

# ***MSBA Capitol Connection***

**April 1, 2010**



Legislators started a week-long hiatus on Monday afternoon, but not before passing a "jobs bill," agreeing on some budget cuts, and passing several MSBA bills as well as dozens of other bills relevant to the legal profession.

## ***Budget Cuts Hit Justice System***

Lawmakers passed the first of three budget bills designed to address the state's billion dollar deficit. Nearly every area of government spending was reduced, except for K-12 education and health and human services, which will be dealt with later in the legislative session. A conference committee hammered out the first round of cuts, which included cuts to the justice system: Supreme Court (-1.7%), Court of Appeals (-1.6%), District Courts (-1.7%), Tax Court (-2.3%), Civil Legal Services (-1.8%), and Board of Public Defense (-1.4%).

## ***Senate Passes Four MSBA Bills***

On Monday the Senate passed [SF2705](#), a technical proposal from the Business Law Section carried by lawyer-legislator Sen. Ron Latz (DFL-St. Louis Park). The bill awaits a vote in the House. The Senate also passed [HF2823](#) and [HF2828](#), two proposals from the Real Property Section that passed the House last week. Lawyer-legislator Sen. Linda Scheid (DFL-Brooklyn Park) carried the Senate versions. In addition, the Senate passed [SF2427](#), a proposal from the Probate & Trust Section that is carried by lawyer-legislator Sen. Don Betzold (DFL-Fridley).

## ***Judicial Selection Reform Bill Continues To Advance***

[SF70](#), the MSBA's high priority judicial selection reform bill, will be heard next Wednesday, April 7, in the Senate Finance Committee. From there it would move to the Senate floor.

### ***Senate Passes Numerous Bills Of Interest To Lawyers***

The Senate operated at a brisk pace on Monday, passing nearly 130 bills. Dozens of those bills are relevant to the legal profession, including:

- [SF1524](#): Municipal enforcement of state building code for persons with disabilities provisions modification.
- [SF838](#): Domestic abuse protection orders expansion to pets and companion animals.
- [SF2562](#): Child support enforcement provisions modification.
- [HF3318](#): Uniform Unsworn Foreign Declarations Act.
- [SF2690](#): Foster children, adoption, and noncustodial parents provisions modifications; continued court jurisdiction, court hearings presence, and parent and child relationship modifications; foster care benefits to age 21.
- [SF2713](#): Judicial holds in civil commitment cases provisions modification.
- [HF212](#): Pretrial filing of a transcript for admission into evidence of law enforcement vehicle recordings prerequisite eliminated.
- [SF2990](#): Service animal intentional harm resulting in inability to perform duties penalties imposition; animal fighting criminal penalties provision modification.
- [SF2885](#): Property tax assessors duties clarifications.
- [SF3147](#): Chiropractors license denial or revocation for felony-level criminal sexual conduct offense conviction.
- [SF2322](#): Business screening services regulation and criminal record modification.
- [SF2755](#): Detention placement options clarification for extended jurisdiction juveniles.
- [HF2709](#): Immunity from liability for volunteer entities assisting a local jurisdiction during an emergency or disaster.
- [HF2881](#): Qualified persons with medical training or supervision authorized to take blood samples from DWI offenders, and legal immunity provided.
- [SF3128](#): Lead poisoning prevention requirements for renovation of residential and child-occupied facilities constructed prior to 1978; licensing requirements modifications.
- [HF776](#): Uniform Foreign-Country Money Judgments Recognition Act.
- [HF3277](#): Advertising of deceptive local telephone numbers specified as a deceptive trade practice.
- [HF3259](#): Utility's requirement modified to post notice of impending disconnection of utility services to a rental building due to a landlord's failure to pay for service.
- [SF1537](#): Certificate of need urban transmission lines requirement.
- [SF3126](#): Public utility environmental projects public utilities commission (PUC) advance determination of prudence authority.
- [SF2971](#): Eminent domain authority use by public service corporations clarification.
- [SF2339](#): Dangerous weapons on school property criminal penalty for possession increase and brandishing replica firearms and BB guns penalty decrease.
- [SF2891](#): Interstate Compact for Juveniles adopted.
- [HF3139](#): Financial records release authority reinstated in response to a subpoena.
- [SF2519](#): Public utility disclosure of travel, entertainment and expenses included in a rate change request requirement.
- [SF271](#): State employees additional whistleblower protection.
- [SF1886](#): Insurance claims for residential roofing goods and services regulation and roofing contracts right to cancel.
- [SF1126](#): Tax-forfeited property uses and conveyances procedures modifications.
- [HF3067](#): Watershed plan provisions modified.
- [SF3127](#): Subsurface sewage treatment systems local ordinance adoption requirement delay.
- [SF2759](#): State building code municipal enforcement provisions modifications.

- [SF2717](#): Criminal sexual conduct in the fourth degree for sexual contact in secure treatment facilities.
- [HF3336](#): Right of first refusal offers modified for property obtained with federal transit funding.
- [HF3391](#): Children in need of protection or service provisions modified.
- [SF2945](#): Child pornography definition modification.
- [SF2773](#): Salvia divinorum sale or possession regulation and crimes definition.
- [HF3187](#): Civil commitment oath or affirmation provided without notarization and the acceptability of electronic signatures and documents.
- [SF2517](#): Court to furnish audio or video files on CD Rom or DVD Rom disc to public defender at no charge.
- [SF3145](#): Controlled substance mixture definition modification; controlled substance possession offenses modifications.
- [SF2437](#): Domestic abuse and crime of stalking provisions modifications; electronic monitoring pilot project; data practices requirements exemptions; maximum bail increase.
- [HF3048](#): Construction codes and licensing provisions modified, and certain notice provisions modified.
- [SF2469](#): Motor carrier transportation contracts indemnity provision prohibition.
- [SF987](#): Presentence investigations mandate to include a description of any adverse social or economic effects on neighborhood residents elimination.
- [SF3116](#): Felony offenders DNA collection requirements expansion.
- [SF2559](#): Extended mortgagor redemption period.
- [SF2722](#): Eminent domain awards and property tax adjustments and refunds exemption from increased interest rates on certain judgments.



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