67
40A	DFL	Nelson, Michael	-	+	-	+	-	-	+	-	-	+	-	-	33	11
15B	R	Newberger, Jim	+	-	-	+	+	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	67	90
37A	DFL	Newton, Jerry	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	+	+	-	-	33	9
08A	R	Nornes, Bud	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	50	69
25B	DFL	Norton, Kim	-	-	-	+	-	-	+	-	+	-	+	-	42	18
13B	R	O'Driscoll, Tim	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	+	-	+	-	+	42	72
29B	R	O'Neill, Marion	-	+	-	+	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	58	85
28A	DFL	Pelowski Jr., Gene	-	-	-	+	-	-	+	-	-	+	-	+	33	24
34A	R	Peppin, Joyce	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	+	-	+	+	+	50	89
05A	DFL	Persell, John	-	-	-	+	-	+	+	-	-	+	-	-	33	6
24A	R	Petersburg, John	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	50</	

2015 MINNESOTA SENATE SCORECARD

Vote Descriptions

Dist		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	13	14	15	16	17	18	2015	Life%
29 R	Anderson, Bruce D.	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	A	A	+	+	+	77	90
3 DFL	Bakk, Thomas M.	-	-	A	+	A	-	-	+	-	A	+	-	+	31	16
31 R	Benson, Michelle R.	+	+	+	A	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	92	93
44 DFL	Bonoff, Terri E.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	A	-	-	+	8	20
15 R	Brown, David M.	A	+	-	+	+	A	A	+	A	A	A	+	+	46	69
51 DFL	Carlson, Jim	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	23	28
38 R	Chamberlain, Roger C.	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100	92
59 DFL	Champion, Bobby Joe	-	-	-	+	-	-	+	-	-	-	+	-	-	23	2
57 DFL	Clausen, Greg D.	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	+	23	12
64 DFL	Cohen, Richard	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	23	9
20 DFL	Dahle, Kevin L.	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	+	23	9
16 R	Dahms, Gary H.	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	+	A	A	+	+	+	38	64
61 DFL	Dibble, D. Scott	-	+	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	+	31	11
60 DFL	Dziedzic, Kari	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	23	10
40 DFL	Eaton, Chris A.	-	+	-	+	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	31	11
4 DFL	Eken, Kent	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	+	23	10
13 R	Fischbach, Michelle L.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	46	68
49 DFL	Franzen, Melisa	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	23	21
9 R	Gazelka, Paul E.	-	+	-	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	-	+	69	85
41 DFL	Goodwin, Barb	-	-	A	+	-	-	-	-	A	A	A	-	A	8	7
56 R	Hall, Dan D.	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100	90
48 R	Hann, David W.	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	85	91
67 DFL	Hawj, Foung	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	15	7
62 DFL	Hayden, Jeff	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	+	23	7
36 DFL	Hoffman, John A.	-	-	+	+	-	-	-	-	+	-	+	-	+	38	15
39 R	Housley, Karin	-	-	-	+	-	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	62	76
8 R	Ingebrigtsen, Bill	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	54	67
24 DFL	Jensen, Vicki	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	+	23	15
37 DFL	Johnson, Alice M.	A	A	-	+	-	-	-	A	-	-	+	-	+	23	10
53 DFL	Kent, Susan	-	+	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	31	15
30 R	Kiffmeyer, Mary	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	85	78
17 DFL	Koenen, Lyle	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8	10
46 DFL	Latz, Ron	-	-	A	-	-	-	-	-	-	A	-	A	-	0	12
34 R	Limmer, Warren	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	77	90
11 DFL	Lourey, Tony	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	23	9
66 DFL	Marty, John	-	-	-	+	-	+	+	-	-	-	-	-	+	31	17
52 DFL	Metzen, James P.	-	-	-	-	-	A	-	-	-	-	+	-	+	15	12
28 R	Miller, Jeremy R.	-	-	-	A	-	-	-	+	+	+	A	+	+	38	53
26 R	Nelson, Carla J.	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	-	+	38	59
18 R	Newman, Scott J.	+	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	85	89
32 R	Nienow, Sean R.	-	+	A	+	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	69	85
47 R	Ortman, Julianne E.	+	+	+	+	A	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	85	87
33 R	Osmek, David J.	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100	100
65 DFL	Pappas, Sandra L.	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	15	6
14 R	Pederson, John C.	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	54	62
35 R	Petersen, Brandon	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	92	90
55 R	Pratt, Eric R.	-	-	-	+	-	+	-	A	+	+	+	+	+	54	76
7 DFL	Reinert, Roger J.	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	+	23	10
45 DFL	Rest, Ann H.	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	+	23	24
23 R	Rosen, Julie A.	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	38	60
10 R	Ruud, Carrie	-	+	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	69	83
5 DFL	Saxhaug, Tom	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	+	23	9
42 DFL	Scalze, Bev	-	-	A	+	-	-	+	-	-	-	+	-	+	31	15
21 DFL	Schmit, Matt	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	23	21
25 R	Senjem, David H.	+	-	-	+	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	54	65
19 DFL	Sheran, Kathy	-	-	-	A	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	8	7
54 DFL	Sieben, Katie	-	-	A	+	-	+	-	-	-	-	+	-	+	31	11
2 DFL	Skoe, Rod	-	-	+	+	A	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	23	17
27 DFL	Sparks, Dan	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	+	-	+	-	+	31	16
1 DFL	Stumpf, LeRoy A.	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	+	23	14
58 R	Thompson, Dave	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100	95
6 DFL	Tomassoni, David J.	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	+	23	13
63 DFL	Torres Ray, Patricia	-	-	-	+	-	-	+	-	-	-	+	-	+	31	8
22 R	Weber, Bill	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	54	73
12 R	Westrom, Torrey N.	-	-	+	+	A	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	62	63
43 DFL	Wiger, Charles W.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	+	15	18
50 DFL	Wiklund, Melissa H.	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	+	23	10

HF= House File/SF=Senate File

LEGEND: "+"= Pro-taxpayer vote; "-"= anti-taxpayer vote "A"= did not vote "R"= Did not vote due to a conflict of interest.

All scores except for amendments were bills voted on re-passage. Lifetime scores are calculated from a member's first session, through all sessions served or the first scorecard in 1997.

- 1. MILLIONS ON TOP OF BILLIONS FOR EDUCATION** \$3 Million more into the education bureaucracy on top of scheduled budget increases. The taxpayer friendly vote was NO. (HF 1 Special Session)
- 2. MORE MONEY ON THE STATE'S CREDIT CARD** This is a budget year, not a bonding year. There was no emergency funding in this bill. With a \$2 (now 2.5) B surplus why go into more debt? The taxpayer friendly (and your grandchildren's) vote was NO. (HF 2 Special Session)
- 3. ADDING REGULATION TO INNOVATIVE RIDESHARING BUSINESSES** This bill creates new regulations for networked ridesharing businesses like Uber and Lyft. The taxpayer friendly and free market vote was NO. (HF1679)
- 4. PUTTING A STOP TO THE RUNAWAY STATE LOTTERY** The legislature stopped the State Lottery from selling tickets online and at gas pumps. They challenged the fact that the Lottery director had authorization to do so. Taxpayer friendly, stop out of control government vote was YES. (SF 299)
- 5. MORE PAY INCREASES FOR GOVERNMENT WORKERS** State workers contracts passed this year continued automatic pay increases and no pay for performance reform. Taxpayer friendly vote was a NO. (SF 280)
- 6. MNSURE DISASTER ROLLS ON, CLAIMS VICTIMS** Of all the disappointments of the 2015 session, not closing down or really modifying MNSure in any meaningful way has got to be the most stunning. There was testimony that MNSure screw-ups actually caused people's deaths. And still all the taxpayers got was another "task force." Taxpayer friendly vote was to say NO to this mess. (SF 1458)
- 7. VETOED EDUCATION BILL: MORE MONEY DIDN'T MAKE IT BETTER** Pumping more money into the system without reform has not resulted in improvement. The Taxpayer friendly vote was NO. (SF 844)
- 8. HOUSE PUSHES BACK 11TH HOUR ATTEMPT BY SENATE TO KILL JOBS IN NORTHERN MN** The Senate stripped out two mining friendly provisions of the compromise Agriculture/Environment Bill. This amendment RESTORED those provisions in the bill back to the original agreement. The taxpayer friendly and jobs friendly vote was YES. (HF 5 Special Session --HOUSE ONLY --McNamara Amendment.)
- 9. COMMUNITIES COULD CHOOSE SUNDAY ALCOHOL SALES** This amendment came after consideration of a complete legalization of Sunday sales and would have been a decent compromise, leading to the final result of more choice for Minnesotans on how to procure booze for the Vikings game. Taxpayer and freedom loving vote was YES. (SF 1238 HOUSE ONLY Drazkowski Amendment)
- 10. NOBODY WANTS A GAS TAX, AT LEAST IN THE MN HOUSE.** The GOP House Leadership put up this amendment on the Governor's Gas Tax proposed increase. Not one member of either caucus voted for it. Taxpayer friendly vote was NO. (HF 848 House Version McNamara Amendment)
- 11. EDUCATION REFORM WILL HAVE TO WAIT** The House passed this Education Reform bill affecting teacher tenure. The "Last in First Out" rule (Often referred to as "LIFO") makes seniority the most important factor in teacher retention when layoffs occur. The Taxpayer and kid friendly vote was YES. (HF 1 --HOUSE ONLY)
- 12. MINIMUM WAGE, INCREASE ALREADY PASSED WOULD INCLUDE TIP CREDIT** Businesses that employ minimum wage workers such as restaurants ask, why not take into account that some minimum wage workers make vastly more than minimum wage through their tips. A hot button issue of the 2010 election, "tip credit" was DOA in the Senate. The job friendly vote was YES. (HF 1027--HOUSE ONLY)
- 13. 11TH HOUR ATTEMPT BY METROCRATS IN THE SENATE TO KILL JOBS IN NORTHERN MN** (See Vote #8) This was the amendment that stripped those provisions. The taxpayer friendly and jobs friendly vote was NO. (HF 5 Special Session --HOUSE ONLY --Marty Amendment.)
- 14. MORE TAX INCREASES?** This Senate bill contained Governor Dayton's transportation plan for new a new gas tax metro-wide sales tax increase to pay for transit. Why can't government prioritize spending to pay for roads and bridges instead of increasing taxes? Taxpayer friendly vote was NO. (HF 4--SENATE ONLY)
- 15. NO MORE NEW LIGHT RAIL LINES WITHOUT LEGISLATIVE APPROVAL** The County Transit Investment Board and the Met Council do preliminary work for light rail lines. Eventually they come to the legislature for approval and actual funding but with the argument that money has already been spent. This amendment would have put a stop to that. Taxpayer friendly vote was NO. (SF 1647 Osmek Amendment--SENATE ONLY)
- 16. MAKE MINNESOTA'S PUBLIC COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES SET PRIORITIES** The colleges and universities asked for increases in their budgets and the legislature tried to get them to address their costs. The universities and colleges threatened n to raise tuition, something that they knew would be deeply unpopular. While not a solution to the problem, this amendment would force a tuition freeze for one year. Taxpayer friendly vote was YES. (HF 5 Ortman Amendment --SENATE ONLY)
- 17. NO TAX REFORM THIS YEAR** No tax bill made it through the entire process this year. The House and Senate bills were quite different from each other. The Senate bill had no significant tax relief or reform and so Taxpayer friendly vote was NO. (HF 848 --SENATE ONLY)
- 18. THE LINE FORMS AT THE RIGHT** In the past 10 years we have seen two new baseball stadiums and two new football stadiums get built in the Twin Cities. Now Soccer wants one. Why can't the owners find their own investors to fund it just like any other business rather than asking for taxpayer money? (SF 888 Peterson Amendment--Senate ONLY)



Harold Hamilton,
Chairman of the Board,
Taxpayers League of
Minnesota

OUR MISSION...

The **Taxpayers League** stands up for Minnesota taxpayers by championing lower taxes, limited government, local control, and free enterprise through nonpartisan grassroots advocacy and full empowerment of taxpaying citizens.

OUR VISION...

The **Taxpayers League** advocates for prosperity by fighting to reduce and reform taxation, eliminate government waste, and improve efficiency. It serves as a strong voice for all taxpaying citizens in Minnesota. We publish the **Taxpayers League Scorecard**, sponsor a **Taxpayers Freedom Rally** at the state capitol and promote the **Taxpayers League Protection Pledge**, a pledge for candidates and office holders to their constituents that they will oppose increasing taxes. We also keep taxpayers informed about fiscal issues through social media and a podcast.

JOIN US

If you're tired of Minnesota's high taxes and big government – and you want to join the fight to change it – the **Taxpayers League** would like your help. Please send your gift to **Taxpayers League of Minnesota PO Box 2270262 Minneapolis, MN 5541** or go to **taxpayersleague.org** and donate online.



Ted Lillie, President of the
Taxpayers League of Minnesota



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HAS YOUR LEGISLATOR MADE A PLEDGE TO YOU?

THE TAXPAYERS PROTECTION PLEDGE

I _____ pledge to taxpayers of the District _____ of Minnesota and all of the people of this State that I will oppose any and all efforts to raise taxes.

Signature _____ Date _____

Witness _____ Date _____

This pledge is for legislators and any officials elected in single member districts.



THE 2016 NO NEW GAS TAX PLEDGE

I _____ pledge to taxpayers of the District _____ of Minnesota and all of the people of this State that I will oppose any and all efforts to raise the gas tax in the 2016 session.

Signature _____ Date _____

Witness _____ Date _____

This pledge is for legislators and any officials elected in single member districts.

