



Senior Advocate FYI

January 27, 2017

The 2017 legislative session is well underway and elected officials have been busy learning about the issues and challenges facing Minnesotans, including older adults. Most committee hearing time to date has been spent on basic education of the topical areas under the responsibility of each committee. For new members this provides a foundation of information that each member will be expected to understand and eventually make a decision and cast a vote about. For returning members these hearings provide an opportunity to catch up on the current status of the departments and agencies in front of committee. The upcoming weeks will have committees focusing on more specific topics and eventually hearing bills that have been referred to their committee for legislative action.

Of note this past week, Kari Benson represented both the Minnesota Board on Aging (MBA) and the Aging and Adult Services Division of the Department of Human Services at the House Subcommittee for Aging and Long-Term Care. She was accompanied by LaRhae Knatterud who spoke about the state's initiative called "Own Your Future." You can see the House Session Daily article [here](#) and review the presentation material [here](#). If you would like a more thorough understanding of the state's long-term services and supports for older adults, you may find the House Research staff document, [Long-Term Care Services for the Elderly](#).

Each biennium the Governor and Legislature are charged with passing a state budget by the end of the first session. As part of that process, the Governor released his [proposed budget package](#) on January 24th. If you would like to review his specific state agency budget recommendations, please visit the following [link](#). It will now be up the Legislature to act upon the Governor's recommendations and bring their recommendations back to him before the end of session.

The following pages list bills introduced so far this session that impact older adults. MBA staff seeks to identify bills of interest to older adults and aging advocates beyond those in the health and human services arena (i.e. transportation, 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 showing up on this tracker. Send information to Mark Schulz at mark.schulz@state.mn.us.

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.

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

MBA Tracking	Senate File (Author)	House File (Author)	Description	Status
Yes	None	HF110 (Howe)	SNAP asset limitations modified.	1/9/17 – Introduced in House and referred to HSE HHS Reform
Yes	None	HF227 (Thissen)	Cost-of-living study by DEED contents revised to include retirement and long-term care saving issues.	1/12/17 – Introduced in House and referred to HSE Job Growth and Energy Affordability Policy & Finance
Yes	SF19 (Ruud)	HF9 (Lueeck)	Social Security Income phased-in subtraction. Provides a 20% per year subtraction of SSI benefits until SSI subtraction is 100%.	1/5/17 – Introduced in House and referred to HSE Taxes 1/5/17 – Introduced in Senate and referred to SEN Taxes
Yes	SF69 (Miller)	HF79 (Davids)	Veterans Home in Fillmore County. Allows bonds to be issued for a new veterans home.	1/5/17 – Introduced in House and referred to HSE Veterans Affairs Division 1/11/17 – Introduced in Senate and referred to SEN Capital Investment
Yes	SF120 (Nelson)	HF262 (Kiel)	Alzheimer’s disease working group reestablishment. Proposes to reconvene the ADWG for a legislative report update by January 15, 2018. Requires the MBA to perform this process every 4 years thereafter.	1/12/17 – Introduced in Senate and referred to SEN Aging & LTC 1/17/17 – Introduced in House and referred to HSE HHS Reform
Yes	SF160 (Clausen)	HF422 (Schultz)	Department of Health required to create, staff, and produce a comprehensive health care work force planning council.	1/17/17 – Introduced in Senate and referred to SEN HHS Finance and Policy 1/23/17 – Introduced in House and referred to HSE HHS Reform
Yes	SF163 (Dibble)	None	Landlord and tenant right to quit lease provision changes. Allows tenant to choose the time period for notice to quit.	1/17/17 – Introduced in Senate and referred to SEN Judiciary and Public Safety Finance and Policy
Yes	SF177 (Fischbach)	HF260 (O’Driscoll)	Modifies the long-term care insurance tax credit. Increases the tax credit for purchasing LTC insurance from \$100 to \$200 per individual and \$200 to \$400 per family.	1/17/17 – Introduced in House and referred to HSE Taxes 1/19/17 – Introduced in Senate and referred to SEN Taxes
Yes	SF216 (Lourey)	None	Medical Assistance claims against estates modified.	1/19/17 – Introduced in Senate and referred to SEN HHS Finance

Yes	SF219 (Marty)	HF358 (Koegel)	Minnesota Health Plan created. Five versions of Senate bill with maximum authorship on each. SFs219-224.	1/19/17 – Introduced in Senate and referred to SEN HHS Finance and Policy 1/19/17 – Introduced in House and referred to HSE HHS Reform
Yes	SF250 (Utke)	HF225 (Zerwas)	Medical assistance asset and spenddown limits increased from \$3k to 10k and \$6k to \$18k. Excess income standard increased to from 80% 100% federal poverty guideline.	1/12/17 – Introduction in House and referred to HSE HHS Reform 1/23/17 – Introduced in Senate and referred to SEN HHS Reform
Yes	SF286 (Housley)	HF213 (Lohmer)	Social Security Income phased-in subtraction. Provides a 10% per year subtraction of SSI benefits until SSI subtraction is 100%.	1/12/17 – Introduced in House and referred to HSE Taxes 1/23/17 – Introduced in Senate and referred to SEN Taxes
Yes	SF395 (Eken)	None	Nonprofit nursing facility rates in border cities modified.	1/26/17 – Introduced in Senate and referred to SEN Aging & LTC
Yes	SF401 (Senjem)	None	Social Security phased-in subtraction. Provides a 7 year phase out subtraction of SSI benefits until SSI subtraction is 100%.	1/26/17 – Introduced in Senate and referred to SEN Taxes
Yes	SF403 (Senjem)	None	Social Security phased-in subtraction. Provides a 10% per year subtraction of SSI benefits until SSI subtraction is 100%.	1/26/17 – Introduced in Senate and referred to SEN Taxes