

February 15, 2019

Hello again from the snow covered cupolas of the state capitol. Let's dig (or would shovel be more appropriate for this time of the season?) right in to the most recent happenings occurring regarding the 2019 Minnesota legislative session.

What Has Happened Since Our Last Publication?

One noteworthy item for our readers of Carlton, Kanabec, Pine, and St. Louis counties is the special election held on February 5th where residents chose a new state senator to represent them. Senator Jason Rarick is not new to state politics nor to the district. He has spent the past three terms representing district 11B in the state's House of Representatives. With Rarick moving from the House to the Senate chambers, the DFL will have a 75-58 advantage in the House, while Republicans will have a 35-32 majority in the Senate. A special election will occur to fill district 11B's empty House seat.

What's Happening Now in the Minnesota Legislature?

Key Bills Moving So Far

There are two key bills impacting older Minnesotans that have received multiple committee hearings. One of these is already awaiting further action on the Senate Floor. [SF11](#) is the electronic monitoring bill that was discussed by consumers and advocates in 2017. This bill is a result of one of the Older and Vulnerable Adult Workgroup process that was led by Commissioner Malcom at the Minnesota Department of Health. This bill has had several key committee hearings and appears to be on its way for early legislative action.

The second bill that has made quick work of the legislative process is [SF573](#) which is the Elderly Waiver recodification bill. This bill would recodify the elderly waiver statutory language without creating any fiscal impact for the state or providers. It is not intended to change any existing policy. After receiving its second reading on the Senate Floor, it is awaiting action in the House.

Committee Deadlines are Set

Each legislative session the chambers agree to specific dates that help organize the process through which introduced bills undergo. This action results in the dates for first, second, and third deadlines. This year, those important dates are:

- 1st deadline - March 15, 2019 at midnight
- 2nd deadline - March 29, 2019 at midnight

**Senior Advocates FYI is a periodic update from the
Minnesota Board on Aging.**

- 3rd deadline - April 12, 2019 at midnight

These dates are important as bills must meet these deadline requirements in order to continue through the legislative process. There are exceptions to this general rule, but the Legislature uses these deadlines to help organize and guide the numerous concepts that come before each chamber. As a reminder to our readers, first deadline is for committees to act favorably on bills in the house of origin. Second deadline is for committees to act favorably on bills, or companions of bills, that met the first deadline in the other house. Lastly, the third deadline is for committees to act favorably on major appropriation and finance bills.

In addition, Governor Walz, House Speaker Hortman, and Senate Majority Leader Gazelka have agreed, in a signed letter, to the following additional objectives:

- the House and Senate will pass all major finance bills off their respective floors and leadership will appoint conference committees by May 1st;
- the Governor, Senate Majority Leader, and Speaker of the House will provide fiscal targets to the chairs of conference committees on major finance bills by May 6th; and
- conference committee chairs shall provide completed conference committee reports to the house of origin by May 13th.

If both chambers abide by these dates, it will allow for seven days of final negotiations regarding the topics of those conference committee bills. As a reminder, the state constitution mandates this year's legislative session end on May 20th.

Forecasts and Fiscal Outlooks

Each November and February, Minnesota Management and Budget (MMB) releases its Budget and Economic Forecast which helps to inform the public regarding the fiscal "health" of the state. MMB summarized the November forecast outlook as "sound, despite slower growth through the budget horizon."¹ Both the executive and legislative branches use the November forecast, along with January's Quarterly Revenue and Economic Update, and the February Forecast to anticipate how much funding is projected to be available for new spending.

While the November forecast showed a potential surplus for both the executive and legislative branch to work with in the biennium, the January Quarterly Revenue and Economic Update showed net general fund receipts were less than projected by the November forecast. This slowdown was also reflected in the similar weakening national outlook. For details regarding the January update, please click [here](#). For general MMB forecast and fiscal information, click [here](#).

What to Expect Next

Next week, as required by state law, Governor Walz will provide his budget recommendations for the biennium to the Legislature. We will publish a special issue of the SA-FYI to help readers understand his recommendations and those topics that specifically impact older Minnesotans. Stay tuned!

¹ <https://mn.gov/mmb/forecast/forecast/>

Bill Tracking and Senior Advocate FYI Details

The following pages list bills introduced so far this session that impact older adults. MBA staff seek to identify bills of interest to older adults and aging advocates beyond those in the health and human services arena (i.e. taxes, Social Security, consumer and vulnerable adult protections). You as subscribers to SA-FYI can help by calling our attention to bills you are following that you don't see on this tracker. Send your bill information to Mark Schulz at mark.schulz@state.mn.us.

As a reminder to our readers, if you would like to contact your congressional delegates the easiest way to determine who represents you is to use the Minnesota State Legislature's website, [Who Represents Me?](#) It uses your address to quickly identify both your federal and state elected officials who represent you. It also provides links to their contact information so you can reach out to them.

A subscription to the SA-FYI can be arranged by sending email addresses to Nate Patterson at nathaniel.j.patterson@state.mn.us. You may also contact Nate to be removed from this mailing list. Thank you for your ongoing interest in policy and legislative issues that affect older Minnesotans.

MBA Legislative Tracker – 2019 Session

MBA Tracking **	Senate File (Author)	House File (Author)	Description	Status
Yes	SF8 (Housley)	HF90 (Schultz)	Eldercare and Vulnerable Adult Protection Act of 2019. Make numerous changes to the Department of Health regulatory functions and consumer protections under various bills of rights. Also modifies the Vulnerable Adult Act.	1/10/19 – Introduced in Senate and referred to SEN Family Care & Aging. 1/17/19 – Introduced in House and referred to HSE Health & Human Services Policy.
Yes	SF11 (Housley)	HF146 (Schultz)	Electronic Monitoring. Authorizes electronic monitoring within specific settings by consumers.	1/10/19 – Introduced in Senate and referred to SEN Family Care & Aging. 1/17/19 – Introduced in House and referred to HSE Health & Human Services Policy. 2/7/19 – Heard in SEN Family Care & Aging, amended, and referred to SEN Health and Human Services Finance & Policy.
Yes	SF121 (Dibble)	None	Older & Vulnerable Adult Rights Protection Act of 2019. Modifies a variety of statutes concerning facility licensing, consumer rights, housing with services and assisted livings. This bill contains concepts similar to SF8 and SF11 but is not the same. Some bill language may be identical to those two bills.	1/14/19 – Introduced in Senate and referred to SEN Family Care & Aging.
Yes	SF147 (Dziedzic)	HF865 (Loeffler)	Provides for a state income tax subtraction of public pension plans income beginning for taxable years after December 31, 2018.	1/17/19 – Introduced in Senate and referred to SEN Taxes. 2/7/19 – Introduced in House and referred to HSE Taxes.
Yes	SF151 (Dziedzic)	HF866 (Loeffler)	Provides for a state income tax subtraction of public pension plans income beginning for taxable years after December 31, 2018.	1/17/19 – Introduced in Senate and referred to SEN Taxes. 2/7/19 – Introduced in House and referred to HSE Taxes.

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MBA Legislative Tracker – 2019 Session

MBA Tracking **	Senate File (Author)	House File (Author)	Description	Status
Yes	SF157 (Jensen)	None	Recommends a state constitutional amendment for the 2020 general election to change the size of the Minnesota house and senate from being set by the state legislature to figures set by the state constitution. The proposed amendment would limit the house to 98 members and the senate to 49 members.	1/17/19 – Introduced in Senate and referred to SEN State Government Finance & Policy and Elections.
Yes	SF245 (Goggin)	HF56 (Jurgens)	Provides an unlimited subtraction for Social Security when calculating state income taxes.	1/14/19 – Introduced in House and referred to HSE Taxes. 1/17/19 – Introduced in Senate and referred to SEN Taxes.
Yes	SF259 (Senjem)	None	Creates an ongoing appropriation for Department of Public Safety’s Lifesaver Grant program. These funds will be used by law enforcement agencies to establish rapid response programs to quickly find individuals with medical conditions (including Alzheimer’s disease) that cause wandering and result in missing person alerts.	1/17/19 – Introduced in Senate and referred to SEN Judiciary and Public Safety Finance & Policy.
Yes	SF324 (Eken)	HF258 (Lien)	Nursing facilities in the Breckenridge or Moorhead area are provided an increased payment rate.	1/14/19 – Introduced in Senate and referred to SEN Family Care & Aging. 1/22/19 – Introduced in House and referred to HSE Health & Human Services Policy. 2/7/19 – Heard in SEN Family Care & Aging, recommended to pass, and referred to SEN Human Services Reform Finance & Policy.

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MBA Legislative Tracker – 2019 Session

MBA Tracking **	Senate File (Author)	House File (Author)	Description	Status
Yes	SF334 (Newton)	HF890 (Xiong, J.)	Provides a state income tax credit for individuals who pay for an eligible veteran’s cost to live in any nursing home. This person does not have to be related to the veteran.	1/22/19 – Introduced in Senate and referred to SEN Veterans and Military Affairs Finance & Policy. 2/7/19 – Introduced in House and referred to HSE Veterans and Military Affairs Finance & Policy.
Yes	SF352 (Jensen)	HF730 (Morrison)	Provides a state income credit for health insurance premiums.	1/22/19 – Introduced in Senate and referred to SEN Taxes. 2/4/19 – Introduced in House and referred to HSE Taxes.
Yes	SF430 (Hayden)	None	Requires state agencies to make certifications to the commissioner of human rights when implementing a new program.	1/24/19 – Introduced in Senate and referred to SEN State Government Finance and Policy & Elections.
Yes	SF447 (Benson)	HF380 (Scott)	Clarifies counted income for eligibility determinations for public assistance and child care programs.	1/24/19 – Introduced in Senate and referred to SEN Family Care & Aging. 1/28/19 – Introduced in House and referred to HSE Health and Human Services Policy.
Yes	SF468 (Hayden)	None	Classifies rideshare data for Metropolitan Council so it can be shared.	1/24/19 – Introduced in Senate and referred to SEN Judiciary and Public Safety Finance & Policy.
Yes	SF486 (Osmek)	HF285 (Koznick)	Requires the Department of Human Services to share public program eligibility information with the Metropolitan Council for the purposes of coordinating transportation services for such individuals.	1/22/19 – Introduced in House and referred to HSE Transportation Finance & Policy. 1/24/19 – Introduced in Senate and referred to SEN Transportation Finance & Policy. 1/28/19 – Recalled to HSE Ways and Means and referred to HSE Judiciary Finance & Policy.

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MBA Legislative Tracker – 2019 Session

MBA Tracking **	Senate File (Author)	House File (Author)	Description	Status
Yes	SF555 (Franzen)	None	Advance care planning grants.	1/28/19 – Introduced in Senate and referred to SEN Health and Human Services Finance & Policy
Yes	SF573 (Housley)	HF267 (Schultz)	Revises and recodifies the Elderly Waiver statute into a new location	1/22/19 – Introduced in House and referred to HSE Health and Human Services Policy. 1/28/19 – Introduced in Senate and referred to SEN Family Care & Aging. 2/7/19 – Heard in SEN Family Care & Aging, recommended to pass, and referred to SEN Floor. 2/7/19 – Second reading in SEN.
Yes	SF695 (Hall)	HF307 (Koznick)	Requires the Department of Human Services to share public program eligibility information with the Metropolitan Council for the purposes of coordinating transportation services for such individuals.	1/24/19 – Introduced in House and referred to HSE Ways & Means where it was referred to HSE Transportation Finance & Policy. 1/31/19 – Introduced in Senate and referred to SEN Transportation Finance & Policy.
Yes	SF729 (Eken)	None	Proposes a state constitutional amendment to create a long-term care service fund.	1/31/19 – Introduced in Senate and referred to SEN Family Care & Aging.
Yes	SF792 (Little)	None	Extends the survival of action for wrongful death acts to next of kind of a vulnerable adult.	2/4/19 – Introduced in Senate and referred to SEN Judiciary and Public Safety Finance & Policy.
Yes	SF794 (Abeler)	None	Creates a county block grant system from numerous state grants and funds. Transfers the funding directly to counties in addition to the responsibilities associated with them.	2/4/19 – Introduced in Senate and referred to SEN Human Services Reform Finance & Policy.

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MBA Legislative Tracker – 2019 Session

MBA Tracking **	Senate File (Author)	House File (Author)	Description	Status
Yes	SF805 (Dibble)	HF649 (Olson)	Modifies the assisted living and home care rights for consumer protections. Creates assisted living licensure.	2/4/19 – Introduced in Senate and referred to SEN Family Care & Aging. 2/4/19 – Introduced in House and referred to HSE Health and Human Services Policy.
Yes	SF811 (Little)	HF486 (Schultz)	Hearing aids are required to be covered by insurance providers for persons 18 years old or older.	1/28/19 – Introduced in House and referred to HSE Commerce. 2/4/19 – Introduced in Senate and referred to SEN Commerce and Consumer Protection Finance & Policy.
Yes	SF840 (Draheim)	HF616 (Loeffler)	Modifies the Elderly Waiver cost and conversion limits.	1/31/19 – Introduced in House and referred to HSE Health and Human Services Policy. 2/4/19 – Introduced in Senate and referred to SEN Human Services Reform Finance and Policy.
Yes	SF884 (Abeler)	None	Modifies the HCBS Innovation Pool statute to include program award process for all people eligible publicly funded HCBS. Requires a legislative report on the use of funding.	2/7/19 – Introduced in Senate and referred to SEN Human Services Reform Finance & Policy.
Yes	SF892 (Benson)	HF443 (Gruenhagen)	Provides a state income tax subtraction for medical care and health insurance premiums.	1/28/19 – Introduced in House and referred to HSE Taxes. 2/7/19 – Introduced in Senate and referred to SEN Taxes.
Yes	SF903 (Jensen)	None	Proposes changing the size of the Minnesota house and senate from being set by the state legislature to figures set by the state statute. The proposed statutory change would limit the house to 98 members and the senate to 49 members.	2/7/19 – Introduced in Senate and referred to SEN State Government Finance & Policy and Elections.

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MBA Tracking **	Senate File (Author)	House File (Author)	Description	Status
Yes	SF921 (Marty)	HF534 (Kunesh-Podein)	Recommends a state constitutional amendment for the 2020 general election to change the process for filing the vacancy in the office of lieutenant governor.	1/31/19 – Introduced in House and referred to HSE Government Operations. 2/6/19 – Referred by HSE Government Operations to Subcommittee on Elections. 2/7/19 – Introduced in Senate and referred to SEN State Government Finance & Policy and Elections.
Yes	SF931 (Housley)	None	Provides an appropriation to the Office of Ombudsman for Long-Term Care for 25 full time regional ombudsman and 6 administrative staff.	2/7/19 – Introduced in Senate and referred to SEN Family Care and Aging.
Yes	SF933 (Housley)	None	Modifies the current nursing home administrators’ board and creates a combined Board of Executives for Long Term Services and Supports.	2/7/19 – Introduced in Senate and referred to SEN Family Care & Aging.
Yes	SF936 (Relph)	None	Establishes a home care nursing workforce shortage working group.	2/7/19 – Introduced in Senate and referred to SEN Family Care & Aging.
Yes	SF943 (Rest)	None	Provides for nonprofit organizations purchase and sales and use tax exemption expansion to include all items purchases “used in the performance of the organization’s exempt function.”	2/7/19 – Introduced in Senate and referred to SEN Taxes.
Yes	SF948 (Mathews)	HF879 (Sundin)	Modifies indemnification agreements required for use by state agencies.	2/7/19 – Introduced in Senate and referred to SEN Job and Economic Growth Finance & Policy. 2/7/19 – Introduced in House and referred to HSE Labor.
Yes	SF949 (Utke)	HF763 (Loeffler)	Modifies the excess income standard for accessing Medical Assistance within the state.	2/7/19 – Introduced in Senate and referred to SEN Health and Human Services Finance & Policy. 2/7/19 – Introduced in House and referred to HSE Health and Human Services Finance.

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MBA Tracking **	Senate File (Author)	House File (Author)	Description	Status
Yes	SF950 (Utke)	HF765 (Loeffler)	Modifies the excess income standard for accessing Medical Assistance within the state.	2/7/19 – Introduced in Senate and referred to SEN Health and Human Services Finance & Policy. 2/7/19 – Introduced in House and referred to HSE Health and Human Services Finance.
Yes	SF959 (Mathews)	None	Allows certain Medical Assistance enrollees to received fee-for-service services while awaiting their renewal eligibility determination.	2/7/19 – Introduced in Senate and referred to Health and Human Services Finance & Policy.
Yes	SF963 (Utke)	HF924 (Sundin)	Creates a person-centered telepresence task force to facilitate health and human services innovation.	2/7/19 – Introduced in Senate and referred to SEN Health and Human Services Finance & Policy. 2/11/19 – Introduced in House and referred to HSE Health and Human Services Policy.
Yes	SF968 (Relph)	None	Modifies personal care service definitions, provider enrollment, and reimbursement rates for those services.	2/7/19 – Introduced in Senate and referred to SEN Health and Human Services Finance & Policy.
Yes	SF971 (Marty)	None	Modifies the state’s home care provisions, fee structure, and other related items related to home care regulation within the state.	2/7/19 – Introduced in Senate and referred to SEN Health and Human Services Finance & Policy.
Yes	SF983 (Abeler)	None	Modifies institution level of care for ICF/DD and Elderly Waiver cost limits.	2/7/19 – Introduced in Senate and referred to SEN Health and Human Services Finance & Policy.
Yes	SF1060 (Kent)	HF5 (Halverson)	Creates a paid family, pregnancy, bonding, and serious medical condition leave concept for the state.	1/10/19 – Introduced in House and referred to HSE Labor. 1/31/19 – Heard in HSE Labor, recommended to pass, and referred to HSE Commerce. 2/7/19 – Introduced in Senate and referred to SEN Jobs and Economic Growth Finance & Policy.

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MBA Legislative Tracker – 2019 Session

MBA Tracking **	Senate File (Author)	House File (Author)	Description	Status
Yes	SF1100 (Goggin)	HF719 (Kunesh-Podein)	Authorizes tribal nation concurrent jurisdiction for law enforcement responsibilities.	2/4/19 – Introduced in House and referred to HSE Public Safety and Criminal Justice Reform Finance & Policy. 2/11/19 – Introduced in Senate and referred to SEN Judiciary and Public Safety Finance & Policy.
Yes	SF1125 (Marty)	None	Creates a single state health plan that is available and affordable for every Minnesotan; a board to oversee it, patient protections, funding to operate it. Clones are SF1126-1129	2/11/19 – Introduced in Senate and referred to SEN Health and Human Services Finance & Policy.
Yes	SF1134 (Housley)	None	Creates a parental leave work group and provides an appropriation for it.	2/7/19 – Introduced in Senate and referred to SEN Family Care & Aging.
Yes	SF1140 (Utke)	HF1046 (Loeffler)	Modifies the Medical Assistance (MA) income limit via a phased-in approach for the elderly, blind, and people with disabilities.	2/11/19 – Introduced in Senate and referred to SEN Human Services Reform Finance & Policy. 2/11/19 – Introduced in House and referred to HSE Health and Human Services Finance.
Yes	SF1141 (Utke)	HF1045 (Loeffler)	Increases the Medical Assistance income limit for people who are elderly, blind, or have disabilities.	2/11/19 – Introduced in Senate and referred to SEN Human Services Reform Finance & Policy. 2/11/19 – Introduced in House and referred to HSE Health and Human Services Finance.
Yes	SF1160 (Utke)	HF1044 (Loeffler)	Modifies the Medical assistance asset exemption and provides for homestead maintenance and repair assets to be excluded.	2/11/19 – Introduced in House and referred to HSE Health and Human Services Finance Division. 2/14/19 – Introduced in Senate and referred to SEN Human Services Reform Finance & Policy.

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MBA Legislative Tracker – 2019 Session

MBA Tracking **	Senate File (Author)	House File (Author)	Description	Status
Yes	SF1175 (Newton)	HF585 (Ecklund)	Proposes an appropriation to the Commissioner of Administration to design, construct, furnish, and equip an expansion of the Minneapolis veterans nursing home.	1/31/19 – Introduced in House and referred to HSE Veterans and Military Affairs Finance & Policy. 2/14/19 – Introduced in Senate and referred to SEN Capital Investment.
Yes	SF1246 (Jasinski)	HF281 (Koegel)	Revises the Minnesota Open Meeting Law to clarify the requirements of meeting minutes when a member attends the meeting not physically present.	1/22/19 – Introduced in House and referred to HSE Government Operations. 2/14/19 – Introduced in Senate and referred to SEN Local Government.
Yes	None	HF123 (Nelson)	Eliminates the Legislative Budget Office established in a previous session.	1/17/19 – Introduced in House and referred to HSE Government Operations. 1/31/19 – Heard in HSE Government Operations, recommended to pass, and referred to HSE Ways & Means where it was referred to HSE State Government Finance.
Yes	None	HF198 (Lucero)	Provides a state income tax subtraction for health insurance premiums.	1/17/19 – Introduced in House and referred to HSE Taxes.
Yes	None	HF308 (Rarick)	Individual health plans offered by health carriers in Minnesota must issue and must renew plans to individuals with preexisting conditions.	1/24/19 – Introduced in House and referred to HSE Commerce.
Yes	None	HF361 (Liebling)	Requires the Department of Human Services to share public program eligibility information with the Metropolitan Council for the purposes of coordinating transportation services for such individuals.	1/24/19 – Introduced in House and referred to HSE Judiciary Finance and Civil Law.
Yes	None	HF445 (Franson)	Removes the Office of Inspector General and its duties from the Department of Human Services and creates an independent and separate entity.	1/28/19 – Introduced in House and referred to HSE Health and Human Services Policy.
Yes	None	HF612 (Huot)	Provides a state income tax subtraction for federal military or civil service.	1/31/19 – Introduced in House and referred to HSE Taxes.

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MBA Legislative Tracker – 2019 Session

MBA Tracking **	Senate File (Author)	House File (Author)	Description	Status
Yes	None	HF883 (Cantrell)	Increases the current state income tax subtraction for Social Security.	2/7/19 – Introduced in House and referred to HSE Taxes.
Yes	None	HF885 (Wazlawik)	Modifies the current the Social Security subtraction for state income tax purposes.	2/7/19 – Introduced in House and referred to HSE Taxes.
Yes	None	HF927 (Liebling)	Modifies the conditions of hospital use of swing beds.	2/11/19 – Introduced in House and referred to HSE Health and Human Services Policy.

Introductions/Actions current through 2/14/19 @ 1430

Bill Count: SF1317/HF1064

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