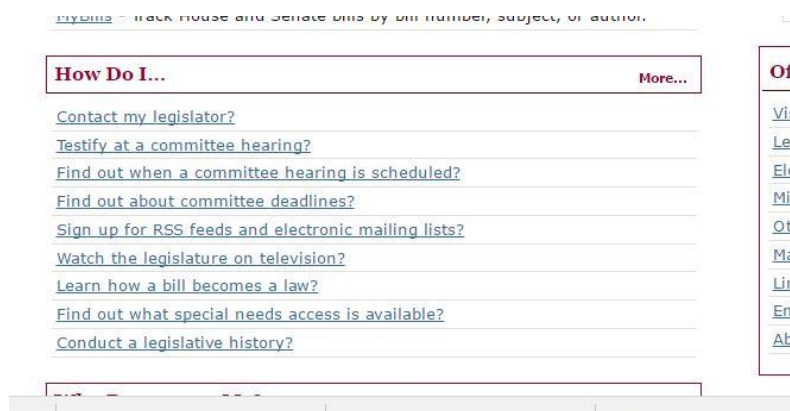


How to Engage State Government

Step 1: Pick a policy area you are passionate about. Ex. education, public health, taxes, voting rights etc.

Step 2: Go to <https://www.leg.state.mn.us/> Scroll to middle of screen and you will see:



Step 3: Click “contact my legislator” option. This will take you to the webpage where you can find out who are your legislators.

Step 4: Now that you know who are your legislators and what policy area you’d like to get involved in, find out which committees work in your particular policy area. Go to: <https://www.leg.state.mn.us/leg/committees>. This will take you

to the webpage that will allow you to select committees in the House and the Senate. Pick which chamber you’d like to see the committee list for. Ultimately you will want to see both because you will want to contact members in both.



House Committees 2017 - 2018

Agriculture Finance

Chair: [Rep. Rod Hamilton](#) (R) District: 22B, 443 State Office Building 651-296-5373
[Committee Home](#); [Members](#); [Schedule](#); [Audio and Video](#);
[Previous meetings and associated documents \(meeting minutes\)](#)

Agriculture Policy

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Agriculture Policy

Meets: Wednesday at 10:15 a.m. in 5 State Office Building

Committee Chair: Paul Anderson (GOP) District: 12B

Vice Chair: Jeff Backer (GOP) District: 12A

- [Membership](#) -- A list of committee members and staff
- [Schedule](#) -- Upcoming meetings
- [Audio and Video](#) -- Access to video/audio files from past meetings
- [Legislation](#) -- Bills referred to this committee
- [Meeting Minutes](#) -- Previous meetings and associated documents
- [Subscribe](#) -- get added to the mailing list for this committee

Staff

Committee Administrator: Mark Nisley 651-296-1540

Committee Legislative Assistant: Tyler Webster 651-296-7881

Non-Partisan Staff

Research Analyst: Colbey Sullivan 651-296-5047

Committee Documents

No Committee documents currently available.

Meeting Minutes

FOURTEENTH MEETING - Tuesday, March 7, 2017
 THIRTEENTH MEETING - Wednesday, March 1, 2017

Upcoming Meetings

Wednesday, March 15, 2017

10:15 AM

Room: 5 State Office Building

Chair: Rep. Paul Anderson

Agenda:

Presentation by Minnesota State Cattlemen's Association

Presentation by Cooperative Network

**Bills may be added.

Bills:

HF208 - (Hertaus): Commercial and industrial operations on agricultural preserves provisions modified, and early termination of an agricultural preserve provided.

HF2049 - (Kiel): Farm to school program established, and money appropriated.

HF1120 - (Swedzinski): Shrimp production incentive program established, and money appropriated.

HF1121 - (Swedzinski): Agricultural product definition modified.

HF1655 - (Swedzinski): Aquaculture facility construction material exemption created.

Attachments:

(3/14/2017) H1120A1.pdf

Step 5: Click on the “Committee Home” link. That will open the webpage containing all the key information about that committee. It will tell you who sits on the committee, what is the leadership, who is the support staff for the committee and it will give you access to all documents shared with the committee on a bill. The neat thing is that you will also have access to the direct links for each of the legislators that sit on the committee.

Step 6: Click on “Membership” link and you will get to webpage to all the committee members profiles and contact information.

Get Bill Info THE HOUSE IS ADJOURNED UNTIL 3:30 P.M. THURSDAY

Agriculture Policy Membership 2017 - 2018

Meets: Wednesday at 10:15 a.m. in Room 5 of the State Office Building.



Committee Chair

Paul Anderson (R) District: 12B
369 State Office Building
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.
St. Paul, MN 55155
651-296-4317
E-mail: rep.paul.anderson@house.mn



Vice Chair

Jeff Backer (R) District: 12A
593 State Office Building
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.
St. Paul, MN 55155
651-296-4929
E-mail: rep.jeff.backer@house.mn



DFL Lead

David Bly (DFL) District: 20B
301 State Office Building
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.
St. Paul, MN 55155
651-296-0171
E-mail: rep.david.bly@house.mn

Step 7: Click on their email links and lobby away!

Advocacy tips to keep in mind:

- Chair, co-Chair and Ranking Minority Leads on each committee are the most powerful positions on any committee.
- Always include your ranking minority lead on any contact you have with a member of the committee that is on the opposite side of a bill you are trying to influence. Ex., if you are in support of Restore the Vote for felons and most committee members are against that, you will want to make sure to cc: the opposing party ranking minority lead; in this case, it may be the DFL ranking minority lead and visa-versa.
- If you are not able to attend a hearing to testify you can submit written testimony. Send your written testimony via email to the Committee Administrator and cc: the Chair and ranking minority lead on the committee.
- Make sure to cc: your own representatives so they know that this is an important issue to you.
- Make sure to communicate your concerns or suggestions to the Governor’s Policy Analyst, the Governor, Lt. Governor and Commissioners of the agency that would have jurisdiction over the matter. So, in the example above on Restore the Vote it may be the Commissioner of Public Safety.
- There is power in numbers. Get a letter signed by as many neighbors, friends, family, and colleagues as possible.
- Start an online petition on Facebook: <https://www.techwalla.com/articles/how-to-make-a-petition-on-facebook>
- Resource on how to be effective with your online petition drive: <http://www.socialbrite.org/2010/07/20/9-online-petition-tools-how-to-make-a-difference/>

Contact for Governor Dayton/Lt. Governor Smith/Cabinet members: <https://www.minnpost.com/data/minnesota-governor> Contains links and contact info on everyone.

Email addresses: mark.dayton@state.mn.us and michelle.fischbach@state.mn.us