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EIGHTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE

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Introduction

The 2012 Session of the Eighty-Seventh Legislature convened January 24, with one change in the leadership of the Minnesota Senate.

Senator David H. Senjem (R-Rochester) was elected Majority Leader and became Chair of the Committee on Rules and Administration, replacing Senator Amy T. Koch.

Senator Thomas M. Bakk (DFL-Cook) continued as Minority Leader.

Senator Michelle L. Fischbach (R-Paynesville) continued as President of the Senate.

Rev. David Hennen, Buffalo, resigned as Senate Chaplain on January 23, 2012, and Rev. Phil Shaw, Rochester, was elected Senate Chaplain on January 24, 2012.

Three new members were elected in special elections held during the interim to fill vacancies:

Jeff Hayden (DFL-Minneapolis) was elected in District 61 to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Senator Linda Berglin. Senator Hayden was sworn in on October 25, 2011.

Chris A. Eaton (DFL-Brooklyn Center) was elected in District 46 to fill the vacancy due to the passing of Senator Linda Scheid. Senator Eaton was sworn in on October 28, 2011.

Kari Dziejdzic (DFL-Minneapolis) was elected in District 59 to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Senator Lawrence J. Pogemiller. Senator Dziejdzic was sworn in on January 20, 2012.

Senator Gary W. Kubly (DFL-Granite Falls) passed away on March 2, 2012, after battling amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS). Lyle Koenen (DFL-Clara City) was elected in a special election on April 10, 2012, to fill the vacancy in District 20. Senator Koenen was sworn in on April 18, 2012.

After the special elections, the political makeup of the Senate remained 37 Republicans and 30 DFL.

Sixteen Senators announced they would not seek reelection in 2012. They were Al DeKruif (R-Madison Lake), Chris Gerlach (R-Apple Valley), John M. Harrington (DFL-St. Paul), Linda Higgins (DFL-Minneapolis), Gretchen M. Hoffman (R-Vergas), Michael J. Jungbauer (R-East Bethel), Kenneth S. Kelash (DFL-Minneapolis), Amy T. Koch (R-Buffalo), Keith Langseth (DFL-Glyndon), Doug Magnus (R-Slayton), Mary Jo McGuire (DFL-Falcon Heights), Geoff Michel (R-Edina), Gen Olson (R-Minnetrista), Mike Parry (R-Waseca), Claire A. Robling (R-Jordan), Ray Vandever (R-Forest Lake).

The House of Representatives adjourned sine die on the 118th legislative day, May 9, 2012. The Senate adjourned sine die on the 119th legislative day, Thursday, May 10, 2012.

Due to storms in June and early July that caused severe flooding and wind damage in several areas of the state, a Special Session was called by Governor Dayton on August 24, 2012, to provide disaster assistance. The Special Session lasted one day.

Members of the Senate

Bakk, Thomas M. (DFL)*
Benson, Michelle R. (R)**
Bonoff, Terri E. (DFL)
Brown, David M. (R)
Carlson, John J. (R)
Chamberlain, Roger C. (R)
Cohen, Richard J. (DFL)
Dahms, Gary H. (R)
Daley, Theodore J. "Ted" (R)
DeKruif, Al (R)
Dibble, D. Scott (DFL)
Dziedzic, Kari (DFL)
Eaton, Chris A. (DFL)
Fischbach, Michelle L. (R)
Gazelka, Paul E. (R)
Gerlach, Chris (R)
Gimse, Joe (R)
Goodwin, Barb J. (DFL)
Hall, Dan D. (R)
Hann, David W. (R)
Harrington, John M. (DFL)
Hayden, Jeff (DFL)
Higgins, Linda (DFL)
Hoffman, Gretchen M. (R)
Howe, John Sterling (R)
Ingebrigtsen, Bill G. (R)
Jungbauer, Michael J. (R)
Kelash, Kenneth S. (DFL)
Koch, Amy T. (R)
Koenen, Lyle (DFL)
Kruse, Benjamin A. (R)
Langseth, Keith (DFL)
Latz, Ron (DFL)
Lillie, Ted H. (R)
Limmer, Warren (R)
Lourey, Tony (DFL)
Magnus, Doug (R)
Marty, John (DFL)
McGuire, Mary Jo (DFL)
Metzen, James P. (DFL)
Michel, Geoff (R)
Miller, Jeremy R. (R)
Nelson, Carla J. (R)
Newman, Scott J. (R)
Nienow, Sean R. (R)
Olson, Gen (R)
Ortman, Julianne E. (R)
Pappas, Sandra L. (DFL)
Parry, Mike (R)
Pederson, John C. (R)
Reinert, Roger J. (DFL)
Rest, Ann H. (DFL)
Robling, Claire A. (R)
Rosen, Julie A. (R)
Saxhaug, Tom (DFL)
Senjem, David H. (R)
Sheran, Kathy (DFL)
Sieben, Katie (DFL)
Skoe, Rod (DFL)
Sparks, Dan (DFL)
Stumpf, LeRoy A. (DFL)
Thompson, Dave A. (R)
Tomassoni, David J. (DFL)
Torres Ray, Patricia (DFL)
Vandever, Ray (R)
Wiger, Charles W. (DFL)
Wolf, Pam (R)

*DFL—Democratic-Farmer-Labor

**R—Republican

Senate Leaders

David H. Senjem
Julianne E. Ortman
Ted H. Lillie
Roger C. Chamberlain
Paul E. Gazelka
Bill G. Ingebrigtsen
Claire A. Robling

Thomas M. Bakk
Terri E. Bonoff

Majority Leader
Deputy Majority Leader
Majority Whip
Assistant Majority Leader
Assistant Majority Leader
Assistant Majority Leader
Assistant Majority Leader

Minority Leader
Deputy Minority Leader

Officers of the Senate

Michelle L. Fischbach
Cal R. Ludeman
Colleen J. Pacheco
Michael R. Linn
Jessica Tupper
Melissa Mapes
Sven K. Lindquist
Marilyn Logan Hall
Rev. Phil Shaw

President of the Senate
Secretary of the Senate
First Assistant Secretary
Second Assistant Secretary
Third Assistant Secretary
Engrossing Secretary
Sergeant at Arms
Assistant Sergeant at Arms
Chaplain