



WEEKLY SESSION UPDATE

May 6, 2016

BONDING UPDATE

On Thursday, the Senate failed to pass a \$1.5 billion bonding package. Over 300 projects were included in this proposal, which emphasized transportation improvements, public campus buildings and water treatment upgrades. The bill failed by a single vote, with only one Republican voting for the bill (Sen. Carla Nelson). Republican opponents voiced concerns with the overall cost of the bill, which was considerably higher than past bonding bills and a half a billion more than what Governor Dayton requested in his proposal.

House Republicans have yet to release a bonding proposal, though their legislation will likely be much smaller in size. Earlier this month, House Republican leadership released budget targets that called for a bonding bill totaling only \$600 million, but they have not finalized which projects would be funded in the measure. Rep. Torkelson, chair of the House Capital Investment Committee, said he expects that the shape of the bonding bill will be heavily influenced by what happens with tax and transportation packages this session.

SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET UPDATE

This week, the House and Senate appointed conferees for the Omnibus Supplemental Budget Bill. The conferees are:

HOUSE: Knoblach, Loon, Garofalo, Dean, M., and McNamara

SENATE: Cohen, Wiger, Lourey, Saxhaug, and Fischbach

The conference committee scheduled to meet on Monday, May 9 at 1pm.

TRANSPORTATION CONFERENCE COMMITTEE UPDATE

On Monday, May 9th, the Senate Tax Committee will be releasing a 2016 Omnibus Tax Bill. The bill will be presented to the committee that day and then laid over. On Tuesday, the committee will take up the bill again, allow for amendments, and send it to the floor.

SENATE TAX UPDATE

On Monday, May 9th, the Senate Tax Committee will be releasing a 2016 Omnibus Tax Bill. The bill will be presented to the committee that day and then laid over. On Tuesday, the committee will take up the bill again, allow for amendments, and send it to the floor.

The purpose of this bill is to vote on tax provisions heard during the current legislative session, to gain a Senate position on particular proposals. The bill will not supplant HF 848, which is currently in conference committee. Provisions currently in HF 848 are still viable once the conference committee begins meeting. This bill will simply allow the Senate to establish positions on new proposals introduced this session for consideration in a final tax omnibus bill.

BODY CAMERAS PASSES SENATE

On Monday, the Senate passed SF 498 (Latz). This bill would establish requirements governing the use of police body cameras. It would make much of the data captured by the cameras private, with exceptions. Some exceptions include situations when deadly or substantial force occurs at the hands of police or if someone in the video seeks its release. Under the bill, law enforcement agencies using the cameras would have to adopt policies governing when they're on or off and the circumstances for eventually destroying data. During the floor debate, a few amendments were successfully added to the bill. These amendments include a notification requirement to the BCA, a requirement for agencies to allow officers to review recordings before completing incident reports, and a requirement for public comment and local government approval.

The bill passed on a vote of 47-14. However, companion legislation in the House is not moving.

ORGANIZED WASTE COLLECTION

On Wednesday, the House Government Operations and Elections Policy Committee took up SF 3708 (Anderson C.). This bill would put a moratorium on any city, county, or town from beginning the process of providing organized solid waste collection services over the next five years. An "organized collection" agreement is one in which communities assess the waste management needs for all residents, and implement a universal service to satisfy all. The bill would be retroactive to Jan. 1, 2016, applying to local governments that have not already started the process to organize collections. It would not undue organized collection agreements that have already been established.

Numerous testifiers provided statements both in favor and opposed to the legislation. Proponents argue that the bill promotes competition among providers and allows customers to

choose their own waste management collections. Opponents expressed concerns that the bill would eliminate local control. They argue that local governments would still be mandated to clean up waste under existing statute, yet lose a valuable tool to control how that is accomplished.

After a lengthy debate, the bill passed on a roll call vote of 8-6. Since the bill failed to meet committee deadlines, it now moves to the Rules and Legislative Administration Committee for approval to continue forward. The Senate companion bill, SF 3377 (Thompson), has not received a hearing.

INTERIM ORDINANCE

The House is scheduled take up HF 2585 (Nash) on Monday. This bill would require a two-thirds vote for a municipality to adopt an interim ordinance. It also requires a ten-day notice and a public hearing if an interim notice will regulate, restrict, or prohibit activities related to housing. The bill would be effective for interim ordinances proposed on or after August 1, 2016.