

# 2019 Legislative Report



*Minnesota Municipal Utilities Association*

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MMUA's staff government relations team of Kent Sulem, left and Bill Black, in the Senate Building during the MMUA Legislative Conference.

## Section 1: 2019 Legislative Overview

The 2019 regular session of Minnesota's State Legislature convened at noon on Tuesday, January 8, 2019. A returning Republican-led Senate was joined by a newly elected DFL-led House, making Minnesota the only state in the country with a divided state Legislature. Both were joined by a newly elected Governor, Tim Walz.

In the Senate, Paul Gazelka (R-Nisswa) was easily re-elected as Majority Leader after the Republicans held on to their one seat (34-33) majority when Jeff Howe (R-Rockville) won the special-election to fill the seat vacated by Michelle Fischbach (who had stepped down after the 2018 session to assume the duties of Lieutenant-Governor) as constitutionally required when former Lieutenant-Governor Tina Smith stepped down to assume the U.S. Senate seat vacated when Al Franken resigned. The Republican majority later grew to two seats (35-32) when Rep. Jason Rarick (R-Pine City) was elected to fill a seat vacated by Democrat Tony Lourie, who was appointed by Governor Walz to be the Human Services Commissioner. Jeremy Miller (R-Winona) was elected Senate President which led to a restructuring of committees when he resigned his chairmanship to assume the presidency. Senator Tom Bakk (D-Cook) was re-elected Senate Minority Leader.

In the House, Melissa Hortman (D-Brooklyn Park) was rewarded for having led Democrats back to the majority (75-59) after four years, by being elected the third woman to serve as Speaker-of-the-House. She was joined in leadership by Ryan Winkler (D-St. Louis Park) who returned to his seat after a two-year absence while he followed his family to Belgium after the 2016 session. His seat had been held warm by Peggy Flanagan who opted not to seek re-election and instead successfully ran as Tim Walz's Lieutenant-Governor. Former Speaker-of-the-House Kurt Daudt (R-Crown) was elected House Minority Leader. Four members of the Republican caucus then broke off to form the New Republican Caucus. The last piece of the puzzle was filled in when Rep. Nathan Nelson (R-Hinckley) won the special election for the House seat vacated when Jason Rarick resigned to assume his Senate seat.

Despite new leadership and members, and even a new internal caucus, the session played out very much like those of recent years. A record number of bills were introduced during the regular session—2,921 House files and 2,925 Senate files. An additional 17 House files and 14 Senate files, for a total of 31 special session bills, were introduced. A particularly low number (65 regular session bills and 13 special session bills) made it to the Governor's desk, but in one break from recent history he signed them all into law. Unfortunately, the recent trend of over-sized omnibus bills was again prevalent. For example, the House Health and Human Services bill alone came in at nearly 1,400 pages, easily dwarfing the previous record size for a bill which was set just last year with

what was called the Omnibus Prime bill, a 985-paged monstrosity which at least covered all major topic areas. And of course, as predicted by most, overtime (a special session) was needed to get the bare minimum done.

The 2019 regular session, and the special session, ended with mixed results for MMUA. What follows is an overview of issues related to municipal utilities that were discussed, including summaries of relevant bills passed by the Legislature and signed into law by the Governor. For each new law, the final regular or special session Chapter number is listed, along with the underlying House and Senate bill numbers, and the chief author in each body. Unless otherwise indicated, finance bills are effective July 1 of each year and policy bills are effective August 1 of the same year.

Regular session bills introduced during this first year of a legislative biennium that are not signed into law, vetoed, or defeated by a committee vote remain alive for the next year's regular session. Some such bills from the 2019 regular session will be discussed later in this summary. Special session bills are only valid during the duration of that particular special session. Additional special sessions could be called by the Governor before the start of the next regular session, set to begin at noon on Tuesday, Feb.11, 2020. If called, each special session will have its own set of bill introductions and chapters sent to the Governor for signage into law. Such additional sessions would likely only be scheduled if a deal is reached on the emergency access to insulin provision that failed to pass during either the regular or first special session, or if a crisis such as a natural disaster requires action before next February.

Whether having to wait for 2020, or a special session, MMUA will continue to push for the uncompleted portions of its legislative agenda, while also guarding against bills that could have negative effects on municipal utilities. Suggestions for new legislative initiatives MMUA should explore are welcome and can be provided directly to MMUA staff, through a board member or a member of the government relations committee (a committee any MMUA member may voluntarily join).

MMUA's success at the Capitol is made easier by members who stay in touch with their local legislators about key issues facing utilities, by those who participate in the weekly Government Relations Committee phone calls, and by those who participate in the annual legislative conference, which for 2020 is tentatively scheduled for March 31 – April 1 at the Doubletree Hotel in St. Paul (same location as the 2019 conference).

Links to both the regular and special session law chapters, and to individual bills are at [www.leg.state.mn.us](http://www.leg.state.mn.us) And, as always, please contact the MMUA offices if you have any questions.

## Section 2: 2019 Session Laws of Interest

The following are summaries of bills passed and signed into law that should be of interest to municipal utilities. The list is in alphabetical order by subject matter, and provides the session (both regular and special) law chapter number, chief authors, original bill numbers, a short summary of the amendment to identified existing statutes, or a summary of the new section of law being created, and the relevant effective date(s).

### Bonding / Capitol Investment

#### Regular Session Laws, Chapter 2

HF 80 – Rep. Murphy (DFL-Hermantown)

SF 1836 – Sen. Senjem (R-Rochester)

Effective: March 6, 2019

2019 Regular Session Laws Chapter 2 corrects a problem with the 2018 authorization of bonds to pay for grants issued by the Public Facilities Authority (PFA) to local governments for water and wastewater projects. The 2018 Legislature authorized the issuance of appropriation bonds, which must be backed by a specific identified source of revenue available to pay off the bonds. The 2018 Legislature voted to use funds constitutionally dedicated to water issues. A lawsuit was immediately filed challenging the use of the identified funds as bond payments are not specifically part of the itemized lawful uses of the funds. Because of the lawsuit, the State's bond attorneys were unable to issue an unqualified opinion on the legality to issue the bonds. Thus, the PFA did not receive the \$59 million for local government grants in 2018. 2019 Session Laws Chapter 2, article 1, section 6 authorizes \$59 million in general obligation bonds for PFA grants, while article 1, section 9 repeals the 2018 authorization for appropriation bonds.

Unfortunately, a second bonding bill dealing with the funding necessary for 2019 failed to move anywhere. Some legislators point to the \$59 million in Chapter 2 as adequate funding for the year, ignoring the fact that this provision simply made the PFA and local governments whole with the pledged 2018 funding amount. The year 2020, as the second non-budget year of the biennium, will be a traditional bonding year, but there are no guarantees of a bill getting out of both chambers and signed into law. If there is a bonding bill, MMUA will support funding for the PFA's grants to local governments, and any other purpose beneficial to municipal utilities.

### Broadband

#### First Special Session Laws, Chapter 1, Article 7

HF 7 – Rep. Poppe (DFL-Austin)

SF 1 – Sen. Westrom (R-Elbow Lake)

Effective date July 1, 2019

Chapter 1 of the 2019 First Special Session Laws is *the Agriculture, Rural Development and Housing Omnibus Bill*. As such, it may not immediately appear to be a piece of legislation of interest to MMUA or its members. It is, however, an example of why any bill could bring harm or benefits to municipal utilities and

their communities. In this case, the bill became the vehicle for \$40 million worth of grant money for the 'Border to Border' broadband grants helping rural Minnesota have access to true high-speed internet. The bill provides that in each of the state fiscal years 2020 and 2021, \$20 million (\$40 million in the biennium) will be available for broadband grants. The bill's appropriations also include \$250,000 each year for the Broadband Development Office.

While \$40 million is a lot of money and represents the largest single appropriation to the Border to Border program, it is still well below the \$70 million requested by the Rural Broadband Consortium, to which MMUA belongs, and which reflects the estimated level of needed funding to stay current with grant requests. During the regular session, HF 7 – Rep. Ecklund (DFL – International Falls) and SF 9 – Sen. Koran (R – North Branch) sought full funding at \$35 million in each fiscal year of the 2020-2021 biennium, or \$70 million in total.

In addition, because last year's funding for broadband was in the vetoed omnibus prime bill, this year's funding should be divided by 3, or about \$13.3 million per year, an amount closer to the average level of annual funding the fund has received. Still, the \$40 million threshold is a good place from which to begin seeking future funding. MMUA will continue to assist in seeking funding for this important program, including the possibility of seeking some one-time money from the State's surplus to get closer to the \$70 million identified need.

### Energy Policy

#### Special Session Laws, Chapter 7

HF 2 – Rep. Mahoney (DFL-St. Paul)

SF 2 – Sen. Pratt (R-Prior Lake)

Effective Date: Assorted

i. Article 11, section 2, amends Minn. Stat. §216B.16 by adding a subd. 7e - Public (investor-owned) electric utilities may submit proposals to the MPUC and recover from rates the costs for conducting energy storage pilot projects. Proposals must include:

- storage technology to be utilized;
- energy storage capacity; output duration at capacity;
- proposed location;
- purchase and installation costs;
- how the project will interact with existing distributed generation resources on the utility's grid; and
- goals the project proposes to achieve, which may include controlling frequency or voltage, mitigating transmission congestion, providing emergency power supplies during outages, reducing curtailment of existing renewable energy generators, and reducing peak power costs.

Effective: May 31, 2019

ii. Article 11, section 3 Amends Minn. Stat. §216B.1642, subd. 2, by requiring any owner of a so-

lar site wishing to claim their site provides benefits to gamebirds, songbirds and pollinators, to also report their site management practices to the Board of Water and Soil Resources by June 1, 2020, or the June 1 following the start of operations if after June 1, 2019, and then at least once every three years.

*Effective July 1, 2019.*

iii. Article 11, section 4 amends Minn. Stat. §216B.2422, subd. 1 by adding a subd. 7 which provides a definition to “Energy storage system.” Among other requirements, such system must achieve any of the following: reduction of peak demand; deferral of the need to or substitution for an investment in electric generation, transmission, or distribution assets; improves the reliable operation of the electrical transmission or distribution systems while ensuring transmission or distribution needs are not created; lowers consumers’ costs by storing energy when generating or purchasing cost is low, and delivering it to customers while the cost is high.

*Effective May 31, 2019.*

iv. Article 11, section 5 amends Minn. Stat. §216B.2422 by adding a subdivision 7 that requires public (investor-owned) utilities to include in their Integrated Resource Plans, an analysis of how the deployment of energy storage systems contributes to meeting their identified generation and capacity needs and evaluating ancillary services.

*Effective: May 31, 2019.*

v. Article 11, section 6 amends Minn. Stat. §216B.62, subd. 3b. by re-authorizing the Department of Commerce to assess all utilities collectively up to \$500,000 annually for activities after June 30, 2019, to carry out its statutory duty to represent the interests of Minnesota residents, businesses and governments before bodies and agencies outside the state that make, interpret or implement regional, national and international energy policy and that regulate and implement regional or national energy planning or infrastructure development. The assessed amount per utility is proportionate to their gross operating revenues from retail sales of gas or electric service within the state. The assessment authority expires June 30, 2021.

*Effective: This section is revived and reenacted effective retroactively from June 29, 2018, except that the department is prohibited from making an assessment under this subdivision to finance the performance of any duties that occurred between June 30, 2018, and June 30, 2019.*

vi. Article 11, section 7 amends Minn. Stat. § 216C.435, subd. 3a by including new-construction, renovation, and retrofitting as possible cost-effective energy improvements.

*Effective: July 1, 2019.*

vii. Article 11, section 8 amends Minn. Stat. §216C.435, subd. 8, by allowing new construction to qualify as qualifying commercial real property.

*Effective July 1, 2019.*

viii. Article 11, section 9 amends Minn. Stat. § 216C.436, subd. 4 by limiting the principal amount financed, under the PACE program, to the greater of 20% of assessed value or 20% of the appraised value

*Effective July 1, 2019.*

ix. Article 11, section 10 amends Minn. Stat. §216C.436, by adding a new subd. 10 defining “real property” and “fixtures” for cost-effective energy improvements financed under a PACE loan program.

*Effective: July 1, 2019.*

x. Article 11, section 11 amends 2017 Session Laws Chapter 94, article 10, section 18 by transferring funds not spent as of July 2, 2017 under the Made in Minnesota Solar Rebate Program to the renewable development account (RDA).

*Effective May 31, 2019.*

xi. Article 11, section 12 amends 2017 Session Laws Chapter 94, article 10, section 29 by requiring instructions on how certain funds may be deposited into the RDA.

*Effective May 31, 2019.*

xii. Article 11, section 12 creates a new uncodified law establishing an Energy Utility Diversity Stakeholder Group and Report. The Minnesota Public Utilities Commission is required to convene a stakeholder group to examine the challenges and opportunities for Minnesota’s energy utilities to attract a diverse workforce with the skills needed to advance a 21st Century industry and to increase the diversity of energy utility suppliers. The stakeholder group must include but is not limited to stakeholders representing public utilities (IOUs), municipal electric or gas utilities and electric or gas cooperative associations. The commission’s executive director must convene the first meeting of the group.

The stakeholder group must:

- examine current and projected employment in the energy utility sector;
- provide information on possible approaches to assist workers and energy utilities to develop a diverse workforce that has the skills to build, maintain and operate the electricity system of the future;
- review key trends that have shaped employment in this sector and the demographics of the sector, including the underrepresentation of women, veterans and minorities in employment and leadership;
- identify the challenges to replacing retiring workers;
- examine the imbalance of available worker skills to utility workforce needs; and
- identify the challenges and possible approaches to increasing supplier diversity.

The stakeholder group must also consider whether information regarding workforce and supplier diversity should be included and considered as part of any resource plan filed by a utility with the commission. By January 15, 2020, the group must issue a report to the

House and Senate energy policy and finance committees identifying its findings and recommendations for establishing a more diverse workforce and increasing supplier diversity within the electric energy sector.

*Effective July 1, 2019.*

xiii. Article 11, section 14 creates a new uncodified section of law requiring a report on the cost-benefit analysis of Energy Storage Systems. The Department of Commerce must contract with an independent consultant selected through a request for proposal process to produce a report analyzing the potential costs and benefits of energy storage systems, as newly defined in §216B.2422, subd. 1, in Minnesota. The study may also include scenarios examining energy storage systems that are not capable of being controlled by a utility. The Department must engage a broad group of Minnesota stakeholders, including electric utilities and others, to develop and provide information for the report.

The study must:

- Identify and measure the different potential costs and savings produced by energy storage system deployment, including but not limited to:
- generation, transmission and distribution facilities asset deferral or substitution;
- impacts on ancillary services costs;
- impacts on transmission and distribution congestion;
- impacts on peak power costs;
- impacts on emergency power supplies during outages;
- impacts on curtailment of renewable energy generators; and
- reduced greenhouse gas emissions.
- Analyze and estimate the:
- costs and savings to customers that deploy energy storage systems;
- impact on the utility's ability to integrate renewable resources;
- impact on grid reliability and power quality; and
- effect on retail electric rates over the useful life of a given energy storage system compared to providing the same services using other facilities or resources;
- Consider the findings of analysis conducted by the Midcontinent Independent System Operator on energy storage capacity accreditation and participation in regional energy markets, including updates of the analysis; and
- Include case studies of existing energy storage applications currently providing the benefits described in clauses (1) and (2).

By December 31, 2019, the Department must submit the study to the House and Senate energy policy and finance committees. The Department is appropriated \$150,000, available through June 30, 2020, to conduct the study, and may not spend more than that amount for purposes of it.

*Effective May 31, 2019.*

### [Fee Limits](#)

[Regular Session Laws, Chapter 27](#)

[HF 823 – Rep. Nelson, M. \(DFL – Brooklyn Park\)](#)

[SF 998 – Sen. Koran \(R – North Branch\)](#)

[Effective August 1, 2019](#)

Creates a new statute, §471.462, requiring any city, statutory or home-rule, upon request, to provide any applicant seeking approval of real-estate development or construction, with a written but non-binding estimate of consultant fees to be charged to the applicant based on information available at the time. If requested, an application shall not be deemed complete until the city has provided the estimate to the applicant, received all required application fees, signed acceptance of the fee estimate by the applicant, and a signed statement that the applicant has not relied on the estimate of fees in its decision to proceed with the final application.

### [Public Safety / Hands Free Law](#)

[Regular Session Laws, Chapter 11](#)

[HF 50 – Rep. Hornstein \(DFL-Minneapolis\)](#)

[SF 91 – Sen. Newman \(R-Hutchinson\)](#)

[Effective August 1, 2019](#)

Amends Minn. Stat., §169.011, subd. 94 and §169.475 by expanding the list of prohibited uses of a cell phone or portable electronic device capable of receiving and transmitting data (collectively known as “wireless communications devices”) while a person is operating a vehicle in motion or which is a part of traffic (such as when stopped at a traffic signal) so that all the following uses are prohibited while on streets and highways: Initiating, composing, sending, retrieving, or reading electronic messages such as e-mail, text messages, voice-mail, transmitted images, instant messages, transmitted gaming data, or other data transmitted using a commonly recognized electronic communications protocol; Engaging in a cellular phone call, including initiating a call, talking, listening, or participating in video calling; Accessing video content, audio content, images, games, or software applications stored on an electronic device.

A person may use their cell phone or other electronic device while operating a motor vehicle on street or highway *only by using voice commands or when a single-touch will allow the driver to activate or deactivate the device, or a function or software application on the device, and without holding the device. Scrolling or typing on a device is not an authorized voice command, single-touch, or hands-free use of the device.*

A vehicle shall not be deemed in motion or a part of traffic if it is legally stopped, is in a location that is not designed or ordinarily used for vehicular travel, and is not obstructing traffic. A device or feature physically integrated into a vehicle, a global positioning system (GPS) that is only capable of being used for navigation purposes, and two-way radios, citizen-band radios, and amateur radio equipment used in accordance with FCC rules and regulations shall not be considered wireless communications devices under the new law. Data trans-

mitted between a motor vehicle and an electronic device in the vehicle, data transmitted by a two-way radio, CB radio, or lawfully used amateur radio, or data transmitted automatically without direct initiation of a person, shall not constitute an electronic message.

The first violation of the new a law can result in a \$50 fine, plus costs. Any subsequent violation shall be subject to a \$275 fine, plus costs.

### **Water Connection Fees**

**Special Session Laws, Chapter 9, Sec. 21**  
**HF 14 – Rep. Liebling (DFL – Rochester)**  
**SF 12 – Sen. Benson (R- Ham Lake)**  
**Effective January 1, 2020**

Amends Minn. Stat. §144.3831, subd. 1. by increasing the annual fee amount from \$6.36 to \$9.72 that the Commissioner of Health may assess for every service connection to a public water supply that is owned or operated by a home rule charter city, a statutory city, a city of the first class, a town, or a water user district.

## **Section 3 – 2019 Legislative Efforts That Didn't Make It Yet**

### **CIP Reform**

**HF 1839 Rep. Ecklund (DFL-International Falls)**  
**SF 1915 Sen. Rarick (R-Pine City)**

This legislation reflects a joint MMUA/MREA effort to allow municipals and co-ops to claim CIP energy savings credit for energy-efficient electrification, to allow utility-optional 1-to-5-year plan timeframes, repeal minimum expenditure requirements, and the ability to opt-out of CIP assessments for the state's CIP R&D grant program and sustainable buildings program. Drafted after months of joint meetings between MMUA, MREA and our respective members, this legislation sought to modernize CIP while preserving current conservation and low-income program development. After many rounds of negotiations resulting in a three-year cap on plan duration, the reinstatement of assessments, and the willingness to provide accountability towards conservation efforts, the legislation died for the year when its passage was conditioned on MMUA, MREA, and our members actively lobbying for a 100% carbon free by 2050 mandate, and the House version of the Clean Energy First bill instead of the Senate's bi-partisan plan negotiated with the industry. MMUA hopes to bring some form of reform back in 2020, or to at least lay the foundation for hopeful post-election success in 2021.

### **Lawn Mowing by Minors**

**HF 770 Rep. Franson (R-Alexandria)**  
**SF 1805 Sen. Hall (R-Burnsville)**

The proposed legislation seeks to clarify the lawful age at which a municipality could hire a minor to perform lawn mowing services. Both bills seek to have the State's Department of Labor and Industry (DOLI) rewrite State Rules to allow minors at least 16 years of age to operate lawn mowing equipment, both pushed and riding. This is an MMUA-supported issue, but these bills were introduced without MMUA's prior awareness and our support was not sought. The House bill ran into partisan road-blocks, and the Senate bill ran into deadline problems. An attempt by Rep. Dan Fabian (R – Roseau) to amend

the language on the floor into the House's Omnibus Jobs Bill failed. Both bills remain alive for the 2020 session, and MMUA hopes to be able to work with the authors to get the law passed. MMUA attempted to resolve the issue directly with DOLI, whose basis for not allowing anyone under 18 to mow is not completely clear as their own website has four memos reaching four different interpretations of a vaguely worded rule that refers to "powered machinery" but then cites things like forklifts and other heavy industrial equipment as examples.

### **Salary Cap Repeal or Increase**

**HF 703 – Rep. Masin (DFL-Eagan)**  
**SF 1651 – Sen. Hall (R-Burnsville)**

As introduced, the bill would repeal the "110% of the Governor's salary" cap on compensation for employees of political subdivisions (i.e., cities, counties, etc.). The Senate bill was amended to increase the cap to \$200,000 with annual inflationary indexing, instead of a full repeal. Both bills were sent to their respective floors, but no floor vote occurred in either chamber. As such, they remain alive for the 2020 session.

The House bill was amended into their regular session's State Government Finance Omnibus bill, but failed to make the conference report due to the opposition of the Senate Chair, Sen. Kiffmeyer (R – Big Lake).

The League of Minnesota Cities and the Minnesota Inter-County Association joined MMUA in trying to pass this legislation.

Amending the politically-related pay equity issue was discussed, but efforts tabled while trying to resolve the salary cap. MMUA is working on the pay equity issue through administrative channels to see if members' concerns can be addressed without amending current law. If determined necessary, a bill could be introduced during the 2020 legislative session.

## Section 4: Additional Carry-over Bills of Interest for 2020

The following is a listing of additional bills introduced during the 2019 legislative session that remain of interest to municipal utilities for the upcoming 2020 session, some for positive reasons, others out of concern for possible impacts on or to municipal utilities. MMUA will continue to track these bills. This list is based on the shared bill tracking efforts of MMUA and the McGrann, Shea, and Carnival law firm during the 2019 legislative sessions.

### **SF 63 – Sen. Ruud (R-Breezy Point)**

#### **No House companion bill**

To prohibit the use of funds from the Reinvest in Minnesota Trust Fund to pay for debt service on bonds.

### **HF 53 – Rep. Green (R-Fosston)**

#### **SF 603 – Sen. Utke (R-Park Rapids)**

To require each state agency to include as part of its annual report on obsolete rules a list of all current grants of rulemaking authority under law; to require a hearing on a proposed expedited rulemaking when 25 or more people request a hearing (current law is 100 people).

### **HF 165 – Rep. Rarick (R-Pine City)**

#### **SF 100 – Sen. Osmek (R-Mound)**

To require investor-owned electric utilities to include assessment of energy storage systems in their Integrated Resource Plans; to establish criteria for energy storage pilot projects by investor-owned utilities; to require the Commerce Department to contract with a third party to conduct a cost-benefit analysis of energy storage system technologies.

### **HF 167 – Rep. Lee (DFL-St. Paul)**

#### **SF 879 – Sen. Champion (DFL-Minneapolis)**

To require the MPCA to offer a regulated facility subject to an enforcement action the option to conduct or pay for a third party to conduct a public health supplemental environmental project whenever the agency determines that pollution from the noncompliance may result in measurable impacts on the health of the population exposed to the pollution; to require the agency to report to the Legislature annually the number of enforcement actions taken against regulated facilities, the amount of fees imposed and collected and other information.

### **SF 102 – Sen. Johnson (R-East Grand Forks)**

#### **No House companion bill**

To require legislative approval to change fees related to personnel training for water pollution control, subsurface sewage treatment systems, wastewater treatment operators, wastewater laboratory certification and all MPCA permit fees.

### **HF 1125 – Rep. Acomb (DFL-Minnetonka)**

#### **SF 105 – Sen. Little (DFL-Lakeville)**

To require the MPUC not to approve any community

solar garden program offered to Xcel customers, unless the owner provides to potential subscribers a disclosure checklist developed by the Clean Energy Resource Team.

### **HF 77 – Rep. Green (R-Fosston)**

#### **SF 594 – Sen. Utke (R-Park Rapids)**

To repeal the authority of the MPCA and DNR to promulgate rules and to sunset existing MPCA and DNR rules in 2024, unless codified before then by the Legislature.

### **HF 78 – Rep. Green (R-Fosston)**

#### **SF 596 – Sen. Utke (R-Park Rapids)**

To restrict the Board of Water and Soil Resources from imposing penalties for violations of the 2017 buffer law relating to agricultural drainage.

### **HF 1677 – Rep. Baker (R-Willmar)**

#### **SF 182 – Sen. Lang (R-Olivia)**

To establish a fund and claims process for businesses negatively affected by the closing of the poultry waste biomass energy plant in Benson.

### **HF 1570 – Rep. Loeffler (DFL-Minneapolis)**

#### **SF 297 – Sen. Dziejcz (DFL-Minneapolis)**

To establish a Green Roof Task Force to review laws in other cities, states and countries regarding Green Roofs, roof replacement costs, and impacts of Green Roofs including energy usage and stormwater management.

### **HF 136 – Rep. Stephenson (DFL-Coon Rapids)**

#### **SF 317 – Sen. Latz (DFL-St. Louis Park)**

To prohibit internet service providers in Minnesota from violating net neutrality.

### **HF 188 – Rep. Lucero (R-Dayton)**

No Senate companion bill.

To repeal the prohibition on the MPUC from issuing certificates of need for nuclear electric generating facilities.

### **HF 818 Rep. – Persell (DFL-Bemidji)**

#### **SF 318 – Sen. Johnson (R-East Grand Forks)**

To require counties to abate the state general levy on personal property that is part of an intrastate natural gas distribution or transmission pipeline constructed after January 1, 2018 that serves an underserved non-metro area.

### **SF 385 – Sen. Bigham (DFL-Cottage Grove)**

No House companion bill

To extend and increase the Renewable Energy Standard to 50% by 2030 for all utilities.

### **SF 425 – Sen. Marty (DFL-Roseville)**

No House companion.

To require the Department of Commerce to establish, through a stakeholder process, a planning strategy for

a sustainable energy future that ends Minnesota's use of fossil fuels and makes Minnesota the first state in the nation to use only renewable energy.

**HF 2077 – Rep. Swedzinski (R-Ghent)**  
**SF 488 – Sen. Osmek (R-Mound)**

To prohibit the MPUC from approving any community solar garden program offered to Xcel customers, unless the owner: provides information about estimated output and subscriber's initial lump sum payment recovery according to approved calculations; provides certain financial security information to the Commission; provides potential subscribers with certain consumer protection measures; and takes certain other steps.

**HF 1030 – Rep. Pinto (DFL-St. Paul)**  
**SF 433 – Sen. Latz (DFL-St. Louis Park)**

To prohibit telecommunications providers and internet service providers from collecting personal information from a customer resulting from the customer's use of the service provider without express written consent of the customer and to prohibit refusal of service based on a customer's refusal to provide consent.

**HF 372 – Rep. Quam (R-Byron)**  
**No House companion bill**

To establish an account administered by the Public Facilities Authority for loans for rural wastewater treatment system renovation.

**HF 2078 – Rep. Swedzinski (R-Ghent)**  
**SF 514 – Sen. Osmek (R-Mound)**

To require the MPUC not to approve any community solar garden program offered to Xcel customers, unless the owner provides to potential subscribers a disclosure checklist developed by Clean Energy Resource Teams (CERTs).

**HF 376 – Rep. Sundin (R-Esko)**  
**SF 807 – Sen. Ruud (R-Breezy Point)**

To appropriate money for a grant to extend an existing broadband network.

**HF 411 – Rep. Poppe (DFL-Austin)**  
**SF 587 – Sen. Dahms (R-Redwood Falls)**

To issue bonds and make \$128 million in appropriations to the Public Facilities Authority for purposes of Clean Water programs.

**HF 973 – Rep. Persell (DFL-Bemidji)**  
**SF 627 – Sen. Marty (DFL-Roseville)**

To reestablish the Pollution Control Agency Citizens Board.

**HF 424 – Rep. Sundin (R-Esko)**  
**SF 1708 – Sen. Utke (R-Park Rapids)**

To require the state to pay the costs of property tax judgments against state-assessed property.

**HF 439 – Rep. Quam (R-Byron)**

No Senate companion bill.

To establish a business exemption from sales and use tax for internet service equipment and machinery purchased or leased for use directly by an internet service provider primarily in the provision of internet service.

**SF 633 – Sen. Osmek (R-Mound)**

No Senate companion bill.

To repeal the prohibition on the MPUC from issuing certificates of need for nuclear electric generating facilities.

**HF 588 – Rep. Drazkowski (R-Mazeppa)**  
**SF 713 – Sen. Goggin (R-Red Wing)**

To end Xcel's Community Solar Garden program.

**HF 894 – Rep. Drazkowski (R-Mazeppa)**  
**SF 848 – Sen. Goggin (R-Red Wing)**

To establish setback requirements for Wind Energy Conversion Systems; to establish a resolution process for WECS-related health complaints that subjects WECS owners to buying all contiguous property owned by a prevailing complainant.

**HF 700 – Rep. Long (DFL-Minneapolis)**  
**SF 850 – Sen. Frentz (DFL-North Mankato)**

To extend and increase the RES, setting it in 2035 at 85% for Xcel and 80% for other IOUs, G&Ts and municipal power agencies; to institute a new "Carbon-Free Standard" of 100% for most utilities by 2050 and 2045 for Xcel.

**HF 690 – Rep. Quam (R-Byron)**

No Senate companion bill.

To appropriate funds for a grant to the University of Minnesota Energy Transition Lab to perform a feasibility study on the potential use of hydrogen from nuclear generating facilities for manufacturing, refining, agricultural, transportation and other purposes.

**HF 762 – Rep. Quam (R-Byron)**  
**SF 2019 – Sen. Senjem (R-Rochester)**

To establish a loan fund for dredging to improve water flow for hydro-electric facilities.

**HF 1170 – Rep. Ecklund (DFL-International Falls)**  
**SF 962 – Sen. Mathews (R-Milaca)**

To require the Board of Water and Soil Resources to assume the Section 404 permitting program of the federal Clean Water Act.

**HF 862 – Rep. Poston (R-Lake Shore)**  
**SF 1061 – Sen. Draheim (R-Madison Lake)**

To require the Environmental Quality Board to develop a plan for identifying which Minnesota lakes need accelerated lake management.

**HF 875 – Rep. Fischer (DFL-Maplewood)**  
**SF 1063 – Sen. Johnson (R-East Grand Forks)**  
To modify the Clean Water Legacy Act to provide for coordinated watershed management.

**HF 2266 – Rep. Wolgamott (DFL-St. Cloud)**  
**SF 1033 – Sen. Relph (R-St. Cloud)**  
To restrict the Pollution Control Agency from applying stormwater rules to townships until it amends its rules to do so.

**HF 2126 – Rep. A. Carlson (DFL-Eagan)**  
**SF 1039 – Sen. Goggin (R-Red Wing)**  
To establish The Prairie Island Net-Zero Project with the goal of the Prairie Island Indian Community developing an energy system that results in net zero emissions.

**HF 1316 – Rep. Fischer (DFL-Maplewood)**  
**SF 1045 – Weber (R-Luverne)**  
To repeal the sunset of the Legislative Water Commission.

**HF 1671 – Rep. Youakim (DFL-Hopkins)**  
**SF 1078 – Sen. Torres Ray (DFL-Minneapolis)**  
To extend and increase the Renewable Energy Standard, setting it in 2035 at 85% for Xcel and 80% for other IOUs, G&Ts and municipal power agencies; to institute a new “Carbon-Free Standard” of 100% for most utilities by 2050 and 2045 for Xcel; to increase the local benefits that the MPUC must seek to ensure through implementation of these standards.

**HF 1022 – Rep. Long (DFL-Minneapolis)**  
**SF 1423 – Sen. Senjem (R-Rochester)**  
To extend Xcel’s Solar Rewards Program one year to 2023.

**HF 1561 – Rep. Swedzinski (R-Ghent)**  
**SF 1193 – Sen. Osmeck (R-Mound)**  
To require Xcel to pay future community solar gardens at the lowest rate proposed under bid by developers; to cap the program at 25 megawatts per year.

**HF 1133 – Rep. Acomb (DFL-Minnetonka)**  
**SF 1424 – Sen. Dibble (DFL-Minneapolis)**  
To establish a program using Renewable Development Account and general fund appropriations to award grants to public schools for power purchase agreements with solar developers that install solar PV systems on or in the vicinity of school buildings; to limit utility rate increases to those schools for the duration of the PPAs.

**HF 1148 – Rep. Christensen (DFL-Stillwater)**  
**SF 2016 – Sen. Senjem (R-Rochester)**  
To establish a program using Renewable Development Account and general fund appropriations for grants to public schools for energy conservation improvements.

**HF 1165 – Rep. Clafin (DFL-South St. Paul)**  
**SF 1608 – Sen. Osmeck (R-Mound)**  
To require investor-owned electric utilities to include an extensive assessment of energy storage systems in their Integrated Resource Plans; to establish criteria for energy storage pilot projects by IOUs; to require the Commerce Department to contract with a third party to conduct a cost-benefit analysis of energy storage systems. (See also HF 165/ SF No. 100.)

**HF 1191 – Rep. Wagenius (DFL-Minneapolis)**  
No Senate companion bill  
To establish an incentive payment for investor-owned utilities to exceed 1.9% annual Conservation Improvement Program electric energy savings and 1.2% annual CIP gas savings.

**HF 1234 – Rep. Heintzman (R-Nisswa)**  
**SF 1973 – Sen. Mathews (R-Milaca)**  
To limit the number of assistant commissioners in the Pollution Control Agency; to limit to 3% the amount of grant money the PCA may use for grant program administration purposes.

**HF 2445 – Rep. Mekeland (R-Clear Lake)**  
**SF 1372 – Sen. Mathews (R-Milaca)**  
To remove the 100-megawatt size cap on hydropower sources that qualify under the Renewable Energy Standard.

**SF 1401 – Sen. Torres Ray (DFL-Minneapolis)**  
No House companion file.  
To appropriate funds for groundwater analysis, designate additional groundwater management areas and develop and implement a water education program that provides training on public use of geologic atlases and other groundwater tools.

**HF 1314 – Rep. Lippert (DFL-Northfield)**  
**SF 1403 – Sen. Torres Ray (DFL-Minneapolis)**  
To appropriate funds to expand protection efforts for source water, including rivers and groundwater sources that serve private wells.

**HF 1317 – Rep. Bierman (R-Apple Valley)**  
**SF 2017 – Sen. Senjem (R-Rochester)**  
To establish a refundable income tax credit of 11% to 15% of the purchase and installation cost of a PV system, solar water heater or solar thermal system.

**HF 1360 – Rep. Long (DFL-Minneapolis)**  
**SF 1779 – Sen. Pratt (R-Prior Lake)**  
To allow commercial PACE program loans up to the assessed value of the property. Current law limits loan to lesser of 20% of property value or actual improvement cost.

**HF 1369 – Rep. Christensen (DFL-Stillwater)**  
**SF 1503 – Sen. Goggin (R-Red Wing)**

To require all public schools or school districts reporting on their behalf to enter and maintain monthly utility consumption data into the Minnesota B3 benchmarking program for all buildings under its custodial control.

**HF 1405 – Rep. Stephenson (DFL-Coon Rapids)**  
**SF 1456 – Sen. Senjem (R-Rochester)**

To require electric utilities in their Integrated Resource Plan filings to include analyses of potential for utilization of energy storage and energy efficiency and load management; to maximize utilization of local workers for electric generating facilities construction; to establish state transmission planning to account for retiring generation facilities and to create an IRP group to biennially share best practices, promote coordination across resource plans and determine what other resource planning topics to discuss.

**HF 2342 – Stephenson (DFL-Coon Rapids)**  
**SF 1480 – Rarick (R-Pine City)**

To appropriate money to complete the remaining obligations for “Made in Minnesota” solar program incentive payments and pay administrative costs and to repeal the statute establishing the program.

**HF 2218 – Richardson (DFL-Mendota Heights)**  
**SF 1489 – Sen. Torres Ray (DFL-Minneapolis)**

To require all gas and electric utilities, including municipal power agencies, to report annually on their efforts, goals, and plans to increase diversity in the workplace, including “workforce representation numbers and percentages” and all procurement goals and actual spending for female-owned, minority-owned, veteran-owned and small business enterprises.

**HF 2638 – Rep. Bierman (R-Apple Valley)**  
**SF 1549 – Sen. Senjem (R-Rochester)**

To appropriate \$100,000 to allow DEED to update its Clean Energy Economy Profile which quantifies the employment and wages of ‘clean energy’ businesses.

**HF 1945 – Rep. Kresha (R-Little Falls)**  
**SF 1634 – Sen. Howe (R-Rockville)**

To make publicly available, data related to complaints or charges against public officials, where the public official in any city is a manager, chief, director or head of a department, division, bureau or board. Current law limits availability of data for such positions to cities with a population of 7,500 or more.

**SF 1649 – Sen. Koran (R-North Branch)**

No House companion bill.

To require state agencies to invite vendors to discuss a proposed contract before issuing a notice of proposed contract for professional or technical services valued at \$25,000 or more.

**HF 1617 – Rep. Urdahl (R-Grove City)**  
**SF 2021 – Sen. Senjem (R-Rochester)**

To appropriate \$60 million in funding from state bonding proceeds for the Public Facilities Authority in these amounts: \$6 million to match federal grants for the clean water revolving fund; \$15 million for grants to municipalities under the water infrastructure funding program; \$39 million for grants to municipalities under the point source implementation program.

**HF 1656 – Rep. Persell (DFL-Bemidji)**  
**SF 2096 – Sen. Ingebrigtsen (R-Alexandria)**

To remove the 300-kW limit for solar facilities on state buildings in order to meet the current law requirement of meeting 2% of state building energy needs with renewable energy located at the building site.

**HF 1673 – Rep. Fabian (R-Roseau)**  
**SF 1972 – Sen. Mathews (R-Milaca)**

To prohibit the PCA and DNR from adopting guidelines, bulletins, criterion, manual standards, interpretive statements or similar pronouncements that meet the definition of a rule but have not been adopted according to the required rulemaking process.

**HF 1683 – Rep. Long (DFL-Minneapolis)**  
**SF 2054 – Sen. Senjem (R-Rochester)**

To require all electric and gas utilities to provide customer-identifiable energy usage data in a format comprehensible to the typical customer in as close to real-time as practicable to the customer or a third-party authorized by the customer; to require utilities to provide non-customer-identifiable energy usage data to anyone requesting it.

**HF 1796 – Rep. Hansen (DFL-South St. Paul)**  
**SF 1777 – Sen. Jasinski (R-Faribault)**

To allow Xcel customers to subscribe to solar gardens in distant counties if the facility is at least 100 feet from the nearest residential property. Current law allows a customer to subscribe to facilities only in their county or an adjacent county.

**HF 2006 – Rep. Swedzinski (R-Ghent)**  
**SF 1824 – Sen. Goggin (R-Red Wing)**

To allow Xcel to recover from customers the amounts it pays to the state for permission to store spent nuclear fuel in storage casks at Prairie Island and Monticello.

**HF 1737 Rep. Lippert (DFL-Northfield)**  
**SF 1905 Sen. Senjem (R-Rochester)**

To appropriate \$8 million from the general fund to MnDOT to support the development of supply equipment for public electric vehicles, mostly with charging capacity greater than 150 kW. No more than 40% of the funds could be used for equipment installation within the seven-county metro area.

**HF 1745 Rep. Swedzinski (R-Ghent)**

No Senate companion bill.

To repeal obsolete provisions in statutes relating to energy.

**HF 1751 Rep. Daudt (R-Crown)**

**SF 2330 Sen. Johnson (R-East Grand Forks)**

To statutorily authorize construction of the Enbridge Line 3 pipeline.

**HF 1787 Rep. Acomb (DFL-Minnetonka)**

**SF 2368 Sen. Simonson (DFL-Duluth)**

To appropriate \$6 million to establish goals and benchmarks and implement rapid transition toward the use of renewable fuels for electric and thermal energy in University of Minnesota campus buildings by 2030.

**HF 1788 Rep. Acomb (DFL-Minnetonka)**

**SF 2369 Sen. Simonson (DFL-Duluth)**

To appropriate \$6 million to establish goals and benchmarks and implement rapid transition toward the use of renewable fuels for electric and thermal energy in University of Minnesota State Colleges and Universities campus buildings by 2030.

**HF 1798 Rep. Wagenius (DFL-Minneapolis)**

**SF 2066 Sen. Osmek (R-Mound)**

To correct incorrect reference of “clean energy advancement fund” to “renewable development” account in the statute governing transfer of unspent RDA grant funds.

**HF 1938 Rep. Fabian (R-Roseau)**

**SF 1838 Sen. Howe (R-Rockville)**

To establish a figurative “social permit” represented by adoption of a resolution by every Minnesota board of county commissioners in support of the PCA’s adoption of any water quality standard or modification; to restrict such actions by the PCA from taking effect without such a “social permit.”

**HF 1919 Rep. Christensen (DFL-Stillwater)**

**SF 1888 Sen. Housley (R-Woodbury)**

To create a fund with deposits from the RDA of \$15 million in 2019 and \$10 million annually thereafter for grants administered by the Department of Employment and Economic Development to address the economic and social impact on communities affected by the retirement of investor-owned coal, nuclear and natural gas electric generating plants.

**SF 1891 Sen. Senjem (R-Rochester)**

No House companion bill.

To allow Xcel customers to subscribe to solar gardens in distant counties if the facility is at least 100 feet from the nearest residential property, and the facility owner commits to providing at least 10% of the output to residential subscribers. Current law allows customer to subscribe to facilities only in their county or an adjacent

county and has no customer class conditions. (See also, SF 1777).

**HF 1853 Rep. Lee (DFL-St. Paul)**

**SF 1904 Sen. Abeler (R-Anoka)**

To appropriate \$10 million from the general fund to the PCA to support the development of supply equipment for public electric vehicles, mostly with charging capacity greater than 150 kW.

**HF 2795 Rep. Hornstein (DFL-Minneapolis)**

**SF 2046 Sen. Newton (DFL-Coon Rapids)**

To repeal the federal appliance and lighting efficiency standards codified in Minnesota law if the federal standards are repealed or voided.

**HF 1833 Rep. Wagenius (DFL-Minneapolis)**

**SF 2067 Sen. Osmek (R-Mound)**

To require the Department of Commerce to “conduct a study to develop a strategy for the state to advance the commercial application of microgrids by helping to establish pilot projects at sites owned and operated by public entities, included but not limited to the state, political subdivisions, and the University of Minnesota.”

**HF 1842 Rep. Wagenius (DFL-Minneapolis)**

**SF 2084 Sen. Osmek (R-Mound)**

To make a technical change in a statutory provision related to dispute resolution for cooperative customers to bring it into conformity with 2017 changes made in another statute section.

**HF 1866 Rep. Long (DFL-Minneapolis)**

**SF 2242 Sen. Dibble (DFL-Minneapolis)**

To make beneficial electrification a state priority and require investor-owned utilities to submit biennial plans to the PUC for promoting energy end-uses powered by electricity.

**HF 1891 Rep. Vogel (R-Elko New Market)**

No Senate companion bill.

To set conditions upon municipalities that charge franchise fees on investor-owned utilities above what is necessary to defray costs associated with the utility’s operations.

**HF 1928 Rep. Hansen (DFL-South St. Paul)**

**SF 2262 Sen. Eaton (DFL-Brooklyn Center)**

To make appropriations to the DNR, PCA, PFA, Clean Water Fund, Board of Water and Soil Resources, and Department of Health drinking water programs.

**HF 1956 Rep. Long (DFL-Minneapolis)**

**SF 2431 Sen. Frentz (DFL-North Mankato)**

To enact the Governor’s 2019 energy policy proposal; to establish the “Clean Energy First” program to require utilities to analyze energy storage, load management and energy efficiency as alternatives to non-renewable large energy facility development in certificate of need proceedings and to require utilities

to participate in a transmission study to accommodate retiring fossil fuel electric plants; to establish a “Carbon Free Energy Standard of 100% by 2050 for all utilities under the RES; to change CIP to allow utilities to claim energy savings credit for electrification (“fuel-switching”) under certain conditions and make various other changes to CIP.

**HF 1998 Rep. Persell (DFL-Bemidji)**  
**SF 2536 Sen. Carlson (DFL-Eagan)**

To remove the 300kW cap on solar facilities that may be put on state buildings to meet the current requirement that all new state buildings generate 2% of their electric need.

**HF 2022 Rep. Bierman (DFL-Apple Valley)**  
**SF 2061 Sen. Kent (DFL-Kent)**

To require DNR and PCA to install a network of Level 2 charging stations in state and regional parks in Xcel’s service area with \$4.1 million from the RDA.

**HF 2221 Rep. Wazlawik (DFL-White Bear Lake)**  
**SF 2074 Sen. Chamberlain (R-Lino Lakes)**

To expand the definition of “municipality” throughout the public utilities’ statutes (chapter 216B) to include urban townships.

**HF 2032 Rep. Hansen (DFL-South St. Paul)**  
**SF 2201 Sen. Westrom (R-Elbow Lake)**

To make appropriations from the environmental trust fund.

**SF 2102 Sen. Draheim (R-Madison Lake)**

No House companion bill.

To consolidate multiple state agencies and their duties relating to water matters into a new Department of Water Resources.

**HF 2269 Rep. Mahoney (DFL-St. Paul)**  
**SF 2146 Sen. Senjem (R-Rochester)**

To continue the contract under which Xcel must purchase electric output from the District Energy CHP plant in downtown St. Paul.

**HF 2189 Rep. Theis (R-St. Cloud)**  
**SF 2217 Sen. Koran (R-North Branch)**

To define and prohibit certain conflict of interests in municipal bid procedures related to contracts of value greater than \$175,000.

**HF 2104 Rep. Haley (R-Red Wing)**  
**SF 2615 Sen. Pratt (R-Prior Lake)**

To exempt the Nuclear Decommissioning Reserve Fund from paying income tax.

**HF 2204 Rep. Hornstein (DFL-Minneapolis)**

No Senate companion bill.

To require the Department of Administration to set maximum acceptable global warming potential standards for carbon steel rebar, flat glass, mineral wool board insulation or structural steel used in state building and construction contracts.

**HF 2209 Rep. Hansen (DFL-South St. Paul)**  
**SF 2314 Sen. Ingebrigtsen (R-Alexandria)**

To make appropriations for DNR and PCA and allow them to make changes in the levels of fees they collect.

**HF 2211 Rep. O’Neill (R-Maple Lake)**

No Senate companion bill.

To allow Xcel to recover from customers the amounts it pays to the state for permission to store spent nuclear fuel in storage casks at Prairie Island and Monticello. (See also, SF No. 2008 / HF 1824.)

**HF 2233 Rep. Long (DFL-Minneapolis)**  
**SF 2528 Sen. Simonson (DFL-Duluth)**

To establish a rebate program for purchasers of new and used electric vehicles funded through the RDA for Xcel customers and the general fund for non-Xcel customers; To establish a grant program for installers of Level 2 and fast-charging electric vehicle charging stations funded through the RDA for stations in Xcel territory and the general fund for non-Xcel territories.

**HF 2271 Rep. Backer (R-Browns Valley)**  
**SF 2240 Sen. Westrom (R-Elbow Lake)**

To require the DNR to revise the public waters inventory map for each county.

**HF 2382 Rep. Wazlawik (DFL-White Bear Lake)**  
**SF 2253 Sen. Wiger (DFL-Maplewood)**

To make available to the public protected, non-public data and confidential data in government possession, if the data are collected or retained as part of an active investigation or in anticipation of civil legal action for purposes of facilitating community awareness of, preparedness for, or response to a release or threatened release of a hazardous substance or pollutant or contaminant.

**HF 2513 Rep. Schomacker (R-Luverne)**  
**SF 2316 Sen. Weber (R-Luverne)**

To require the PCA to promulgate rulemaking to amend or repeal class 3 and class 4 water quality standards.

**HF 2492 Rep. Garofalo (R-Farmington)**  
**SF 2342 Sen. Osmek (R-Mound)**

To establish a revolving loan program for installers of public electric vehicle charging stations funded through the RDA for stations in Xcel territory.

**HF 2467 Rep. Sundin (R-Esko)**  
**SF 2421 Sen. Rarick (R-Pine City)**

To allow recovery from the contractor recovery fund for claims against solar installers.

**HF 2437 Rep. Persell (DFL-Bemidji)**  
**SF 2471 Sen. Pratt (R-Prior Lake)**

To establish and fund a study coordinated by the EQB to explore the feasibility of locating solar facilities on closed landfills.

**HF 2556 Rep. Wagenius (DFL-Minneapolis)**

No Senate companion bill.

To appropriate funds for the budgets of the Department of Commerce and the Public Utilities Commission; to establish a program making grants to school districts for the purchase and installation of solar facilities on or adjacent to school buildings.

**HF 2566 Rep. Lippert (DFL-Northfield)**

**SF 2763 Sen. Dibble (DFL-Minneapolis)**

To require the Department of Commerce to contract for a study of the potential costs and benefits of developing a “green bank” in Minnesota to finance renewable energy and energy efficiency projects.

**HF 2592 Rep. Bierman (DFL-Apple Valley)**

No Senate companion bill.

To authorize school boards to own, operate, sell power from and receive payment for renewable energy generation systems that use hydro, solar, geothermal or the use of trees or other vegetation. Currently, they are limited to wind.

**HF 2618 Rep. Stephenson (DFL-Coon Rapids)**

**SF 2664 Sen. Hoffman (DFL-St. Paul)**

To appropriate \$500,000 for the purpose of requiring the Department of Education to issue a grant to a school district to purchase an electric school bus.

**HF 2625 Rep. Long (DFL-Minneapolis)**

**SF 2697 Sen. Dibble (DFL-Minneapolis)**

To allow Xcel customers to subscribe to solar gardens in distant counties if the facility is at least 100 feet from the nearest residential property and if at least 10% of the generating capacity is reserved for residential subscribers; to establish a solar garden program for LIHEAP recipients; and to require the Department of Commerce to develop strategies to significantly accelerate greenhouse gas reduction.

**SF 2622 Sen. Koran (R-North Branch)**

No House companion bill.

To require the Office of Broadband Development to create a “how-to guide” to assist Border-to-Border grant applicants in undertaking and broadband projects and deployment activities.

**HF 2793 Rep. Sanstede (DFL-Hibbing)**

**SF 2648 Sen. Tomassoni (DFL-Chisolm)**

To allow a municipal utility commission to lease, sell or discontinue operation of its utility, in whole or in part, without a vote of the electorate so long as the city council approves.

**HF 2681 Rep. Long (DFL-Minneapolis)**

No Senate companion bill.

To require all electric and gas utilities to provide customer identifiable energy usage data in a format comprehensible to the typical customer in as close to real time as practicable to the customer or a third-party authorized by the customer; to require utilities to provide non-customer-identifiable energy usage data to anyone requesting it. (See also HF 1683 / SF No. 2054.)

**HF 2715 Rep. Hornstein (DFL-Minneapolis)**

**SF 2764 Sen. Eaton (DFL-Brooklyn Center)**

To require the Department of Commerce to develop strategies to significantly accelerate GHG reduction. (See also HF 2625.)

**SF 2711 Sen. Hayden (DFL-Minneapolis)**

No House companion bill.

To extend and increase the RES setting it in 2035 at 85% for Xcel and 80% for other IOUs, G&Ts and municipal power agencies; to institute a new “Carbon-free Standard” of 100% for most utilities by 2050 and 2045 for Xcel. (See also HF 700 / SF No. 850.)

**HF 2740 Rep. Fischer (DFL-Maplewood)**

**SF 2757 Sen. Matthews (R-Milaca)**

To appropriate \$800,000 for the PCA to establish a statewide program to reduce chloride, of which \$200,000 will be used to make grants to optimize existing water softening units or upgrade to low-salt use systems.

**SF 2729 Sen. Senjem (R-Rochester)**

To establish characteristics that allow a solar facility owner to claim the site is a bee and apiary solar farm, conservation solar farm or conservation pasture solar farm.

**HF 2748 Rep. Acomb (DFL-Minnetonka)**

No Senate companion bill.

To establish a state bond funded loan program allowing school districts to purchase and install solar systems.

**HF 2816 Rep. Anderson (R-Starbuck)**

No Senate companion bill.

To prohibit construction or expansion of community solar gardens outside the Twin Cities metro until the Department of Commerce submits a study report to the Legislature on how solar gardens affect utility rate payers and communities where solar garden facilities are located.

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MMUA' relies on contract lobbyists, staff and most of all — members — for a successful government relations program. Some of each are pictured here, at the 2019 Legislative Conference.



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