

**Legislative Update
March 27, 2019**

Annexation

HF 1139 / SF 1179 (Dehn/B Anderson) – Protects orderly annexation agreements. Prohibits a city not a party to an orderly annexation agreement from annexing land subject to the orderly agreement.

Status: No action in House and Senate. Awaiting decision of the Supreme Court in the Midway Township case. **MAT Priority**

Broadband

HF 7 / SF 9 (Ecklund/Koran) — Funding the broadband grant program at \$70 million. (\$35 million in fiscal year 2020 and \$35 million in fiscal year 2021.

Status: Hearing before House Greater Minnesota Jobs and Economic Development Finance Division on 3/11/19. Senate held hearing on 2/27/19 Laid over and maybe considered for omnibus bill. **MAT Support.**

HF. 1137 / SF 1336 (Kresha/Howe) — Funding the broadband grant program for \$100,000 in fiscal year 2020.

Status: No hearings in House or Senate.

SF 1231 (Draheim) — Funding the broadband grant program at \$35 million for fiscal year 2020.

Status: Senate hearing held on 2/27/19. Laid over and maybe considered for omnibus bill.

Transportation

HF 1577 / SF 1671 (Wolgamott/Lang) — Creating a town road and bridge account for \$20 million.

Status: Senate Hearing on 3/19/19. Laid over for possible inclusion in the omnibus bill. **MAT Support**

HF1911/SF1279 (Wolgamott/Jasinski) - Local cost sharing assistance account established; local roads and bridges funding provided; bonding issued.

Status: No House or Senate hearings.

HF 780 / SF 1081 (O'Driscoll /Howe) —\$100 million for bond proceeds for local roads and bridges; \$50 million for Bridge Fund and \$50 million for County Road improvements.

Status: House hearing held on 2/22/19. No action in the Senate. **MAT Support**

Truck Weight Limits

HF2499/SF144 (Lucero/Anderson, B.) – Exempt sewage septic tank trucks from vehicle weight limits.

Status: Hearing in the Senate on January 29; laid on the table. Hearing in House on March 19.

HF1873/SF2234 (Baker/Jasinski) – Towing and recovery vehicles exempted from motor vehicle weight limits.

Status: No hearings in either body.

Deadlines:

1st deadline - March 15, 2019 at midnight
Committees must act favorably on bills in the house of origin.

2nd deadline - March 29, 2019 at midnight
Committees must act favorably on bills, or companions of bills, that met the first deadline in the other house.

3rd deadline - April 12, 2019 at midnight
Committees must act favorably on major appropriation and finance bills.

Session Adjourns: May 20, 2019

In addition, Governor Tim Walz, House Speaker Melissa Hortman, and Senate Majority Leader Paul Gazelka have agreed, in a signed letter, to 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.

HF1583/SF2047 (Richardson/Jasinski) – Truck size and weight limits policy provisions modifications.

Status: No hearings in either body.

Local Government

HF2229/SF1036 (Wolgamott/Relph) – Modifying town officers' terms and town audit requirements.

Status: No hearings in House and Senate.

F823/SF998 (Nelson/Koran) – Private consultant hiring process for cities and towns established.

Status: Passed out of Local Government committee in the Senate; referred to State Gov't committee. Hearing in House Gov't Operation Committee scheduled for 3/21/19.

HF2501/ SF2478 (Howard/Bakk) — City and town expenditures for city and town historical societies permitted.

Status: Hearing scheduled in House Gov't Operations Committee on 3/28/19.

Environment

HF 2255 / SF1033 (Wolgamott /Relph) - Storm water rule application to townships exemption.

Status: Senate hearing held in Committee on Environment and Natural Resources Policy and Legacy Finance on 2/25/2019. Laid over and maybe considered for omnibus bill. No Action in House.
MAT Support.

HF758/SF16 (Persell/Ruud) – Establishes townships as “zoning authority” in implementing Mississippi Headwaters Board plan.

Status: Passed House Environment & Natural Resources committee on 2/20/19 and Government Operations 3/5/19; Passed Senate Environment & Natural Resources on 2/4/19.

Elections

HF 1487 (Dehn) Various election law changes. Bill would have repealed Minn. Stat. § 204C.05, allowing towns with less than 500 residents to set election hours starting no later than 10 a.m. Bill was amended to retain statute with the added requirement that towns notify the Secretary of State of its election hours. Bill amends Minn. Stat. § 204B.16 on not requiring a resolution designating a polling place each year by December 31; resolution required only if polling place changes.

Status: House hearings in Subcommittee on Elections on 2/27/19 and Government Operations Committee on 3/5/19. Re-referred to Ways and Means.

HF677/SF422 (Huot/Carlson) – Mail balloting permitted for metropolitan townships and cities under 400.

Status: Passed House sub-committee on Elections; sent to Government Operations committee. No hearing in the Senate. Included in House Omnibus Election Bill.

HF14/SF93 (Nelson/Kiffmeyer) – Appropriates money for HAVA. House appropriates full \$6,595,610 from Federal appropriation for cyber security. Senate appropriates only \$1,534,000 from Federal appropriation; both provide additional matching funds.

Status: Bills have passed House and Senate and have been referred to a conference committee, which met 3/19/19. No additional action.