

Your Legislators
2008 Minnesota Legislative Session

Note: All programs are 60 minutes in length. Discussion topics are determined by questions and comments called or emailed in by viewers.

January 31, 2008

Senator Don Betzold, Senator Ray Vandever, Representative Dennis Ozment

Topics discussed included: bonding bill, gas tax, roads/transportation/ constitutional amendment, energy, central corridor transit, stadium, smoking ban, wood burning/pollution, short session/unfinished business/tax bill, insurance companies using credit reports, MNSCU/UMM bonding requests, firing of Carol Molnau as Transportation Commissioner, permit-to-carry laws, tax increases on wealthy, tax conformity for Minnesotans and property taxes/levy limits.

February 7, 2008

Senator Scott Dibble, Senator Betsy Wergin, Representative Nora Slawick, Representative Denny McNamara

Topics discussed included: bonding bill, gas tax/transportation funding, tobacco sale compliance checks, property tax relief, housing, environment, Head Start program, Bemidji event center, military retirement/tax of pension and school district disparity.

February 14, 2008

Senator Tarryl Clark, Senator David Senjem, Rep. Tony Sertich, Rep. Marty Seifert

Topics discussed included: constitutional amendment, property taxes, education, gas minimum percentage, JobZ program/economic development, health care, shared county services, local sales tax and transportation.

February 21, 2008

Representative Ken Tschumper

Topics discussed included: transportation bill, health care/single payer system, economy, roads and bridges funding/toll roads, light rail, federal match for road funding, education, bonding, nursing home wage increase and local government aid.

February 28, 2008

Senator Dan Larson, Senator Joe Gimse, Representative Dean Urdahl

Topics discussed included: transportation bill/veto override, non-confirmation of Commissioner Carol Molnau, budget shortfall forecast, gas tax & license tab revenue, bonding bill/project prioritization, immigration, legislator salaries/per diem, cost of running the legislature, stadium funding, Lewis & Clark water project, Vermillion State Park and special session possibility.

March 6, 2008

Senator Jim Vickerman, Senator Bill Ingebrigtsen, Representative Al Juhnke, Representative Bud Nornes

Topics discussed included: energy, K-12 Education, gas tax, sales tax, cell phone use while driving, bonding bill, immigration, animal legislation, stem cell research, real estate taxes, budget shortfall, job creation, dental hygiene and health care.

March 13, 2008

Senator Keith Langseth, Senator Paul Koering, Representative Lyle Koenen, Representative Doug Magnus

Topics discussed included: bonding/debt service, gas tax, vehicle laws, tuition/financial aid, Canterbury Park Casino, ATVs & gas tax, transfer of drivers license fees, superintendent salaries, DWI laws/licenses, Vermillion State Park, unicameral legislature, open enrollment & post-secondary enrollment options, constitutional amendments and bill deadlines.

March 20, 2008

Senator Sandra Pappas, Representative Karla Bigham, Representative Tom Hackbarth

Topics discussed included: sex offender laws, bonding bill, Moose Lake facility, transportation, home foreclosures, anti-business climate, energy, gambling, constitutional amendment, higher education tuition assistance, balancing the budget, special session, ECFE funding, ethanol and K-13 funding.

March 27, 2008

Senator Mary Olson, Representative Aaron Peterson, Representative Dan Severson

Topics discussed included: property taxes, public school funding, dangerous dogs, smoking ban, multi-county employees, veteran retirement tax exemption and health care reform.

April 3, 2008

NO PROGRAM, HOUSE AND SENATE IN SESSION

April 10, 2008

Senator Tom Saxhaug, Senator Steve Dille

Topics discussed included: Vermillion State Park, ethanol, bonding bill, deer disease, appointing county sheriffs and attorneys, "photo cop" law, stadiums, K-12 education funding and veteran benefits.

April 17, 2008

Senator Dan Skogen, Senator Chris Gerlach, Representative Paul Marquart, Representative Torrey Westrom

Topics discussed included: Vermillion State Park project, special education funding, JOB-Z, pre-nursing home property transfer, burning permits, air remission standards, statewide school district health insurance, ATV licensure, insurance companies' access to credit reports, ethanol subsidy, budget and taxes.

April 24, 2008

Senator Gary Kubly, Senator Ray Vandever, Representative Loren Solberg

Topics discussed included: pesticide "right-to-know" bill, gun registration bill, bonding bill, nursing home compensation, state tax rates, education expenditures, smoker shelters, medical marijuana, Northwest/Delta merger, census & redistricting, light rail

transit fares, rural vs. metro road projects, sanctuary city ordinances, national I.D. cards, stadiums, U of M endowment uses and ethanol/groundwater & subsidies.

May 1, 2008

Senator Steve Murphy, Senator Betsy Wergin, Representative Jeremy Kalin, Representative Doug Magnus

Topics discussed included: Lake Vermillion State Park, NWA/Delta merger, nursing home funding, balancing the budget, correctional facilities, transportation, ethanol subsidies, alternative energy sources, metropolitan council and higher education.

May 8, 2008

Senator Jim Vickerman, Representative David Bly, Representative Lynn Wardlow

Topics discussed included: budget deficit, transportation/central corridor, campaign funding, veterans' benefits, medical marijuana, property taxes, education funding, Rule of '90, Q-Comp, alternative fuels, higher education, energy bill, Vermillion State Park and length of K-12 school year.

May 15, 2008

Senator Pat Pariseau, Representative Tom Rukavina, Representative Randy Demmer

Topics discussed included: K-12 education, Vermillion State Park, minimum wage bill override, central corridor, stadiums, sesquicentennial celebration, U of M funding, teacher pensions, medical marijuana, nursing home employee wages, health care, property taxes/levy limits, constitutional amendments, deer population, transportation, smoking "shacks", flood victim aid and preschool education.

May 22, 2008

Senator Tarryl Clark, Senator David Senjem, Representative Anderson Kelliher, Representative Emmer

Topics discussed included: session outcomes, property taxes/tax relief programs, JOBZ, nursing home employee wages, state tax exemption for military retirees, military pensions, health care, higher education, nuclear power development, constitutional amendments, transportation bill, flood aid, Northwest/Delta merger and rainy day fund.