

2025 Legislative Session MCPA Update

Week of February 24

Overview

This week the Minnesota Senate hosted several members of the Norwegian Parliament on the Senate floor as a part of their visit to Minnesota. As for legislation, members passed the following bills off the floor with full support from both parties:

- [SF 571](#) (Westlin) Uniform Trust Code, Powers of Appointment, and Uniform Probate Code provisions modifications.
- [SF 1552](#) (Kupec) Financial reporting requirements for grain buyers modification.
- [SF 1075](#) (Howe) Requirements modification for exception to window glazing requirements.

Next week's state budget forecast, which will tell state lawmakers how much money they have to work with for the next two-year budget, will not account for the massive spending cuts federal lawmakers are targeting over the next decade, state budget director Ahne Minge shared in the Senate finance committee hearing on Thursday. About one-third of Minnesota's budget comes from the federal government, and more than half of those federal dollars go to Medical Assistance, Minnesota's Medicaid program. Federal funding also accounts for significant portions of transportation spending, child care subsidies, and SNAP benefits. State officials don't know how these potential cuts to Medicaid at the federal level could affect state services. Legislators in both parties agree any cuts from the federal government would create complications for passing a state budget here in Minnesota but it's too soon to say who would be affected until state lawmakers receive more clarity from Congress.

In response to 2020 emergency power execution, the House Republicans brought to the House floor on Thursday a bill to change Minnesota's executive powers. Under [current law](#), the governor may declare a peacetime emergency "that must not be continued for more than five days unless extended by resolution of the [Executive Council](#) up to 30 days." The Legislature may terminate such an emergency extending beyond 30 days by a majority vote of both the House and Senate. [HF21, as amended](#), would require a three-fifths supermajority by the House and Senate to extend a peacetime emergency beyond 14 days. If an extension is not approved, the governor could not declare a new peacetime emergency for the same emergency event. Among the DFL arguments is the Legislature already has the ability override executive powers, the governor did nothing illegal, and allegations he mishandled of the pandemic are questionable. With all 67 Republicans in support and zero Democrats, it failed to receive 68 House votes needed for passage. It was then reconsidered and tabled in pair of procedural moves.

Public Safety Committees

On Monday the Senate Judiciary and Public Safety Committee took up one bill, [S.F. 0856](#) (Gustafson), that would establish an Office of the Inspector General. The bill received testimony from the Office of the Legislative Auditor where they walked through the existing responsibilities their office carries that will be transferred to the Office of the Inspector General once up and running. The bill was passed as amended and re-referred to Education Finance.

Wednesday in the Senate public safety committee was dedicated as an informational hearing on two Brady-Giglio bills, [SF 0599 \(Seeberger\)](#) Brady-Giglio designation for peace officers provision, and [SF 1813 \(Westlin\)](#) Brady-Giglio lists prosecuting agencies guidelines and process provision, both bills were put forward by law enforcement. The bills received testimony in support of the language from Minnesota Police and Peace Officers Association, Minnesota Sheriffs Association, and Minnesota Chiefs of Police Association.

Testifiers from the law enforcement community spoke to the need for due process for officers and an operating standard to create consistency in cases that would apply to the whole state, rather than a county by county approach when it comes to prosecutorial discretion. Both bills also received testimony from groups in opposition of the changes each bill would bring. First from the Minnesota County Attorneys Association with note they would like to contribute to the discussion to work towards a solution that works for all sides. A letter and in-person testimony was also delivered on behalf of the Hennepin County Attorney's Office. The testifier shared with the Senate committee the issue with Brady-Giglio instances is the lack of access to information prosecutors have, not due process. There was no action taken on either bill and both still sit procedurally before the committee.

The House Public Safety Finance and Policy Committee began the week on Tuesday with a hearing focused on bills relating to correctional facilities in the state.

- [HF963](#) (Rarick) Commissioner of corrections authorized to revoke earned incentive credits granted under Minnesota Rehabilitation and Reinvestment Act.
 - o *Action:* Laid over for possible inclusion in omnibus bill
- [HF533](#) (Bliss) Earned incentive release credit exclusions expanded.
 - o *Action:* Laid over for possible inclusion in omnibus bill
- [HF435](#) (Franson) Commissioner of corrections required to house only biological female inmates at the Minnesota Correctional Facility-Shakopee.
 - o *Action:* Laid over for possible inclusion in omnibus bill

On Wednesday the House public safety committee passed and sent [HF13](#) to the House floor. The bill would allow a person to use reasonable force in self-defense "regardless of whether a reasonable possibility of retreat to avoid the danger exists." Currently, a person must not have had a reasonable possibility to retreat to avoid the danger before using force in self-defense. Several DFL members and gun-control groups said giving more leeway to initiate self-defense force would make society a lot less safe, and that the bill would in essence allow a person "to shoot first and ask questions later."

The committee also heard the following bills that day:

- [HF924](#)(Nash) Certain retired peace officers authorized to possess firearms in the Capitol complex.
 - o *Action:* passed and sent to the House floor
- [HF284](#)(Heintzeman) Information collected and scope of background check conducted expanded for noncitizen permit to carry applicants.
 - o *Action:* Laid over for possible inclusion in omnibus bill

Legislation of Interest

[Full report of legislation tracked for MCPA](#)

House and Senate Caucus Public Safety Priority Bills

House Republicans:

[HF7](#) (Novotny) Data held by law enforcement agencies regarding the person or entity that posted bail made public, agency notice of posted bail or bond required, mandatory minimum sentences established for sex trafficking offenses, Minnesota Sentencing Guidelines Commission provisions modified, various criminal penalties modified, and money appropriated.

Scheduled Hearing: Public Safety Finance and Policy (House) March 4, 2025 3:00pm

Training Funds

[SF1701](#) (Duckworth) / [HF1256](#) (Novotny) Certain law enforcement training reimbursement funding extended.

Committee: Public Safety Finance and Policy (House)

Actions:

February 20, 2025

Introduction and first reading, referred to Public Safety Finance and Policy (in the House)

Introduction and first reading, referred to Judiciary and Public Safety (in the Senate)

[SF692](#) (Rasmusson) / [HF541](#) (Stier) Reimbursement program established for use of force training, and money appropriated.

Scheduled Hearing: Higher Education Finance and Policy (House) March 4, 2025 1:00pm

January 27, 2025

Introduction and first reading. Referred to Judiciary and Public Safety (in the Senate)

Brady Giglio

[SF325](#) (Koran) / [HF962](#) (Novotny) Peace officer exclusion from discipline for inclusion on the Brady-Giglio lists; Brady-Giglio lists examination task force establishment.

Actions:

February 19, 2025

Authors added Wolgamott, Robbins (in the House)

January 21, 2025

Introduction and first reading. Referred to Judiciary and Public Safety (in the Senate)

Scheduled hearing on February 26 (in the Senate)

[SF599](#) (Seeberger) / [HF1116](#) (Duran) Brady-Giglio designation for peace officers provided.

Actions:

February 19, 2025

Introduction and first reading, referred to Public Safety Finance and Policy (in the House)

February 20, 2025

pg. 463. Heard on February 26 (in the Senate)

[SF1813](#) (Westlin) Brady-Giglio lists prosecuting agencies guidelines and process provision

Actions:

February 24, 2025

Introduction and first reading. Referred to Judiciary and Public Safety (in the Senate)

Heard on February 26 (in the Senate)

Fleeing

HF1119 (Duran) Crime of fleeing in a motor vehicle and failing to obey traffic laws established.

Actions:

February 19, 2025

Introduction and first reading, referred to Public Safety Finance and Policy (in the House)

SF191 (Gustafson) / HF340 (Stier) Crime of fleeing a peace officer in a motor vehicle modification

Actions:

January 16, 2025

Introduction and first reading. Referred to Judiciary and Public Safety (in the Senate)

February 13, 2025

Introduction and first reading, referred to Public Safety Finance and Policy (in the House)

SF323 (Coleman) / HF332 (Engen) Crime of fleeing a peace officer in a motor vehicle modification to add a heightened penalty for fleeing in a culpably negligent manner

Actions:

January 21, 2025

Introduction and first reading. Referred to Judiciary and Public Safety (in the Senate)

February 13, 2025

Introduction and first reading, referred to Public Safety Finance and Policy (in the House)

SF758 (Eichorn) Crime of fleeing a peace officer in a motor vehicle modification to add a heightened penalty for fleeing in a negligent manner

Actions:

January 30, 2025

Introduction and first reading. Referred to Judiciary and Public Safety (in the Senate)

SF1224 (Latz) Fleeing from a peace officer crime provisions modifications

Actions:

February 10, 2025

Introduction and first reading. Referred to Judiciary and Public Safety (in the Senate)

SF1665 (Westlin) / HF1275 (Tabke) Use of unmanned aerial vehicles authorized for risk of fleeing suspect or actual fleeing suspect.

Actions:

February 24, 2025

Author added Huot (in the House)

February 20, 2025

Introduction and first reading (in the Senate)

[SF625](#) (Howe) / [HF561](#) (Quam) Law enforcement use of unmanned aerial vehicles to find missing persons, persons fleeing arrest and incarcerated persons authorization

Actions:

[February 13, 2025](#)

Introduction and first reading, referred to Transportation Finance and Policy (in the House)

[January 30, 2025](#)

pg. 235 (in the Senate)

Use of Force

[HF13](#) (Bliss) / [SF624](#) (Howe) Duty to retreat before using reasonable force in defense of self or others eliminated.

Committee: Public Safety Finance and Policy (House)

Actions:

[February 27, 2025](#)

Author added Niska (in the House)

[SF311](#) (Koran) / [HF705](#) (Davis) Self-defense use of force provisions modifications

Actions:

[January 27, 2025](#)

pg. 199 (in the Senate)

[February 13, 2025](#)

Introduction and first reading, referred to Public Safety Finance and Policy (in the House)

[SF692](#) (Rasmusson) / [HF541](#) (Stier) Use of force training reimbursement program establishment and appropriation

Actions:

[January 27, 2025](#)

Introduction and first reading. Referred to Judiciary and Public Safety (in the Senate)

[February 13, 2025](#)

Introduction and first reading, referred to Public Safety Finance and Policy (in the House)

[SF1088](#) (Draheim) Law clarification on use of force in defense of home and person

Actions:

[February 6, 2025](#)

Introduction and first reading. Referred to Judiciary and Public Safety (in the Senate)

[SF1196](#) (Lieske) Law clarification on use of force in self-defense

Actions:

[February 10, 2025](#)

Introduction and first reading. Referred to Judiciary and Public Safety (in the Senate)