

MSBA Capitol Connection

April 30, 2010



Judicial Selection Reform Bill And Probate Section Bill Advance

The big news this week was that [SF70](#), the MSBA's judicial selection reform bill, passed the Senate Rules Committee on a unanimous voice vote Tuesday morning. The bill is now ready for a floor vote in the Senate.

In addition, a bill from the Probate Section, [SF2427](#) (trust and guardianship provisions modifications; distribution status clarifications; parent-child relationship and inheritance provisions modifications; emergency and temporary conservator appointment authority; estate tax clarifications) passed the House unanimously on Monday. The bill now moves to a conference committee because the House added some estate tax clarification language to the Senate bill.

Bills Signed By Governor Pawlenty

A handful of bills of interest to attorneys received a signature from Gov. Pawlenty this week:

- [SF2855](#): Commerce department continuing education provisions modifications; insurance company rehabilitation and liquidation, group life insurance, the nonforfeiture law for individual deferred annuities, mortality tables use, life and health insurance guaranty association and mutual insurance companies provisions modifications; fraternal benefit societies regulation.
- [HF3157](#): Parent notification of child maltreatment in a school facility modified.
- [HF2879](#): Minors allowed to contract for automobile insurance.
- [HF3048](#): Construction codes and licensing provisions modified, and certain notice provisions modified.

- [HF3391](#): Children in need of protection or service provisions modified.

Short But Active Week For Legislators

Legislators once again had a short week, this time adjourning early for the Republican State Convention. Both chambers were active, however, and passed numerous bill of interest to lawyers.

- The House passed [HF3106](#) (first-degree driving while impaired crime amended to include prior felony convictions from other states, and implied consent, driving while impaired, and ignition interlock provisions modified).
- The House passed [SF2790](#) (juvenile records public hearings and access provisions modifications; dangerous weapons on school property criminal penalty for possession increase and brandishing replica firearms and BB guns penalty decrease; expungement law modification; sexually transmitted infections and diseases education program modification). This bill now moves to a conference committee.
- The House passed [SF2737](#), the omnibus agriculture and veterans bill. A conference committee has been formed to iron out differences between the House and Senate versions.
- The House passed [HF1182](#) (public service corporation eminent domain authority clarified) as amended by the Senate. The bill was presented to Gov. Pawlenty yesterday.
- The House adopted the conference committee report for [HF3318](#), the Uniform Unsworn Foreign Declarations Act.
- The Senate passed [HF3386](#) (residential contracts performance guidelines required, statutory warranties modified, notice and opportunity to repair required, and dispute resolution procedures provided). The House refused to concur with the Senate version and a conference committee has been requested.
- The Senate passed [SF345](#) (enhanced drivers license and identification card creation).
- The Senate passed [SF1761](#) (oral chemotherapy cancer treatment health plan coverage regulations). The bill was sent to the House where it was referred to the Finance Committee.
- The Senate passed [SF2493](#) (crime of identity theft expansion to include scanning and reencoder use to acquire information from payment cards).
- The Senate passed [SF2880](#), which establishes a state guardian ad litem board.
- The Senate passed [SF560](#) (criminal records expungement law provisions expansion and modifications).
- The Senate passed [SF3051](#) (public utilities low-income customer rates regulations modifications; affordability programs inverted block rates provision).
- The Senate passed [SF2540](#) (omnibus transportation policy bill).
- The Senate passed [HF2855](#) (boiler provisions modified and civil and criminal penalties amended and imposed) and the bill was presented to the governor yesterday.
- The Senate passed an amended version of [HF2899](#) (administrative remedy provided for certain data practice law violations, civil penalty provided, and money appropriated).
- The Senate passed [SF3075](#) (joint powers agreements affecting the rights of employees covered by collective bargaining contracts negotiations requirement). The bill was sent to the House, where it was referred to the Higher Education and Workforce Development Finance and Policy Division.