



Minnesota's fifth week of the 2026 legislative session started with a delay in committee proceedings due to the snow storm last weekend. Committees in both chambers were cancelled or postponed, while floor session was made up of a skeleton crew in the Senate and the House proceeded with business as usual. This week the Governor also released his supplemental budget recommendations which included additional cuts to human services, an emphasis on the child tax credit, and increased funding for combating fraud in state programs.

Floor Proceedings

The House met on Monday and Wednesday, the Senate met on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday this week. In the House, 18 members were permitted to vote remotely due to the snowstorm, but that didn't stop the chamber from proceeding with votes on three bills and discussion on an additional 3. The first bill on the calendar passed 134-0 and would repeal housing stabilization services. The second bill also passed unanimously and aimed to amend the offense of unintentional murder in the second degree to include cases involving the violation of protective orders. The third bill on the calendar related to cannabis and the extending laboratory testing requirements. This bill passed 100-34. The House also discussed taking up three additional bills, all of which failed on party-line votes. Those bills were emergency rental assistance, which was passed by the Senate last week, requiring state and local law enforcement to cooperate with federal law enforcement agencies, and a bill to modify the expiration of the pass-through entity tax. Floor session on Wednesday in the House was a paper pushing day.

On Monday in the Senate, due to the snowstorm session was just a paper pushing day. On Tuesday, the chamber took up SF 3832, modifying eligibility for the Dairy Assistance, Investment, Relief Initiative (DAIRI) program. The bill passed 66-0. On Wednesday, the Senate voted on two bills. The first, SF 3602, enacting the Uniform Electronic Estate Planning Documents Act, passed 59-7. The second, SF 3887, allowing watershed districts,

watershed management organizations, and towns to self-insure for certain employee health benefits, passed 66-1.

The Legislature has used 50 of their 120 allotted legislative days. As a reminder, the legislative day count only goes up when one of the two bodies gives any bill a third reading, adopts a rule of procedure or organization, elects a university regent, confirms a gubernatorial appointment, or votes to override a gubernatorial veto.

Legislators have introduced 4509 House Files and 4618 Senate Files.

Hearing Updates

House Proceedings:

This week the House Children and Families committee met on Tuesday and Wednesday. On Tuesday, the committee heard two bills related to inspections and video monitoring of child care centers. HF 4277, known as Harvey's Law, did not pass out of committee. HF 3819, modifying licensing inspection requirements for child care providers also did not pass out of committee. The committee also heard bills on establishing a field trip policy, requiring transparency in child fatality reports, adding investigative powers to the Office of Foster Youth Ombudsperson and requiring notification of maltreatment in child care centers. The committee also heard a presentation by Safe Passage on child fatalities in Minnesota.

On Wednesday, the committee heard three bills. These bills covered modifications to programs for children in foster care and a modification to the Minnesota African American Family Preservation and Child Welfare Disproportionality Act.

Senate Proceedings:

No related bills were taken up this week in Senate committees.

Next Week (As officially scheduled by 12:00 PM on 3/20/26)

- Monday, March 23
 - House and Senate Floor Sessions

General Interest

The Senate Judiciary had a marathon hearing on Thursday, hearing 40+ bills over the span of 14 hours. The committee was split into three parts. You can view the full agenda [here](#). With deadlines approaching next week, expect to see longer committee

hearings and agendas as legislators work to get bills past the first and second deadline requirements.

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