



Request for City Council Committee Action from the Department of Intergovernmental Relations

Date: May 28, 2014

To: Council Vice President Elizabeth Glidden and Committee Vice Chair Alondra Cano
Referral to: Intergovernmental Relations Committee

Subject: State legislation: 2014 Legislative Wrap-up

Recommendation: Receive and File

Previous Directives: City Council adopted a 2014 Legislative Agenda. The Wrap-Up compares legislative actions to the Agenda.

Department Information

Prepared by: Gene Ranieri

Approved by: *Gene Ranieri*

Presenters in Committee: IGR staff

Supporting Information.

The IGR Department annually provides the committee with a Session Wrap-up. The report includes a summary of major funding and policy issues of interest to the city. The Wrap-Up identifies the issue by topic, chapter number if appropriate, and House or Senate File number.

Among the provisions enacted into law, three will require city council action to implement. Two are special laws that require council approval. A separate RCA regarding the special laws is part of today's agenda. The third provision relates to cities in Hennepin and is not a special law because it meets at least one of the statutory exceptions. However to implement it – All Star Game extended hours – the council action is necessary.

A more detailed report will be included in the Department's results program.

Capital Investment

The 2014 capital investment legislation was split between two separate bills: one allocating \$846 million in traditional general obligation bonds, and the other appropriating nearly \$200 million from the general fund. Together, these bills represent over \$1.2 billion in investment in state and local infrastructure and asset preservation.

Capital Investment - Bonding Bill (Chapter 294 - HF 2490)

Signed 5/20/14

The general obligation bill makes several key investments:

- \$21.5 million for the Nicollet Mall redesign
- \$8.5 million for the Sculpture Garden
- \$33 million (in GO bonding and cash) for Local Bridge Replacement and Rehabilitation, of which \$11.75 million is designated for the Franklin Avenue Bridge
- \$550,000 for the Hennepin Center for the Arts
- \$330,000 for the Brian Coyle Community Center
- \$56.7 million for the Tate Laboratory Renovation at the University of Minnesota – Twin Cities campus
- \$3.6 million for Minneapolis Community and Technical College
- \$1 million for Safe Routes to Schools infrastructure grants
- \$20 million to MinnesotaHousing for public housing rehabilitation
- \$15 million to the Met Council for the Transit Capital Improvement Program. Listed eligible projects include:
 - I-35W/Lake Street Transit Station
 - Improved access to the red line Cedar Grove station in Eagan
 - Transitways including but not limited to Penn Avenue North BRT and Snelling Avenue BRT

Capital Investment – General Fund (cash) Appropriations Bill (Chapter 295 - HF 1068)

Signed 5/20/14

The general fund cash bill makes several key investments:

- \$3 million for YWCA Early Learning Facilities
- \$54.356 million for Local Road Improvement Fund grants
- \$80 million to MinnesotaHousing for housing infrastructure bonds

Taxes

Omnibus Tax Bill I (Chapter 150 – HF 1777)

Signed 3/21/14

The Legislature passed \$443 million in tax relief early in the legislative session. The bill included:

- Conformity to federal income tax system (\$200.3 million)
- An increase in the Working Family Credit (\$30.2 million)
- An extension of the Angel Investment Tax Credit (\$3 million)

- Repeal of the three business to business sales taxes enacted during the 2013 Legislative Session: warehousing tax (\$95.4 million), telecommunications equipment tax (\$41.7 million), and commercial and electronic equipment repair tax (\$94.6 million)
- Repeal of the gift tax enacted during the 2013 Legislative Session, and increase in the estate tax exemption level from \$1 million to \$2 million (\$42.7 million)

The first Omnibus Tax Bill also put \$150 million into the budget reserve and delayed the start date for the upfront capital equipment sales tax exemption from 9/1/14 to 7/1/15, which provided a cost savings of \$64.6 million.

Omnibus Tax Bill II (Chapter 308 – HF 3167)

Signed 5/20/14

The Legislature passed a second tax bill, providing \$103 million in tax relief. The bill included:

- An increase in the annual base LGA appropriation by \$7.8 million, resulting in an additional \$986,000 for Minneapolis in 2015
- Clarification to the sales tax exemption for local governments enacted in the 2013 Legislative Session to ensure inclusion of instrumentalities of local governments
- A one-time increase in the appropriation of the renter’s credit and the homestead credit refund of \$12.5 million and \$12.1 million, respectively, providing a 3% increase for homestead credit refunds and a 6% increase for renter’s credit refunds

The second Omnibus Tax Bill also included additional policy items related to cities, including:

- An extension to the deadline for cities and counties to certify their proposed levies, moving the date from September 15 of each year to September 30
- An extension of the five-year rule to eight years after certification for development TIF districts certified between April 20, 2009 and June 30, 2012

Public Safety

***Gun Restrictions for Domestic Violence Offenders
(Chapter 213 – HF 3238)***

Signed 5/9/14

Beginning August 1, 2014, individuals found guilty of stalking or assaulting a family/household member, as well as individuals subject to a restraining order due to domestic violence, are no longer allowed to possess firearms. Within three days of a court’s ruling, individuals must transfer all firearms to law enforcement, a firearms dealer, or a third party who does not live with the person. If a court finds the individual poses an imminent risk, they may direct law enforcement to seize firearms immediately.

Cell Phone Theft and Resale (Chapter 241 – SF 1740)

Signed 5/14/14

The chapter contains two approaches to deterring cell phone theft. Article 1 of the chapter employs technology measures to be built into phones sold in Minnesota after July 1, 2015.

Article 2 attempts to devalue the resale of stolen phones by requiring the resale transaction to be completed by a providing the seller of the phone with a store credit or check in the amount of the sale. Records of the sale will be required. Article 2 is similar to the copper theft statute that was passed in 2008.

Expungement of Criminal Records (Chapter 246 – HF 2576)

Signed 5/14/14

Following specified periods of crime-free behavior, some criminal records will be eligible for expungement beginning on January 1, 2015.

- One year following a diversion program or stay of adjudication
- Two years following discharge of the sentence for a petty misdemeanor or misdemeanor
- Four years following discharge of the sentence for a gross misdemeanor
- Five years following discharge of the sentence for certain felonies, including insurance violations, controlled substance in the fifth degree, sale of simulated controlled substances, accident resulting in great bodily harm, unlawful acts involving liquor, contempt, coercion, failure to appear in court, theft of \$5,000 or less, receiving stolen goods, forgery, residential mortgage fraud, computer theft, among others

Scrap Metal Regulation (Chapter 190 – HF 2605)

Signed 5/1/14

This session's scrap metal bill represents step-two in a multi-year, multi-jurisdictional effort to crack down on auto theft and illegal scrapping of vehicles. The 2014 legislation amends provisions enacted in 2013 regarding the City of Minneapolis' Automated Property System (APS) for tracking scrap metal and scrap vehicle transactions. It delays the effective date of implementation from January 2015 to February 2016 and provides a grace period for enforcement.

In addition, it establishes the parameters for implementing a fee schedule for use of APS. The city of Minneapolis (which operates APS) may charge a fee to scrap metal and scrap vehicle operators for transactions entered into the system. The fee may not exceed 72 cents for the first four years of operation. Thereafter, the city may adjust the fee to reflect the ongoing, reasonable costs of operating and maintaining the system. The fee schedule may be examined by the state auditor at any time. Finally, the city must file a biennial report with the state auditor and the Legislature that outlines the fee schedule and costs associated with APS.

City Livability

***Omnibus Supplemental Budget Bill, Early Education Article
(Chapter 312 – HF 3172)***

Signed 5/20/14

Early Learning Scholarships: \$4.65 million increase in FY15, with a \$4.88 million annual base increase to \$27.88 million per year starting in FY16. The scholarship cap of \$5,000 per child is eliminated after FY15, and beginning in FY16, the Commissioner of Education will establish target scholarship amounts based on average rates for early learning programs.

Early Childhood Family Education: \$4.65 million increase in FY15, with a \$5.167 million base increase to \$27.938 million starting in FY16.

Northside Achievement Zone: The Northside Achievement Zone (NAZ) will receive \$350,000 in FY15, with an ongoing base appropriation of \$200,000 per year starting in FY16. The funding may be used for NAZ programming and services consistent with federal Promise Neighborhood agreements and requirements.

Omnibus Liquor Bill (Chapter 240 – SF 2336)

Signed 5/13/14

The Omnibus Liquor bill, passed within a broader bill on gambling regulations, includes key provisions important to the City of Minneapolis. The legislation allows cities greater freedom in managing liquor licenses by permitting revocation if the establishment fails to comply with any ordinance relating to the operation of the establishment, or fails to comply with any lawful license condition imposed by the city.

The bill also contains provisions that allows cities in Hennepin County to extend bar closing times for the 2014 Major League Baseball All-Star Game. It also allows microdistilleries to provide samples of the distilled spirits manufactured on its premises, and authorizes the city to provide liquor licenses to the American Swedish Institute and Minneapolis Institute of Arts.

Equity

Women’s Economic Security Act (Chapter 239 – HF 2536)

Signed 5/11/14

The Legislature passed the Women’s Economic Security Act, a bill aimed at closing the gender pay gap, offering protections for pregnant and nursing women, and ending sex discrimination. Some of the key elements of the new law include:

- Establishing a grant program for job recruitment and placement aimed at increasing the number of women in high wage, high demand nontraditional occupations
- Requiring that if the state has a contract worth over \$500,000 with a business employing 40 or more employees, the business must obtain an equal pay certificate to verify that their employment and compensation practices do not discriminate by sex
- Increasing the minimum wage (see summary on HF 2091)
- Expanding access to childcare by removing the \$5,000 cap and providing an additional \$4.65 million for early learning scholarships (see summary on Early Learning, HF 3172, Chapter 312)
- Expanding Minnesota Parental Leave Act from six to twelve weeks of unpaid leave
- Allowing use of sick leave to care for an ill or injured grandchild, or a mother or father in law
- Requiring employees that have 21+ employees to provide accommodations for pregnant employees including seating or position transfers for pregnant workers
- Improving housing protections for victims of violence, and expanding unemployment insurance eligibility currently available to victims of domestic violence

- Creating a report on a state retirement plan that would allow small private sector employees to pool into a state-managed program

Health and Human Services

Omnibus Health and Human Services Policy Bill (Chapter 291 – HF 2402) Signed 5/21/14

E-cigarettes: Initial attempts to include E-cigarettes in the Minnesota Clean Indoor Air Act did not prevail this session. However, the Omnibus Health and Human Services Policy bill did include a ban of the use of E-cigarettes in several facilities including:

- Buildings operated by the state, cities, counties, townships, school districts, and other political subdivisions
- Facilities owned by MnSCU and the University of Minnesota
- Facilities licensed by the Minnesota Commissioner of Human Services
- Facilities licensed by the Minnesota Commissioner of Health if the facility is also subject to federal licensing requirements
- Health care facilities and clinics
- Daycare facilities
- Public schools

Political subdivisions and businesses are also given the ability to enforce stricter regulations regarding E-cigarettes if they choose to do so.

Local Public Health Act: The Omnibus Health and Human Services Policy bill also contained an article that updates state statutes related to local public health.

Omnibus Supplemental Budget Bill, HHS Article (Chapter 312 – HF 3172) Signed 5/20/14

Healthy Homes: The Legislature provided \$300,000 annually beginning in 2015. Of the full appropriation, \$60,000 is allocated for lead poisoning prevention, and \$240,000 is for healthy housing implementation grants to mitigate housing-based health threats. The grants are to be distributed in a geographically balanced way.

Safe Harbors: The Legislature provided an increase in funding for a coordinated, comprehensive service model to combat child sex trafficking.

In FY14/15, there is a total increase in Safe Harbor shelter/service funding of \$1.5 million including:

- Increases to the Minnesota Department of Human Services shelter and housing grant money from \$1 million to \$1.5 million.
- Increases for the Minnesota Department of Health comprehensive services grant money from zero to \$1 million.

In FY16/17, there will be a total increase in Safe Harbor funding of \$3 million including:

- Increases to the Minnesota Department of Human Services shelter and housing grant money from \$1 million to \$2 million.

- Increases to the Minnesota Department of Health comprehensive service grant money from zero to \$2 million.

Homeless Youth Act: The Legislature provided \$1 million in FY14-15 and \$2 million in FY16-17 in funding for the Homeless Youth Act.

Medical Cannabis (Chapter 311 – SF 2470)

Signed 5/29/14

Though far more restrictive than earlier plans, the Legislature established a program for medical cannabis (marijuana) this session.

- **Allowable forms:** only pill, liquid, and vaporized liquid forms. Smoking, plant form is not allowed.
- **Qualifying conditions:**
 - Cancer-related symptoms of severe/chronic pain, nausea, and wasting
 - Glaucoma
 - HIV/AIDS
 - Tourette’s syndrome
 - ALS
 - Seizures, including those characteristic of epilepsy
 - Muscle spasms, including those characteristic of MS
 - Crohn’s disease
 - Terminal illness with a life expectancy of one year, if the condition or its treatment produces severe/chronic pain, nausea, wasting
 - Any other medical condition or its treatment approved by the Commissioner of Health
 - The Commissioner must consider adding intractable pain as a qualifying condition before considering any other new conditions
- **Manufacture and distribution:**
 - Two in-state manufacturers
 - Eight total distribution facilities, four operated by each manufacturer, with locations based on geographical need
 - Only licensed pharmacists may distribute medical cannabis to a patient
 - Manufacturers must not provide more than a 30-day prescription of cannabis
- **Patient registration protocol:**
 - Patients must receive an annual diagnosis from a health care practitioner
 - After receiving a diagnosis, the patient must apply to be included in the patient registry program
 - The annual fee is \$200, or \$50 for low-income patients
 - Patients must not have been convicted of a felony controlled substance law, unless it was for the medical use of cannabis
 - If a patient is disabled, the Commissioner may authorize a designated caregiver over 21 years of age to administer medical cannabis
- **Timeline:**
 - August 1, 2014 – Commissioner must begin accepting applications for manufacturers if unable to obtain an adequate federal supply of medical cannabis

- November 1, 2014 – Commissioner must notify the task force if unable to register manufacturers by December 1, 2014
 - The Commissioner may request one six-month extension to this deadline, if necessary
- December 1, 2014 – The Commissioner must provide information on dosages and chemical compositions for treatments
- December 1, 2014 – The Commissioner must register two manufacturers
- January 1, 2015 – Notice of proposed rules published in the State Register
- July 1, 2015 – First distribution centers open
 - The Commissioner may request one six-month extension to this deadline, if necessary
- July 1, 2016 – Remaining distribution centers must be open

Farmers Markets (Chapter 163 – SF 2060)

Signed 4/11/14

The legislation creates the first statewide statutory definition for farmers markets, as it pertains to this limited section of law regarding the licensing of food handlers. Without this legislation, vendors who sell certain homemade foods at farmers markets are exempt from food handler licensing. The bill authorizes a person to do food product sampling or demonstrations without a food handler license. Important to the City of Minneapolis the bill also allows a seasonal temporary food stand to operate for more than 21 days a year in the same location if approved by the local unit of government.

Municipal Governance

Unauthorized Access to Private Data (Chapter 284- HF 183)

Signed 5/21/14

Two significant bills that create additional requirements on how cities maintain and protect nonpublic data go into effect August 1, 2014.

HF 183 was originally introduced in 2013 primarily in response to media reports and lawsuits alleging the unauthorized access of private data in the driver’s license database maintained by the state Department of Public Safety. New requirements for local governments include:

- Establishing additional security measures to help ensure that private data is is “only accessible to persons whose work assignment reasonably requires access to the data, and is only being accessed by those persons for purposes described in the procedure”
- Performing an annual security assessment of “personal information”
- Following the data breach laws that currently apply only to state agencies. Under those laws, if a city discovers a data breach, it must disclose that breach to the person who is the subject of the data. The person must also be informed that the entity will perform an investigation of the data breach, and instructions on how the report can be accessed after completion.

If a government entity finds that there has been unauthorized access of data, it must issue a report that contains, at a minimum:

- A description of the type of data that was accessed or acquired
- The number of individuals whose data was improperly accessed or acquired
- The names of each employee responsible for the unauthorized access, if there has been final disposition of disciplinary actions
- The final disposition of any disciplinary action taken as a result

Legislative Commission on Data Practices (Chapter 193 – SF 2066)

Signed 5/1/14

The Legislature created a Legislative Commission on Data Practices and Personal Data Privacy in order to devote more attention to data security and the MN Data Practices Act. The commission will meet in the interim and will likely discuss whether the Legislature should require government entities to adopt additional security measures to ensure that private data is not improperly accessed.

Jobs and Economic Development

Minimum Wage Increase (Chapter 166 – HF 2091)

Signed 4/14/14

A bill to increase the state minimum wage and index it to inflation was signed into law this year. The wage increase would be phased in over time. The current state minimum wage of \$6.15/hour for large employers with annual gross sales in excess of \$500,000 will increase as follows:

- \$8.00/hour on August 1, 2014
- \$9.00/hour on August 1, 2015
- \$9.50/hour on August 1, 2016

In 2018, wage will increase every year based on inflation, capped at 2.5%. The adjustment for inflation may be suspended by the Commissioner of the Minnesota Department of Labor and Industry if there is a substantial downturn of the economy.

Transportation

Several bills related to transportation were signed into law. Among them were provisions related to capital investments and policy including but not limited to rail and pipeline safety, and transit shelters. The Legislature, however, did not pass a transportation financing bill and resources for winter street maintenance repair (potholes) for city and county streets and roads.

Capital Investment - Bonding Bill (Chapter 294 - HF 2490)

Signed 5/20/14

The bill appropriates \$12.26 million for local bridge replacement and rehabilitation. Of the total \$11.75 million is appropriated for the Franklin Avenue Bridge, a Hennepin County project, located in the city. The bill requires the county to have a match of at least \$16 million as a condition to receive the state funds.

The Metropolitan Council has \$15 million for transit capital improvements. No project is allocated funds but the Metropolitan Council can choose to give an appropriation for specific projects identified in the bill. Among the identified projects are the I-35W/Lake Street Transit Station, improved access to the red line Cedar Grove station in Eagan, and several transitways including but not limited to Penn Avenue North bus rapid transit (BRT) and the Snelling Avenue BRT.

***Capital Investment – General Fund (cash) Appropriations Bill
(Chapter 295 - HF 1068)***

Signed 5/20/14

The bill appropriates \$51.74 million in general fund revenue for two transportation programs to the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT). The Local Bridge Replacement and Rehabilitation program and the Local Road Improvement grant programs received \$20.74 million and \$30 million, respectively. The funding is in addition to the bonding appropriation for each program. Unlike the bonding bill, this bill does not appropriate funds to a specific bridge project.

The road improvement program, however, includes funding for Ramsey County for road improvements related to the Twin Cities Army Ammunition Plant redevelopment and a grant of \$250,000 for road improvements to Pike Lake Township in Otter Tail County. Although the Ramsey County grant amount is not specified, the original request approximated \$29 million.

The bill also appropriates \$1 million for capital improvements related to the Safe Routes to School program.

***Omnibus Supplemental Budget Bill, Transportation Article
(Chapter 312 – HF 3172)***

Signed 5/20/14

The bill appropriates General Fund and Trunk Highway Fund dollars for highway and transit projects. Of the total \$136.2 million appropriated to MnDOT, \$123.1 million is from the Trunk Highway Fund and can only be used for state trunk highways; \$31.5 million of this is available for the Corridors of Commerce program, but there is no funding for the Transportation Economic Development (TED) program. The general fund appropriation is \$8.78 million, of which \$6.5 million is appropriated for Greater Minnesota transit.

Transit: The Metropolitan Council was appropriated \$2.83 million for transit shelters, 2014 Election Day free transit rides, suburban transit providers, planning and design for the I-35W/Lake Street Transit Station, and the Snelling Avenue BRT. The transit station project and the Snelling Avenue project received \$1 million each.

The budget bill also adds a provision to the statutes related to transit and transportation (Section 473.411) that clarifies the role of a transit authority regarding the design, operation and maintenance of transit shelters.

Railroad and Pipeline Safety: Article 10 of the bill defines the role and responsibilities of railroad and pipeline companies regarding safety procedures and training. The companies are required to file with the state their procedures for responding to a derailment or break

involving oil and hazardous cargo. The new statute requires meeting with local public safety officials to review plans and procedures to respond to an incident. The companies must offer training to fire departments having “unit trains” passing through its jurisdiction. A unit train is defined as a train with more than 25 tanker railcars carrying oil or hazardous substance cargo. The initial training must be offered by June 30, 2016 and refresher training must be offered every three years thereafter.

The bill also establishes a special fund, paid by assessments to the companies, for training and response-preparedness related to accidents involving oil or hazardous materials. The Commissioner of Public Safety will conduct a study on at-grade railroad crossings and emergency response preparedness in the public and private sectors for incidents involving the transportation of oil. The report is due to the Legislature by January 2015.

Environment and Natural Resources

***Omnibus Supplemental Budget Bill, Environment Article
(Chapter 312 – HF 3172)***

Signed 5/20/14

Recycling Policy and Funding: Chapter 312 incorporates much of the recycling policy supported by the city. Beginning January 1, 2016, owners or managers of commercial buildings located in the metropolitan area must ensure that at least three recyclable materials are collected and transferred to a recycler. For purposes of the requirement, a commercial building is one that contracts for four or more cubic yards of waste per week. The recycling requirement is also extended to professional or sports facilities at which competitions take place before a public audience.

The chapter amends the current statutory goals so that by 2030, a county would be recycling or composting 75% of the solid waste generated in the county.

The supplemental budget appropriates \$4 million in FY15 from the environment fund to the county recycling program. In subsequent years, the budget base is to be increased by \$3 million. The budget bill also requires that 50% of any state recycling funds received by a county that exceed its FY14 amount must be used for recycling and for composting source-separated organics materials, including a provision of receptacles for residential composting.

The \$4 million increase is estimated to generate approximately \$275,000 for Minneapolis in FY15.

Pollinator Death Compensation: Legislation that would compensate for bees killed by pesticides was included in the supplemental budget bill. The approved legislation:

- Permits the Commissioner of Agriculture to convene a group of experts to consult in the investigation of pollinator deaths or illnesses. The group may include representatives of public agencies, the University of Minnesota, the state pollinator bank, and other professionals. To support the group’s investigations, up to \$100,000 annually is appropriated from the pesticide fund.
- Authorizes the Commissioner to compensate a person for acute pesticide poisoning resulting in bee deaths or loss of bee colonies. If the claim meets the criteria outlined in the statute, the Commissioner can compensate the bee owner from the pesticide

fund but if the pesticide was applied “in a manner inconsistent with the pesticide’s label or labeling,” the applicator must pay restitution to the bee owner. The process to file a claim and an appeal a denial are also contained in the statute.

- Requires the Commissioner to reduce the amount of the claim by any insurance paid or from another source.

While the compensation provisions are effective July 1, 2014, the Commissioner is required to report to the Legislature by January 15, 2015, regarding reestablishing an apiary program. At a minimum, the report shall include recommendations on the prevention of diseases and exotic pests, sanitary inspection of apiaries, an apiary location registry, and the public benefit of an apiary program and the fiscal costs associated with a program.

Pollinator-Lethal Labeling (Chapter 299 – HF 2798)

Signed 5/21/14

The bill defines pollinator-lethal insecticide as an insecticide absorbed by a plant that makes the plant lethal to pollinators. The definition does not contain an inclusive listing but names neonicotinoids as a class of insecticides that fit the definition.

A plant or nursery stock cannot be labeled beneficial to pollinators if it has a detectable level of a systematic insecticide that has a pollinator protection box on the label or has a bee or honey bee precautionary statement in the environmental hazards section on the insecticide product label. The law is effective July 1, 2014.

Omnibus Energy Policy Bill (Chapter 254 – HF 2834)

Signed 5/16/14

The Omnibus Energy Policy Bill provides for several policies including the distribution and payment of propane, provisions permitting utilities to do online billing, and an electric car tariff.

The online billing provision allows a utility to collect payments for eligible improvements to the customer’s property as part of the customer’s monthly bill. Eligible improvements include conservation improvement projects and renewable energy installations. The loan must be with a federal or state chartered institution, a public agency established under the Minnesota Housing and Redevelopment Act, or an agency regulated by a federal agency.

An electric utility with the approval of the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (PUC) may establish a tariff for electric vehicle charging. The tariff could be for off-peak or peak hours and could offer power from renewable resources.

Triclosan Prohibition (Chapter 277 – SF2192)

Signed 5/16 /14

Section 8 of Chapter 277 prohibits the sale in Minnesota of any cleaning product that contains triclosan and is used by consumers for sanitizing or hand or body cleansing. The prohibition excludes products that have secured specific United States Food and Drug Administration approval. The provision is effective January 1, 2017.

Bills that Did Not Pass

House Tax Bill II Provisions

Several provisions originally proposed in the second tax bill were not included in the final version of the legislation that was passed and signed into law, including:

- Repeal of the Minneapolis Library Debt Service Aid of \$3.7 million
- Exclusion of the first \$150,000 in value of commercial/industrial property from the state general levy
- Inclusion of mixed-use properties in special service district assessments

Driver's License Bill (SF 271/HF 348)

Did not pass

The bill would allow an applicant for a driver's license to use a valid public identification document issued by a nation other than the United States as a means of identification. The public document would need to contain security features to ensure its authenticity. The bill would allow an applicant to use a passport, birth certificate or identification card. The bill passed the Senate but was amended to limit the license to driving only and as a result could not be used for other purposes. The House bill was approved by the Ways and Means Committee but was not heard on the House floor. The bill will be introduced during the 2015 Session.

Automatic License Plate Reader Bill (SF 385/HF 474)

Did not pass

The bill passed both the House and Senate but the conference committee could not resolve several issues related to the bill. Among the issues was the length of time the data collected by the readers could be retained by the agency using the reader, the policies to ensure that the data was not improperly used and the determination when data became investigative data. The House had no retention period while the Senate had a 90-day timeframe. Since it had a retention period the Senate required written policies for the use of the readers. The House did not have a retention time and therefore no policies were included in the bill.

Municipal Preemption of State Pesticide Rules (HF 2723/SF 2799)

Did not pass

The bill would allow cities of the first class to promulgate regulations related to pesticide use that are more restrictive than state rules. The bill did not receive a hearing in either chamber.

Payday Lending Regulations (HF 2293)

Did not pass

The bill would have installed regulations aimed to reduce predatory payday lending practices, including:

- A ban on lending to consumers that have an outstanding short-term loan
- A limit of 10 loans within a 12-month period