

NEWSLETTER



Legislative Updates

Happy first week of the 2025 legislative session! This week...

The 2025-26 Legislative biennium was set to commence at 12pm on Tuesday, January 14th. The opening day of the 2025 session resulted in unprecedented circumstances. Here's where things are at right now:

In the House of Representatives:

- Secretary Simon gavelled the chamber in, announced a quorum was not met, and adjourned the chamber. Republican leadership gavelled the chamber back in, announced a quorum, and elected their Speaker and Majority Leader.
 - What is a quorum? It's a simple majority. Typically, a quorum in the MN House of Representatives is 68 members as we have 134 representatives.
 - Due to a special election in District 40B, there are only 133 representatives seated & 1 seat vacant. This has led to a debate on whether a quorum is 67 or 68.
 - The Minnesota House determines the returns and eligibility of its own members.
 - It's anticipated the Minnesota Supreme Court will intervene on the matter of what constitutes a quorum.
 - Until then: Democrats are expected to boycott the Capitol.



The House Chamber on January 14th, no Democratic Representatives present. (Photo by Andrew VonBank)

In the Senate:

- The Senate will be in a 33-33 tie until the January 28th Special Election for District 60 is complete.
- Senators Champion & Miller will serve as co-presiding officers of the Senate until a majority is restored.
- The parties have come to a co-leadership agreement. They will have committees with:
 - 1 chair & co-chair from each party.
 - An even number of each party represented among committee members.

In The News

SHAKOPEE MISSING BALLOTS CASE RULING

A judge has issued a ruling in the Shakopee missing ballots lawsuit. Representative Brad Tabke won his seat by a margin of 14 votes however, there were concerns raised about the outcome & validity of the election after 20 ballots were mistakenly thrown away. See a recap of the lawsuit & outcome [here](#).

Democracy Partners kicking off the 2025 legislative session by discussing community priorities! [View the conference here!](#)



PARTY CLASHES & THE COURTS

Though power struggles are nothing new to Minnesota politics, the kick-off to this year's session has been unusual. To learn more about how the courts may be involved & what other states have experienced, [click here](#).

SENATE DISTRICT 60 PRIMARY ELECTION OUTCOMES

Tuesday, January 14th Senate District 60 had their Primary Election to fill the vacant seat after the passing of Senator Dziedzic. [Read more](#) about the outcomes of the election and the candidates who will be on the ballot come January 28th.

Want to watch content from previous events? Check out our [resource hub!](#)

