



# 2025 Legislative Session Voting Record



The Minnesota Chamber tracks hundreds of bills during each legislative session to ensure that policymakers understand how their proposals impact Minnesota's economy and the state's ability to make Minnesota a more affordable place to live, work, grow and expand a business. The Chamber scores votes on bills or amendments that illustrate this impact. The following votes were cast in the 2025 legislative session.

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In the Minnesota tradition of highly unusual politics, voters in the 2024 election delivered an evenly divided House of Representatives with 67 republicans and 67 democrats. Minnesota has the only evenly split House in the nation with the last tie in our state occurring in 1979 in the House. The Senate, which was not up for election, remains narrowly divided by a one vote margin with democrats in the majority.

The session had a rocky start immediately. Various election challenges for House seats in Shakopee (54A) and Roseville (40B) resulted in democrats boycotting the Capitol for over three weeks. A power sharing agreement was eventually reached with equal balance on most committees, co-chairs from both sides of the aisle, and the election of a new speaker, Lisa Demuth (R-Cold Spring). Recall petitions filed with the Minnesota Supreme Court over the boycott were dismissed.

Just as the House was formally organized with legislative

activity underway, Senator Justin Eichorn (R-Grand Rapids) was charged with felony criminal activity and resigned. A special election for his seat was held on April 29, bringing the legislature back to full count.

Sadly, the political landscape continued to be impacted post session with the horrific murder of Speaker Emerita Melissa Hortman (D-Brooklyn Park) in her home on June 14 (Senator John Hoffman and his family were seriously injured by the same suspect and thankfully they are recovering). Senator Bruce Anderson (R-Buffalo) passed away post session. Senator Nicole Mithcell (D-Woodbury) who had been charged with felony burglary in April of 2024 was convicted in July 2025 and resigned.

Without question, it has been an unusually tumultuous year in state politics.



The 2025 legislative session convened on January 9 and concluded May 19. A one-day special session was needed to pass budget bills on June 10. While a record number of bills were introduced (6,893), due to the House power sharing agreement that required majority votes to pass bills from committees and the floor, only 54 bills were passed and signed into law.

The Minnesota Chamber's priorities for the 2025 session were focused on costs. Our members made it clear that they wanted a balanced approach to legislating compared to the previous two years and bipartisan solutions that improve the state's economy, lower costs for businesses and families.

Our priorities included:

#### **Fiscal responsibility**

The state budget trajectory has the state spending more than it is collecting in revenues with a multi-billion-dollar deficit looming for fiscal years 2028-29.

#### **Good governance and accountability**

Rampant fraud in state government programs has cost Minnesota taxpayers nearly \$1 billion in lost funds. More than 35 new workplace mandates passed in the 2023-24 session are an expensive burden for employers trying to compete for talent and with businesses in states with more competitive business

environments. We argued for flexibility in the application of these mandates (see p 4). Other mandates including health insurance coverage, energy production, infrastructure development, and environmental regulations and bans have had compliance challenges and have lacked clear guidance from state agencies. Legislators from both sides of the aisle worked to make changes and improvements to many of these laws with some very modest modifications.

#### **Taxes**

A perennial issue for Minnesota businesses is lowering the state's uncompetitive tax rates. Given the political makeup at the Capitol, we advocated for enhancing the state's research and development credit and protecting the data center incentive which provides valuable exemptions from sales tax on software and other computers, servers, cooling and energy usage and equipment.

#### **Bipartisan solutions that reduce costs**

Regulatory reforms to the state's complex environmental permitting process was a top priority. Based on a data rich study from the Minnesota Chamber Foundation, we successfully argued for various reforms to improve predictability, accountability and timeliness (see page 4). We also supported funding and extending the state's individual health care market reinsurance program to stabilize rates and premium hikes.

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## Vote summaries

### **HHS Omnibus Finance bill, HF 2435 (Wiklund)**

*Bill passed, Chamber opposed*

Minnesota has the 9th highest family premiums and the 13th highest individual premiums in the country for employer sponsored health insurance. According to the Minnesota Department of Health, since 2017, Minnesota families have reported among the highest median health care spending in the country. This bill included a number of provisions that would push costs higher and jeopardize access to the health insurance coverage on which many Minnesotans rely. The bill included costly new health insurance mandates and regulations and more than \$500 million in new and increased health insurance and health care taxes. It would have abandoned the state's proven individual market reinsurance program in favor of a program that was neither implementable in the time frame necessary nor well understood in terms of consumer and market impact. Though the Senate did vote to advance this proposal to a House-Senate Conference committee, the final compromise version of the Health and Human Services Omnibus Finance bill that was approved by both Chambers and signed into law by the governor did not include the majority of these harmful provisions.

### **Earned Sick and Safe Time Modifications bill, SF 2300 (Seeberger)**

*Bill passed, Chamber supported*

Of the roughly 35 new workplace mandates placed on business in the past two years, the sick and safe time mandate has burdened Chamber members the most. In focus group meetings held around the state leading into session, employers conveyed that the sick and safe time mandate is being misused by employees, causing legitimate operational challenges and cost impacts across the board. This is largely due to the fact that the mandate is so broad and the rules for requesting notice and documentation are so limited. Policies that help employees shouldn't have to create an undue or uneven financial burden on employers. The changes proposed in this bill would help to alleviate some of the burdens this law has created – though the Chamber had to acknowledge disappointment that the

bill was amended from its original version addressing the "more generous PTO" issue and providing targeted small business exemptions. The Senate voted to advance the amended proposal on a bipartisan basis; the divided House did not consider it. Ultimately, a few of the "administrative modifications" relating to notice, documentation and advancing hours were incorporated into end-of-session negotiations and signed into law.

### **Environment and Natural Resources Omnibus Policy and Finance bill, SF 3 (Hawj)**

*Bill passed, Chamber supported*

In February 2014, the Minnesota Chamber Foundation issued a report detailing that permitting in Minnesota takes too long, costs too much, and is too uncertain for investment. The Chamber developed legislation using the recommendations from the report to improve our state process, identified legislative champions on both sides of the aisle in the House and Senate, worked with relevant state agencies in the Walz administration, formed a broad coalition of business, labor and environmental groups, and invested in paid media to support these reforms. Even with this degree of support, scheduling hearings and getting votes on the bills was a challenge. Senate and House democrats opposed to mining and industrial development did not allow permitting bills to have their own hearings. Only through the budget process were we able to get the bills passed and signed into law.

S.F. 3 included several other provisions, most notably operating increases for environmental agencies and fee increases. Because of the sizable fee increases for boat registrations, water use and water appropriations, Republican support in both Chambers was limited. Only four Republicans in the Senate and 38 Republicans in the House supported its passage. Meanwhile, Democrats unanimously supported in both chambers, citing the operating increases for environmental agencies, fee increases and increased funding for and updates to the Community Grant Program. The Community Grant Program makes available funding to diverse recipients for helping environmentally impacted communities, education and awareness related to environmental stewardship, and more criteria.



Photo by A.J. Olnscheid



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## Senate votes

	HF 2435	SF 2300
	HHS Omnibus Finance bill	Earned Sick and Safe Time Modifications bill
	CHAMBER OPPOSED	CHAMBER SUPPORTED
Abeler	No	No
Anderson	No	Yes
Bahr	No	Yes
Boldon	Yes	No
Carlson	Yes	No
Champion	Yes	No
Clark	Yes	No
Coleman	No	Yes
Cwodzinski	Yes	No
Dahms	No	Yes
Dibble	Yes	No
Dornink	No	Yes
Draheim	No	Yes
Drazkowski	No	Yes
Duckworth	No	Yes
Farnsworth	No	Yes
Fateh	Yes	No
Frentz	Yes	Yes
Green	No	Yes
Gruenhagen	No	Yes
Gustafson	Yes	No
Hauschild	Yes	Yes
Hawj	Yes	No
Heintzman	No	Yes
Hoffman	Yes	No
Housley	No	Yes
Howe	No	Yes
Jasinski	No	Yes
Johnson	No	Yes
Johnson Stewart	Yes	No
Klein	Yes	Yes
Koran	No	Yes
Kreun	No	Yes
Kunesh	Yes	No
Kupec	Yes	Yes
Lang	No	Yes
Latz	Yes	No
Lieske	No	Yes
Limmer	No	Yes
Lucero	No	Yes
Mann	Yes	No
Marty	Yes	No
Matthews	No	Yes
Maye Quade	Yes	No
McEwen	Yes	No
Miller	No	Yes
Mitchell	Yes	No
Mohamed	Yes	No
Murphy	Yes	No
Nelson	No	Yes
Oumou Verbeten	Yes	No
Pappas	Yes	No
Pha	Yes	No
Port	Yes	No
Pratt	No	Yes
Putnam	Yes	Yes
Rarick	No	Yes
Rasmussen	No	Yes
Rest	Yes	No
Seeberger	Yes	Yes
Utke	No	Yes
Weber	No	Yes
Wesenberg	No	Yes
Westlin	Yes	No
Westrom	No	Yes
Wiklund	Yes	No
Xiong	Yes	No

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## House vote

	SF 3 Environment and Natural Resources Omnibus Policy and Finance bill
	CHAMBER SUPPORTED
Acomb	Yes
Agbaje	Yes
Altendorf	No
Allen	Yes
Anderson (Patti)	No
Anderson (Paul)	No
Backer	No
Bahner	Yes
Bakeberg	No
Baker	Yes
Bennett	Yes
Berg	Yes
Bierman	Yes
Bliss	No
Burkel	Yes
Carroll	Yes
Cha	Yes
Clardy	Yes
Coulter	Yes
Curran	Yes
Davids	Yes
Davis	No
Demuth	Yes
Dippel	No
Dotseth	Yes
Duran	No
Elkins	Yes
Engen	No
Falconer	Yes
Feist	Yes
Finke	Yes
Fischer	Excused
Fogelman	No
Franson	Yes
Frazier	Absent
Frederick	Yes
Freiberg	Yes
Gander	Yes
Gillman	No
Gomez	Yes
Gordon	No
Gottfried	Yes
Greene	Yes
Greenman	Yes
Hansen	Yes
Hanson	Yes
Harder	No
Heintzman	Yes
Hemmingsen-Jaeger	Yes
Her	Yes
Hicks	Yes
Hill	Yes
Hollins	Yes
Hortman	Yes
Howard	Yes
Hudson	No
Huot	Yes
Hussein	Yes
Igo	Yes
Jacob	Yes
Johnson, P.	Yes
Johnson, W.	No
Jones	Yes
Jordan	Yes
Joy	No
Keeler	Yes
Klevorn	Yes
Knudsen	No

	SF 3 Environment and Natural Resources Omnibus Policy and Finance bill
	CHAMBER SUPPORTED
Koegel	Yes
Kotyza-Witthuhn	Yes
Kozlowski	Yes
Koznick	Yes
Kraft	Yes
Kresha	Yes
Lawrence	No
Lee (Fue)	Yes
Lee (Liz)	Yes
Liebling	Yes
Lillie	Yes
Long	Yes
Mahamoud	Yes
McDonald	Yes
Mekeland	No
Moller	Yes
Momanyi-Hiltsley	Yes
Mueller	Yes
Murphy	No
Myers	Yes
Nadeau	Yes
Nash	Yes
Nelson (Nathan)	Yes
Niska	Yes
Noor	Yes
Norris	Yes
Novotny	Yes
O'Driscoll	Yes
Olson (Bjorn)	Absent
Pérez-Vega	Yes
Perryman	Yes
Pinto	Yes
Pursell	Yes
Quam	Yes
Rarick	Yes
Rehm	Yes
Rehrauer	Yes
Repinski	Yes
Rever	Yes
Roach	No
Robbins	Yes
Rymer	No
Schomacker	Yes
Schultz	No
Schwartz	Yes
Scott	Yes
Sencer-Mura	Yes
Sexton	Yes
Skraba	Yes
Smith	Yes
Stephenson	Yes
Stier	Yes
Swedzinski	Yes
Tabke	Yes
Torkelson	Yes
Van Binsbergen	No
Vang	Yes
Virnig	Yes
Warwas	Yes
West	Yes
Wiener	No
Witte	Yes
Wolgamott	Yes
Xiong	Yes
Youakim	Yes
Zeleznikar	Yes



**MINNESOTA  
CHAMBER OF  
COMMERCE**

**GROWING MINNESOTA**

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