

MSBA Capitol Connection

April 9, 2010



Judicial Selection Reform Bill Takes Another Step

The big news this week was that [SF70](#), the MSBA's high priority judicial selection reform bill, passed the Senate Finance Committee on a voice vote Wednesday morning. The next step for the bill would be a floor vote in the Senate.

Real Property Section Bills Advance

Three bills from the Real Property Section are moving toward becoming state law. [HF3393](#) (SF2985), an update of the Minnesota Common Interest Ownership Act has passed the House and this week it passed the Senate. The bill needs to go back to the House for concurrence with the Senate version; it will then go on to the governor. The bill's authors are lawyer-legislators Rep. Gail Kulick Jackson and Sen. Ron Latz. Also on its way to the governor is [HF2823](#) (SF2232), a bill carried by lawyer-legislators Rep. Gail Kulick Jackson and Sen. Linda Scheid. The governor has already signed [HF2828](#) (SF2231), another bill from the Real Property Section also carried by Rep. Kulick Jackson and Sen. Scheid.

Business Law Section Bill Advances

[SF2705](#) (HF3025) a technical bill from the Business Law Section passed the House this week. The bill's House author, lawyer-legislator Rep. Dave Olin, passed a small technical amendment on the floor. The bill now goes back to the Senate (where it is carried by lawyer-legislator Sen. Ron Latz) for concurrence with the change, and then it will be sent to the governor.

House Takes Action On Bills Of Interest To Lawyers

The Senate passed over 100 bills last week before adjourning for a week-long break. This week most of the action was in the House, which passed dozens of bills, many of which are relevant to the legal profession, including:

- [HF3318](#): The Uniform Unsworn Foreign Declarations Act. This bill has also passed the Senate. A conference committee has been formed to iron out differences.
- [HF3048](#): Construction codes and licensing provisions modified, and certain notice provisions modified. This bill has also passed the Senate and is going to conference committee.
- [HF3391](#): Children in need of protection or service provisions modified. A conference committee has been appointed for this bill.
- [HF2709](#): Volunteer protections during an emergency or disaster modified, and immunity specified for certain entities. This bill has been sent to the governor.
- [HF2881](#): Qualified persons with medical training or supervision authorized to take blood samples from DWI offenders, and legal immunity provided. This bill has been presented to the governor.
- [HF2668](#): Expungement procedures modified, fee charging and recovery procedures provided, and certain rights provided to tenants of foreclosed properties. A conference committee has been formed for this bill.
- [SF80](#): Omnibus campaign finance bill. This bill was amended and passed by the House and sent back to the Senate.
- [HF212](#): Pretrial filing prerequisite of a transcript eliminated for admission into evidence of law enforcement vehicle recordings. This bill has passed the Senate as well.
- [HF3277](#): Advertising of deceptive local telephone numbers businesses specified as a deceptive trade practice. This bill has also passed the Senate.
- [SF2722](#): State and political subdivisions and others exempted from increased interest rates on certain judgments and awards.
- [SF2755](#): Detention placement options clarified for extended jurisdiction juveniles pending revocation hearings.
- [SF3147](#): License revocation and license denial required for any health-related licensed professional convicted of a felony-level criminal sexual conduct offense.
- [SF987](#): Presentence investigations mandate to include a description of any adverse social or economic effects on neighborhood residents elimination.
- [SF2713](#): Judicial holds in civil commitment cases provisions modification.
- [SF2559](#): Extended mortgagor redemption period.
- [HF3137](#): Chemical use screen required of juvenile offenders.
- [SF2562](#): Child support enforcement provisions modifications.
- [SF2517](#): Court to furnish audio or video files on CD Rom or DVD Rom disc to public defender at no charge.
- [HF2899](#): Administrative remedy provided for certain data practice law violations, and civil penalty provided.
- [SF2322](#): Business screening services regulation and criminal record modification.
- [SF863](#): Omnibus government data classifications provisions.

Gov. Pawlenty Signs Bills Into Law

Since the last edition of the Capitol Connection, Gov. Pawlenty has signed into law several bills of interest to lawyers, including:

- [Ch. 210](#): 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.
- [Ch. 214](#): Financial records release authority reinstated in response to a subpoena.
- [Ch. 218](#): Watershed plan provisions modified.
- [Ch. 219](#): Right of first refusal offers modified for property obtained with federal transit funding.

- [Ch. 220](#): Civil commitment oath or affirmation provided without notarization and the acceptability of electronic signatures and documents.
- [Ch. 222](#): Minnesota Data Practices Act provision added on computer data, and state agency use of temporary session cookies on government Web sites clarified.