

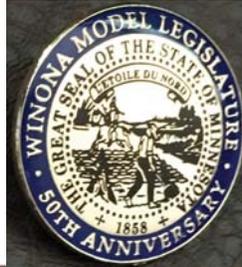
# **The History of the The Winona Model Legislature 1962-Present**



**By  
Representative Gene Pelowski  
Advisor to the Winona Model Legislature 1975-Present  
First Edition Fall 2018**

## Legislating success for 50 years: Model Legislature gives a unique insight into governing process

By Mary Juhl mary.juhl@winonadailynews.com Nov 15, 2012



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Minnesota Secretary of State Mark Ritchie talks to the group of students in the model legislature before swearing them in at Winona State University's Tau Center on Thursday, Nov. 17, 2011. (Winona Daily News file photo)

Andrew Link

# 1962 Mayor Norm Indall & Winona Area Jaycees

Winona's Model Legislature turns 50 years old today.

The program, which allows middle school, high school and college students to navigate Minnesota's legislative process firsthand, has plenty to celebrate.

It's the oldest program of its kind in the nation, founded in 1962 by Mayor Norm Indall in conjunction with the Winona Jaycees. Since, it's fostered a learning community that has produced state legislators, teachers and highly-informed students.

## Winona Area Public Schools celebrates the Winona Model Legislature.



### Winona Model Legislature

Perhaps you, your sibling, or your child participated in Model Legislature over the years? The 47th Session of the Winona Model Legislature has just wrapped up. Started in 1963 by WSHS Social Studies teacher, Norman Indall, Winona Model Legislature gives area students the opportunity to actively re-enact American Government by researching and writing relevant legislation and serving as representatives, senators, pages and members of the governor's office introducing, debating, and acting on bills. This opportunity is the oldest of its kind in the United States and cultivates a keen interest in many participants.



Representative Tom Tillberry and Senator Jeremy Miller participated in Model Legislature as high school students. Gene Pelowski has been the Model Legislature advisor since 1975. He serves in the MN House of Representatives, and teaches AP Government at WSHS and Teaching Social Studies in the Secondary at WSU. His WSU students are coordinators of the Model Legislature.



A former student of Norm Indall, now a parent of students, writes about the Winona Model Legislature.

Gene Gene,

I was reading about the model Leg. in the newspaper recently and thought about all the years you have been part of it. Thank you! It is a great opportunity for youth.

I remember sitting in Norm Indall's class + listening to her talk about this program.

once again, thank you  
Susan A.

# Facebook helps piece together the early History of The Winona Model Legislature.



Ahmed El-Afandi

It was brought to WSU as a result of negotiations between Norm Indall (WSH), Don Onnen (Jaycees) and myself (WSU) and I was the WSU advisor till I went on sabbatical in 1989. After that, Jim Bromeland took over as advisor. After that...? I am not certain whether the Jaycees kept a record of all the bill books or not, as I don't know about their bookkeeping. It might be worthwhile to check with them about any missing material. Just a thought. Good luck with the project.



Ahmed El-Afandi

Cotter being the only participating school came later. Lanseboro and Lewiston, as well as Rushford participated in the earlier year. Gradually, Rushford and Lewiston dropped out due fund shortages and decline in number of students.

1w Like Reply



Gene Pelowski

Yes but their bill books are missing and I am searching.

1w Like Reply



Gene Pelowski

Ahmed El-Afandi found some of the missing material. You are listed as WSU Advisor several times.



1m Like Reply

1978

# Model Legislature

Winona Area Jaycees

WINONA STATE UNIVERSITY

Political Science Department

March 31 and April 1, 1978



*Mr. Pelowski*



## MODEL LEGISLATURE - 1978

KRYZSKO COMMONS - WINONA STATE UNIVERSITY  
March 31 and April 1, 1978

### SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES

#### FRIDAY, MARCH 31, 1978

8:30 - 8:45 a.m.	Registration
8:45 - 9:15 a.m.	Candidate Speeches
9:15 - 9:30 a.m.	Election of Officers
9:30 - 10:15 a.m.	Joint Session, Kryzsko Commons, East Cafeteria
	Invocation
	Welcome, President Robert Altof
	Winona Area Jaycees
10:15 - 10:30 a.m.	Opening Speech
10:30 - 10:35 a.m.	Swearing in of officers
10:35 - 11:15 a.m.	Adjourn Joint Session
11:15 - 12:00 p.m.	Committee Meetings
12:00 - 1:00 p.m.	House and Senate Convene, Kryzsko Commons
1:00 - 1:30 p.m.	Lunch Break
1:30 - 3:00 p.m.	House and Senate Convene
	Adjournment

#### SATURDAY, APRIL 1, 1978

9:00 - 10:15 a.m.	House and Senate Convene
	Recess, Vote for Awards for Best Speakers in House and Senate
10:15 - 12:00 p.m.	House and Senate Reconvene
12:00 - 12:15 p.m.	Joint Session Convenes
12:15 - 12:30 p.m.	Speaker, Representative Tom Stoa
	Youth Governor Address
	Presentation of Awards
12:30 - 12:45 p.m.	Election of 1979 Model Legislative Board
12:45 - 1:00 p.m.	Adjournment

#### Participating Schools

Lanesboro High School  
Winona Senior High School

Hosted by the Political Science Department, Winona State University, Winona, Minnesota

#### Winona Area Jaycees

President, Robert Altof  
Chairman, Cameron Kienenberger

#### 1978 Model Legislature Student Board of Directors

Chaired by: Celia McCord Henderson

Members: Dave Ruen  
Gregory Ready  
Jon Jerome Varner  
Nancy Louise Keller

#### Winona State University

President, Dr. Robert Hanson  
Political Science Department  
James Bromeland

#### Student Advisors

Gene Pelowski, Winona  
E. W. Devine, Lanesboro

We wish to acknowledge the students of Mr. Miner's typing classes whose skill as interpreters and typists allowed the bills to be printed.

### MODEL LEGISLATURE COMMITTEES

#### Communications

\*Tina Bergland - H  
Dan Ramer - H  
Jim Pitts - H  
Bill Ceminski - S  
Brian Ruppert - S  
Mary Ask - H  
Jennifer Olson - H

#### Education

\*Theresa Curran - S  
David Jilk - H  
Jennifer Baudhuin - H  
Kim Frank - H  
Martin Moen - H  
Dave Lavstuen - S  
Joel Ruen - H  
Kent Mueller - S  
Karl Mikrut - S  
Dan Munson - H  
Sue Decker - H  
Teri Collins - H  
Celia Henderson - H  
Kerry Klungvedt - H  
Kris Hall - S

#### Transportation

\*Dave Ruen - H  
Beth Keister - H  
Bruce Olson - H  
Jim Pickett - H  
Kylie Games - S  
Pam Buhler - H  
Marcia Osmonson - H  
Jean Johnson - H  
Karen Decker - H  
Jon Varner - H  
Joe Schuth - H  
Tim Donahue - S

#### Energy & Environment

\*Ruth Colclough - S  
Bryceson Maus - S  
Margaret Soland - H  
Candy Ostrom - H  
Ross Richards - H  
Matt Streater - S  
Gregg Marg - H  
Pam Stever - H  
Karen Ostrom - H  
Joyce Ruen - S  
Betty Brose - H  
Brent Denckhahn - H  
Colin Maws - H

#### Health & Social Welfare

\*Theresa Kostner - S  
Victor Vieth - H  
Tom Hipps - H  
Gordy Overing - S  
Mary Kuklinski - H  
Sean Connolly - H  
Jim Bunke - H  
Drew Hammernik - H  
Dawn De Vine - S  
Sharon Larson - H

#### Taxes & Judiciary

\*Greg Ready - S  
Paul Brosnahan - S  
Ken Osmonson - S  
Larry Hatton - H  
Dennie Walker - S  
Siri Martin - H  
Nancy Keller - H  
Don Griffing - H

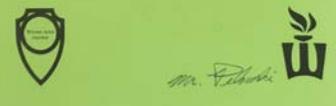
\* Chairperson  
S Senate  
H House

# 1978 is the earliest Model Legislature Bill Book discovered so far.

*Gov. Nancy Keller*  
*St. Gov. Dave Ruen*  
*Speaker Tina Bergland*

*Ranking Sheet for committee chairpersons for bills.*

1978  
**Model Legislature**  
Winona Area Jaycees  
WINONA STATE UNIVERSITY  
Political Science Department  
March 31 and April 1, 1978



1981  
**Winona Model Legislature**  
Winona Area Jaycees  
Winona State University  
Political Science Department  
Winona Senior High School  
Social Studies Department  
March 27 and 28, 1981



1982  
**Winona Model Legislature**  
Winona Area Jaycees  
Winona State University  
Political Science Department  
Winona Senior High School  
Social Studies Department  
April 21 and 22, 1982



1983  
**Winona Model Legislature**  
Winona Area Jaycees  
Winona State University  
Political Science Department  
Winona Senior High School  
Social Studies Department  
April 14 and 15, 1983



1984  
**Winona Model Legislature**  
Winona Area Jaycees  
Winona State University  
Political Science Department  
Winona Senior High School  
Social Studies Department  
April 18, 1984

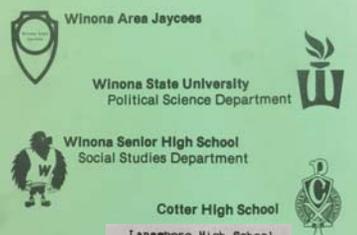


118 pages

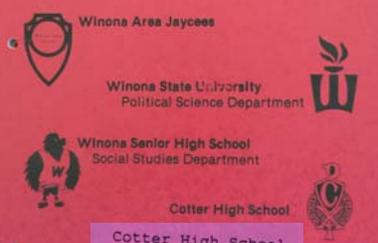
1985  
**Winona Model Legislature**  
Winona Area Jaycees  
Winona State University  
Political Science Department  
Winona Senior High School  
Social Studies Department  
April 12, 1985



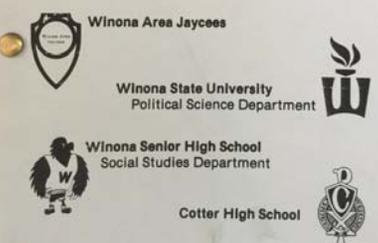
1986  
**Winona Model Legislature**  
March 21 and 22, 1986



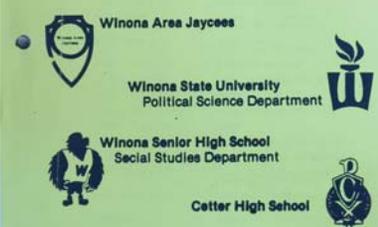
1988  
**Winona Model Legislature**  
April 22 & 23



1989  
**Winona Model Legislature**  
April 21 and 22



1990  
**Winona Model Legislature**



**Winona Area Jaycees, Winona Senior High School,  
WSU Political Science Department sponsor the  
Winona Model Legislature.**

Participating Schools

# 1982

Cotter High School  
Lanesboro High School  
Winona Senior High School

Hosted by the Political Science Department, Winona State University, Winona, Minnesota

Winona Area Jaycees

Bob Bambenek, Chairman

1982 Model Legislature Student Board of Directors

Lynn Anderson -- Chairperson  
John Knight  
Kim Sollenberger  
Rosemary O'Brien  
Jack Becker  
Beth Johnson  
Suzanne Kihne

Winona Senior High School

Gene Pelowski

Lanesboro's Student Director

Ted St. Mane

Winona State University

James Bromeland,  
Political Science Department

Student Advisors

Bee Hoffmann, Cotter High School  
E. W. Devine, Lanesboro High School

MODEL LEGISLATURE BOARD 1982

Chairperson: Lynn Anderson (H)

Kim Sollenberger (H)  
Lynn Anderson (H)  
Rosemary O'Brien (S)  
John Knight (H)  
Jack Becker (S)  
Beth Johnson (S)  
Suzanne Kihne (H)

\*We wish to acknowledge the students of Mr. Miner's typing classes whose skill as interpreters and typists allowed the bills to be printed.

PARTICIPATING SCHOOLS

# 1984

Lanesboro High School  
Lewiston High School  
Winona Junior High School  
Winona Senior High School

Hosted by the Political Science Department, Winona State University, Winona, Minnesota.

WINONA AREA JAYCEE'S

Roger Aldinger

1983 Model Legislature Student Board of Directors

Sally Cornwell  
Suzanne Kihne  
Tim Mustad-Chairperson  
Pat Shortridge

WINONA SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL

Gene Pelowski

LANESBORO'S STUDENT DIRECTOR

Shelia Severud

LEWISTON'S STUDENT DIRECTOR

Lori Ehenseldt

WINONA STATE UNIVERSITY

Ahmed El-Afandi  
Political Science Department

STUDENT ADVISORS

Ernie Buhler, Winona Junior High School  
Tom Stowell, Lewiston High School  
E. W. Devine, Lanesboro High School

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PARTICIPATING SCHOOLS

# 1985

Lanesboro High School  
Lewiston High School  
Winona Junior High School  
Winona Senior High School

Hosted by the Political Science Department, Winona State University, Winona, Minnesota.

WINONA AREA JAYCEE'S

Gene Pelowski

1985 MODEL LEGISLATURE STUDENT BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Pat Shortridge  
Jeff Senn  
Ellen Andersen  
Kurt Dammermann  
Steve Wilmot  
Steve Clift

WINONA SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL

LANESBORO'S STUDENT DIRECTOR

Dan Sorum

LEWISTON'S STUDENT DIRECTOR

Chuck Herber

STUDENT ADVISORS

WINONA STATE UNIVERSITY

Ahmed El-Afandi  
Political Science Department

Chris Ahrens, Winona Junior High School  
Tom Stowell, Lewiston High School  
E. W. Devine, Lanesboro High School

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PARTICIPATING SCHOOLS

# 1983

Cotter High School  
Lewiston High School  
Lanesboro High School  
Winona Senior High School

Hosted by the Political Science Department, Winona State University, Winona, Minnesota

WINONA AREA JAYCEE'S

Bob Bambenek, Chairman

1983 Model Legislature Student Board of Directors

Kim Sollenberger - Chairperson  
John Knight  
Tim Mustad  
Suzanne Kihne  
Joellen Barak  
John Adams  
John Slade  
Hans Dammerman  
Julie Sternal

WINONA SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL

Gene Pelowski

Lanesboro's Board of Directors

Kim Haug  
Diann McCabe  
Julie Ruen

WINONA STATE UNIVERSITY

James Bromeland,  
Political Science Department

LEWISTON ADVISOR

Tom Stowell

Student Advisors

Bee Hoffmann, Cotter High School  
E.W. Devine, Lanesboro High School

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PARTICIPATING SCHOOLS

# 1986

Lanesboro High School  
Lewiston High School  
Winona Junior High School  
Winona Senior High School  
Cotter High School

Hosted by the Winona Area Jaycees, Winona State Political Science Department and Winona Senior High School Social Studies Department

Winona Area Jaycees's

Kathie Rasmussen

1986 Model Legislature Student Board of Directors

Gall Buhler (Secretary)  
Steve Clift  
Steve Wilmot (Chair)  
John-Paul Double  
Matt Youngstrom  
Paul Repice  
Todd Tweedy  
Andy Kudrie  
Dan Leary

Winona Senior High

Gene Pelowski

Lanesboro's Student Director

Dan Sorum

Winona State University

Ahmed El-Afandi  
Political Science Department

Student Advisors

Chris Ahrens, WJHS  
Tom Stowell, Lewiston  
Warren Beisel, Lewiston  
E. W. Devine, Lanesboro  
Peter Horton, Cotter

We wish to acknowledge the students of Mr. Miner's Advanced Typing Class whose skill as interpreters and typists allowed the bills to be printed.

Participating Schools

# 1981

Cotter High School  
Lanesboro High School  
Winona Senior High School

Hosted by the Political Science Department, Winona State University, Winona, Minnesota

Winona Area Jaycees

President, Tony Winczewski, Jr.  
Chairman, Rich Ralston

1981 Model Legislature Student Board of Directors

Jenny Epps -- Chairman  
Kathy Elton  
Michome Ouellette  
Chris Nelson  
Phil Duran  
Kim Sollenberger  
John Knight

Cotter's student director:  
Gretchen Opprecht

Lanesboro's student director:  
Dean Jacobson

Winona State University

President, Dr. Robert Hanson  
Political Science Department,  
James Bromeland

Student Advisors

Father Jennings, Cotter  
E. W. Devine, Lanesboro  
Gene Pelowski, Winona Senior High

We wish to acknowledge the students of Mr. Miner's typing classes whose skill as interpreters and typists allowed the bills to be printed.

**Bob Bambenek,  
Winona County  
Recorder, visits  
with Secretary of  
State Steve Simon  
at the 2017 Model  
Legislature.**

**Mr. Bambenek was  
the Winona Area  
Jaycees Model  
Legislature  
Advisor in the  
1970s and 1980s.**



LAST NAME	FIRST	SCHOOL	COMMITTEE	BILL	LAST NAME	FIRST	SCHOOL	COMMITTEE	BILL			
ABBOTT	CHRISTINE	WSHS	GEN.LEG.	H	PROHIBIT CIGAR VEND.	MACH	PAULSON	ART	WJHS	ENVIRONME	S	REDUCE SO2 & NO2 EMISSION
ALBRECHT	MINDY	WSHS	TRANSPORT	S	MANDATORY SEATBELT USE	PELOWSKI	GENE	WJHS	GEN.LEG.	H	REDUCE LEGISLATURE	
ANDERSEN	ELLEN	WSHS	ENVIRONME	H	PHASE OUT LEADED GAS	PENHEITER	ALAN	WJHS	GEN.LEG.	S	STATE LOTTERY	
ANDERSEN	MARTIN	WJHS	EDUCATION	S	NINTH GR. COMP. TEST	PEREDA	JAMES	WSHS	TRANSPORT	H	SPEEDING PENALTIES 65MPH	
BEHNE	BRAD	WSHS	TRANSPORT	S	SCHOOL BUSES STOPPING RR	PETERSON	MICHAEL	LANS	EDUCATION	H	STATE-WIDE GRADING SCALE	
BERGAW	SCOTT	WSHS	ENVIRONME	H	GROUNDWATER PROTECTION	PUTZER	RAY	WSHS	GEN.LEG.	H	AMEND MN STATUTE 541.07	
BETHMARS	MELISSA	WJHS	GEN.LEG.	S	TEST FOR ILLEGAL INTOXIC.	REIN	CHRISTINE	LANS	HLTH&WELF	H	ABORTION NOTIFICATION	
BOLLWANT	MATT	WJHS	JUDICIARY	H	CHILD TESTIFY BY VIDEO	REPICE	PAUL	WSHS	TRANSPORT	H	SEATBELT USE IN MTR VEH.	
BRENNER	SUZAN	WSHS	TRANSPORT	H	STIFFER DWI PENALTIES	ROEHL	SARA	WSHS	EDUCATION	H	ACCESS TO EXCELL QUALI	
BRENNO	ANNE	WSHS	EDUCATION	S	CENSORSHIP BY SCHOOLS	RUEN	ERIC	LANS	ENVIRONME	H	HARDWOOD HARVESTING	
BUEHLER	GAIL	WSHS	EDUCATION	S	POST SEC. OPTIONS ACT	SCHERBRING	ROXAN	WSHS	HLTH&WELF	S	CHEWING TOBACCO WARNINGS	
BUEHLER	GAIL	WSHS	HLTH&WELF	S	PROHIBIT AIDS STUDENTS	SCHMIDT	MITCH	WSHS	GEN.LEG.	S	STATE LOTTERY	
CLIFT	ADAM	WJHS	TRANSPORT	S	ELIMINATE *FUZZ BUSTERS*	SCHUTZ	MIKE	WJHS	EDUCATION	H	MANDATORY 12 YRS. SCHOOL	
CLIFT	STEVEN	WSHS	JUDICIARY	S	AIDS CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHT	SOBIESK	ANNE	WSHS	EDUCATION	S	COMPUTER AWARENESS CLASS	
CONRAD	ELIZABETH	WSHS	ENVIRONME	H	GROUNDWATER	SOLBERG	JENNY	LANS	JUDICIARY	S	CONFINEMENT TIME ON DWI	
COUGILL	ERICH	WSHS	HLTH&WELF	H	LEGALIZE EUTHANASIA	SOLBERG	KEVIN	LANS	TRANSPORT	H	DRIVERS PERMIT FOR WORK	
DAMMERMANN	KURT	WSHS	TRANSPORT	S	STUD. TIRES BY EMER. VEC.	SORUM	DAN	LANS	GEN.LEG.	S	REPEAL DRAM SHOP LAW	
DANIELSON	TERRI	LANS	JUDICIARY	H	PROTECT INFORMANTS	SORUM	DARRYL	LANS	ENVIRONME	H	EXAM FOR HUNTING LICENSE	
DETTLE	BETSY	WSHS	GEN.LEG.	S	ACID RAIN COMMITTEE	SQUIRES	SARA	WSHS	GEN.LEG.	H	PROHIBIT HAZING	
DOUBLE	J.P.	WSHS	EDUCATION	H	FREE COLLEGE	STEVENS	TODD	WSHS	TRANSPORT	H	MANDATORY AUTO INSPECTION	
FICK	MARY	WSHS	GEN.LEG.	S	PROHIB NON-RETURN BEV CON	TAYLOR	CHRIS	LANS	ENVIRONME	H	CONTROL SOIL EROSION	
GANNAWAY	WAYNE	WSHS	HLTH&WELF	H	ADMISSIONS TO HOSPITAL	THRUNE	SCOTT	WJHS	TRANSPORT	H	MANDATORY AUTO INSPECTION	
GENANDER	BART	WSHS	TRANSPORT	H	SEATBELT USE IN AUTOS	TRUONG	DUNG	WSHS	HLTH&WELF	H	ASPARTAME WARNINGS	
GERNES	PHIL	WJHS	JUDICIARY	S	LEGALIZE CAPITAL PUNISH.	TUFTE	ALISON	LANS	HLTH&WELF	S	WARNING ON SHKLES TOBACCO	
GERNES	WANESSA	WSHS	JUDICIARY	H	LEGAL PRODS&SALES OF DRUGS	TWAIT	BRENDA	WSHS	HLTH&WELF	S	TOBACCO TAX FOR CAN. RES.	
HENGEL	SCOTT	WSHS	TRANSPORT	S	VECH. INSPECTION TESTS	UNNASCH	KARL	LANS	EDUCATION	H	ATHELETE DRUG TESTING	
HERMSEN	TINA	WSHS	HLTH&WELF	H	BAN CIGARETTE MACHINES	WANGEN	LORI	LANS	HLTH&WELF	H	LEGALIZE EUTHANASIA	
HOFSCHULT	BEN	WJHS	TRANSPORT	H	LEGALIZE FIREWORKS	WILMOT	STEVEN	WSHS	EDUCATION	S	REVISE ACCESS TO EXEC.	
HOODECHECK	AMY	WSHS	EDUCATION	S	ADV. PLACEMENT ENGLISH	YOUNGSTROM	MATT	WSHS	EDUCATION	H	ACCESS TO EXEC. TUTION	
HURD	BOB	WJHS	TRANSPORT	H	LEGAL BLOOD ALCOHOL LEVEL							
JENSEN	JOEL	WSHS	HLTH&WELF	H	MANDATORY ORGAN DONATIONS							
JEREMIASSEN	ROB	WJHS	EDUCATION	S	C-AVE FOR X-CURRICULAR							
JOHNSON	PAUL	WSHS	EDUCATION	H	1SD FINANCIAL DISCLOSURES							
KELLUM	BRAD	WSHS	TRANSPORT	S	DOMESTIC AUTO TAX CREDIT							
KUDRLE	ANDY	WSHS	TRANSPORT	H	MANDATE HEADLIGHTS ON							
LEARY	DAN	WSHS	JUDICIARY	H	*GOOD FAITH* STANDARDS							
LOUCKS	PAUL	WSHS	ENVIRONME	S	WATER QUALITY							
MANLEY	THERESA	WSHS	TRANSPORT	S	REDUCE BOATING FATALITES							
MELVILLE	BILL	WSHS	TRANSPORT	H	SEATBELT LAWS							
MOORE	TORRY	WJHS	ENVIRONME	H	CROSSBOW HUNTING							
MOOTZ	MICHAEL	WSHS	JUDICIARY	H	LEGALIZE CAPITAL PUNISH							
MUSEL	TRENTON	WJHS	GEN.LEG.	S	SLIDING RULE TAX							
NELSON	LISA	LANS	HLTH&WELF	H	TOBACCO USE OF MINORS							
NOLAN	MATT	WJHS	EDUCATION	H	MANDATORY 12 YRS. SCHOOL							

# 1986

## PARTICIPATING SCHOOLS

Cotter High School  
Lanesboro High School  
Winona Junior High  
Winona Senior High

# 1988

Hosted by the Winona Area Jaycees, the Winona State University Political Science Department, and the Winona Senior High Social Studies Department

Winona Area Jaycee's

Brian Ruppert

Winona Senior High

Gene Pelowski  
Social Studies Department

Winona State University

Ahmed El-Afandi  
Political Science Department

Lanesboro Student Director

Michael Peterson

Pages - WJHS

Andy Clift  
Matt Lund

Paul Seppanen  
John Wernz

1988 Model Legislature  
Student Board of Director's

Christine Seppanen-Chair  
Tina Hermsen  
Andrea Huntbatch  
Andy Kudrle  
Paul Loucks  
John Pack  
Stacy Pawlowski  
Adam Clift  
John Lund  
Gene Pelowski  
Jeremy Allaire

Advisors

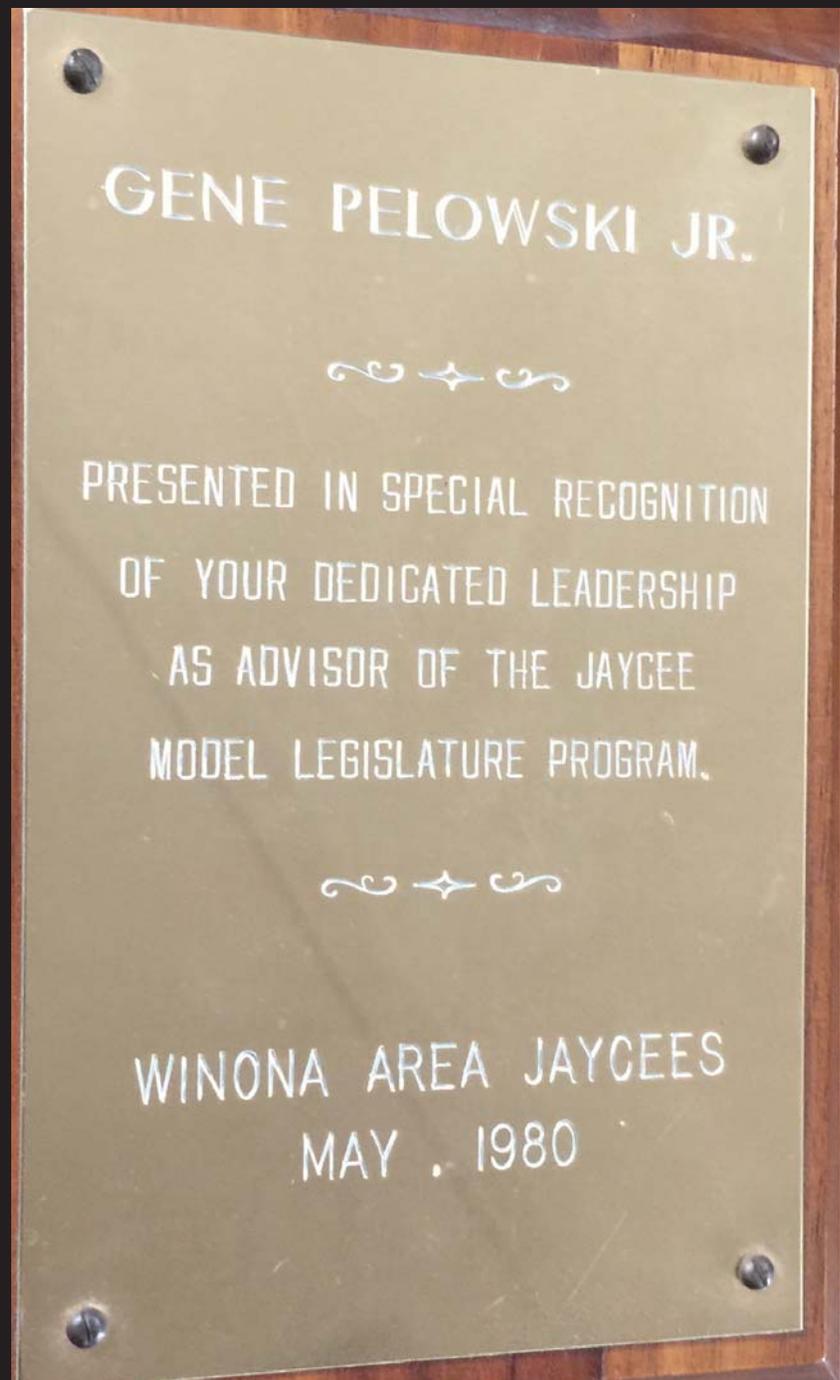
Curt Peters, WJHS  
E.W. Devine, LHS  
Mike Meurer, CHS

We wish to acknowledge the students of Mr. Minor's Advanced Typing class who skillfully interpreted and typed our bills, and Mr. Martin of Winona Senior High Central Printing who printed the bill book for us.

We would also like to thank the Minnesota YMCA Youth In Government program for the use of the bill forms, rules, and "How to" forms.

The 1988 bills are individually hand typed by Mr. Minor's WSHS typing class and it takes a week to type the bills. The 1986 data base was created by WSHS student Tim Nustad in 1983 to help organize the bills and legislators.

**Jaycees Model Legislature moves to Winona State University as the host when the Jaycees disbanded. Gene Pelowski became the Model Legislature Advisor in 1975.**



1976 BOARD  
SID BOETHCHER-CHAIRPERSON

DAVE MALKE  
WILL STOLTMAN  
CELIA HENDERSON  
STACY HUGHES  
GENE PELOWSKI-ADVISOR

1977 BOARD  
BILL SCHUTH JR.-CHAIRPERSON

CHRIS BAUDHUIN  
TINA BERGLAND  
KEVIN FENTON  
CELIA HENDERSON  
GENE PELOWSKI-ADVISOR

1978 BOARD  
NANCY KELLER-CHAIRPERSON

CELIA HENDERSON  
DAVE RUEN  
GREGORY READY  
JON VARNER  
GENE PELOWSKI-ADVISOR

1979 BOARD

~◇~  
NANCY KELLER  
DAVE RUEN-ADVISOR  
JON VARNER GENE  
BRUCE OLSON PELOWSKI  
ROSS RICHARDS

1980 BOARD

~◇~  
BRUCE OLSON  
ROSS RICHARDS  
JENNY EPPS-ADVISOR  
COLIN MAUS GENE  
LAURIE RUKAVINI PELOWSKI

1981 BOARD

~◇~  
MICHONE OUELLETTE  
JENNY EPPS  
JOHN KNIGHT  
CHRIS NELSON-ADVISOR  
KATHY ELTON GENE  
PHIL DURAN PELOWSKI  
KIM SOLLENBERGER

1982 BOARD

LYNN ANDERSEN-CHAIRPERSON  
JOHN KNIGHT  
KIM SOLLENBERGER  
JACK BECKER  
BETH JOHNSON  
SUZANNE KIHNE  
GENE PELOWSKI-ADVISOR

1983 BOARD

KIM SOLLENBERGER  
JOHN KNIGHT  
TIM NUSTAD  
SUZANNE KIHNE  
JOELLEN BARAK-ADVISOR  
JOHN ADAMS GENE  
JOHN SLADE PELOWSKI  
HANS DAMMERMAN  
JULIE STERNAL

1984 BOARD

TIM NUSTAD-CHAIRPERSON  
SUZANNE KIHNE  
PAT SHORTRIDGE  
SALLY GORNWELL  
GENE PELOWSKI-ADVISOR

1985 BOARD  
PAT SHORTRIDGE  
JEFF SENN  
ELLEN ANDERSON  
KURT DAMMERMANN  
STEVE WILMOT  
STEVE CLIFT  
GENE PELOWSKI-ADVISOR

STEVE WILMOT CHAIR  
GAIL BUHLER SEC.  
MATT YOUNGSTROM  
STEVE CLIFT  
JOHN-PAUL DOUBLE  
PAUL REPICE  
TODD TWEEDY  
ANDY KUDRLE  
DAN LEARY  
GENE PELOWSKI-ADVISOR

1997 BOARD  
NICCI AUNA  
NORAH BARTASH  
BRIAN BLASER  
BECKY BOLAND  
SARAH BROADWATER  
KARI CASPER  
ABBY CHRISTENSON  
LEILA DESOTELLE  
DAVE DOWNIE  
ANDREW FROSCHE  
JON GORMAN  
CHRIS KAUFFMAN  
JON LOWERY  
RYAN LYNCH  
BECKY MARG  
MEGAN McCREADY  
JUSTIN ODEGAARD  
SALIE OLSON  
RYAN PELOWSKI  
RACHEL PETERSON  
KURT RANNENBERG  
TONY ROMAINE  
EMILY SPELTZ  
TIFFANY STEDMAN  
GENE PELOWSKI-ADVISOR

1998 BOARD  
NICCI AUNA  
MANDY BAMBENEK  
MIKE BATELL  
BRIAN BLASER  
JACOB CALVERT  
ANDREW FROSCHE  
BEN HYLE  
ADAM McMILLAN  
BRYAN MECHILL  
JEREMY MILLER  
RYAN PELOWSKI  
RACHEL PETERSON  
KURT RANNENBERG  
RACHEL SALISBURY  
MEGAN TASCA  
JAY TRICKET  
SARAH WERNIMONT  
ADVISORS - GENE PELOWSKI  
JAMES BROMELAND, TRISH HARVEY

**1999**  
**The last Student**  
**Board Of Model**  
**Legislature**  
**Directors.**

**The WSHS**  
**American**  
**Government**  
**Classes will take**  
**over the**  
**organization of the**  
**Model Legislature.**



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52-64	157-193	Green	Judiciary
65-78	194-226	Red	Transportation

WSU Political Science Department Advisor, **James Bromeland**

WSHS Social Studies Department Advisor, **Gene Pelowski**

ST. Charles High School Advisor, **Trish Harvey**

Cotter High School Advisor, **Mike Meurer**

*Special Thanks to Winona Area Public Schools Foundation, INC., Robert Kierlin, Winona County Bar Association, St. Charles High School Political Club, Rohrer Center, LTD., Goodson Auto Shop Tools and Supplies, David Taber, D.D.S., M.S., and Tasca Ward Honda for their generous support.*

### Model Legislature Board of Directors 1999

Bambenek, Mandy Batell, Mike Blaser, Brian Frosch, Andrew Hyle, Ben McMillan, Adam Mechell, Bryan Pelowski, Ryan Rannenberg, Kurt Riddle-Ford, Laura Miller, Heidi Frosch, Liz Pflughoeft, Matt Pflughoeft, Liz Papenfuss, Matt Zeller, Han Wernimont, Sarah Siok, Angela Hesch-Bruggeman, Laurel Mosley, Adair



# Winona



**MODEL LEGISLATURE**

CO-AUTHORS OF BILL (Sponsors)

SENATE: 1. \_\_\_\_\_ 2. \_\_\_\_\_

HOUSE: 1. \_\_\_\_\_ 2. \_\_\_\_\_

of \_\_\_\_\_

Delegation \_\_\_\_\_

LEGISLATIVE ACTION:

Committee \_\_\_\_\_

Discussion Priority \_\_\_\_\_

Committee Action \_\_\_\_\_

Final Committee Priority \_\_\_\_\_

Floor Priority \_\_\_\_\_

Senate Action \_\_\_\_\_

House Action \_\_\_\_\_

Governor \_\_\_\_\_

Introduced by J. Evanson

Principal Author

MODEL LEGISLATURE

SOMSEN HALL AUDITORIUM

WINONA STATE UNIVERSITY

APRIL 27, 1990

SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES

8:30 - 8:45 a.m.	Registration -Somsen
8:45 - 9:00 a.m.	Candidate Speeches
9:00 - 9:15 a.m.	Speaker -Mrs. Paulson League of Women Voters
9:15 - 9:30 a.m.	Joint Session Election of Officers
9:30 - 10:30 a.m.	Committee Meetings
10:30 - 11:15 a.m.	House and Senator Convene
11:15 - 11:30 a.m.	Break
11:30 - 12:15 a.m.	House and Senate Reconvene
12:15 - 1:00 p.m.	Lunch
1:00 - 2:00 p.m.	House and Senate Reconvene
2:00 - 2:10 p.m.	Recess and vote for Awards
2:10 - 2:45 p.m.	Youth Governor's Address Presentation of Awards
2:45 - 2:55 p.m.	Election of Model Leg. Board of 1990-1991
2:55 p.m.	Adjourn

LAST NAME	FIRST	SCHOOL	COMMITTEE	BILL
ABOGADO	ERNESTO	WSHSE	EDUCATION	H SUMMER GRADUATION CLASS
ALLAIRE	JEREMY	WSHSL	HLTH&WELF	S SCHOOL CONTRACEPTIVES
ANDERSEN	MARTIN	WSHSE	EDUCATION	S LITERACY CLASSES
ANDERSEN	MATT	WSHSE	EDUCATION	H INCREASE SCHOOL DAYS
BERCAM	BEN	WSHSG	LEG.	S BAN SEMI-AUTOMATICS
BETCHEWARS	NISSY	WSHSL	HLTH&WELF	H PROHIBIT SMOKING
BOLANT	MATT	WSHSL	JUDICIARY	H CHILD VIDEO TESTIMONY
BOONE	TOM	WSHSG	LEG.	S RAISE MIN. WAGE
BROOK	KATHI	CHS	JUDICIARY	H DEATH PENALTY
BURES	FRANK	WSHSL	HLTH&WELF	H REMOVAL OF CIGARETTE VENDING
BUTENHOFF	CHRIS	WSHS	H	
CRIGLO	JEREMY	LAN	GEN.LEG.	H STATE AID INSURANCE-YOUTH
CLIFT	ADAM	WSU	HLTH&WELF	S CONDOMS!!!!!!!
COLBY	JACOB	WSHSTR	TRANSPORT	S CYCLIST HEADGEAR
COLPIETRO	VINNIE	WSHSL	HLTH&WELF	H PASSIVE EUTHANASIA
CLAPLEWSKI	AMY	WSHSE	EDUCATION	H 2 YR. FOREIGN LANG. REQ.
DICKSON	DENISE	WSHSL	JUDICIARY	H LIMIT GUNS TO MENTAL ILL
DOUBLE	ERIC	WSHSG	LEG.	S MAKE ENGLISH OFFICIAL...
DOUBLE	MATT	WSHSTR	TRANSPORT	H NO RIGHT TURN ON RED
DUELLMAN	MERRIDITH	WSHSE	EDUCATION	S STANDARD GRADING
EBBINGER	BRIAN	WSHSL	JUDICIARY	H DRUG TESTING
EDIN	CHRIS	WSHSE	ENVIRONME	S INCREASE POACHING PENALTY
EDWARDS	NISSY	WSHSL	JUDICIARY	S PENALTIES FOR AIDS RAPE
EGLAND	ANGELA	CHS	GEN.LEG.	S NUCL. WEAPONS
ERBLAD	JESSE	WSHSE	EDUCATION	H TEACHER EXAMS
ERICKSON	STEPH	CPC	EDUCATION	H CPR REQUIREMENT
EVANSON	JOHN	CHS	JUDICIARY	S JUVENILE MURDER\
FARRELL	KEVIN	WSHSL	JUDICIARY	S BAN ABORTION
FOSTER	AMBER	WSHSTR	TRANSPORT	H DRIVING REQ. FOR 65 AND
GARETTO	JOE	WSHSL	JUDICIARY	S LOWER DRINKING AGE
GOO MANSON	JEFF	WSHSL	HLTH&WELF	H STEROID TESTING
GRANE	CRUCK	WSHSG	LEG.	S BAN SELF-DESTRUCT VIDEOS
GRANE	CRUCK	WSHSE	EDUCATION	S FUNDS FOR WSU STADIUM
GROEN	SARA	LAN	ENVIRONME	S STATE RECYCLING
HANSON	NANCY	WSHSG	LEG.	H STATE LOTTERY
HAWKINS	JOSH	WSHSG	LEG.	H PETITION DRAFT POLICY
HOLLAND	CINDY	CHS	EDUCATION	H STATE FUNDED PAROCIAL ED
HOLMEN	MARK	LAN	HLTH&WELF	H BAN TELON AMMUNITION
HURD	BOB	WSHSL	JUDICIARY	H MINORS TRIED AS ADULTS
JOHNSON	AARON	WSHSL	JUDICIARY	H DRUG TESTING
KIERLIN	LARA	CHS	EDUCATION	H ATHLETES EXEMPT FROM P.E.
KOCIANSKI	KIM	WSHSE	EDUCATION	H HONORS STUDY HALL
LANDMAN	CHUCK	WSHSL	JUDICIARY	S CHANGE INSANITY PLEA
LAVADOVICH	ED	WSHSE	ENVIRONME	H BAN PLASTIC PRODUCTS
LOCKWOOD	JENNI	WSHSL	JUDICIARY	H ALLOW AIDS STUDENTS
LOND	JOHN	WSHSL	JUDICIARY	H REPEAL S AUTE 609.324
LYNGELIP	VABA	WSHSL	HLTH&WELF	H NO SCHOOL SMOKING
LYONS	PAT	WSHSG	LEG.	H BAN GAMBLING
MALEWICKI	MIKE	WSHSTR	TRANSPORT	H SIZE OF BOATS/RESTRICTION
MARG	SUE	WSHSTR	TRANSPORT	S AGE TO TAKE TEST
MARTIN	JUSTIN	WSHSL	HLTH&WELF	H STUDY & CIG. TAX
NAGLE	CHRIS	WSHSG	LEG.	S COUNTY EXERCISE TRAILS
NUSTAD	BRUCE	WSHSG	LEG.	H BAN BINGO
OLSON	TRACEY	LAN	HLTH&WELF	H SUICIDE HOTLINE
PAMPUCH	SCOTT	CHS	GEN.LEG.	S LEGALIZE "SCALPING"
PASKIEWICZ	BOB	CHS	TRANSPORT	S REQUIREMENT OF LIFE PRES.
PAULSON	ART	WSHSL	JUDICIARY	S GUARDIANSHIP REFORM

The 1990 bills are individually hand typed by Mr. Minor's WSHS typing class and it takes a week to type the bills. Then the bills are printed in a Xerox machine. The first data base was created by WSHS student Tim Nustad to help organize the bills and legislators. The one day April Model Legislature dur to spring activity conflicts will force the move to early December.

# WINONA Model Legislature

December 12-13, 1997  
 Winona State University  
 Political Science Department  
**Winona Senior High School**  
 Social Studies Department  
**St. Charles High School**  
 Social Studies Department  
**Winona Area Jaycees**



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46-59	134-163	Yellow	Education
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63-67	173-184	Red	Taxes

WSU Political Science Department Advisor, **James Bromeland**  
 WSHS Social Studies Department Advisor, **Gene Pelowski**  
 ST. Charles High School Advisor, **Trish Harvey**  
 Special Thanks to **Winona Area Jaycees** for their support

### Model Legislature Board of Directors 1997

Auna, Nicci Blaser, Brian Boland, Becky Casper, Kari Frosch, Andrew Bartash, Norah McCreedy, Megan Odegaard, Justin Olson, Salie Peterson, Rachel Christenson, Abby Desotelle, Leila Downie, Dave Gorman, Jon Kauffman, Chris Lowery, Jon Lynch, Ryan Marg, Becky Pelowski, Ryan Rannenberg, Kurt Romaine, Tony Speltz, Emily Stedman, Tiffany Broadwater, Sarah

Co-Authors of Bill \_\_\_\_\_  
 Senate 1. \_\_\_\_\_  
 2. \_\_\_\_\_  
 House 1. \_\_\_\_\_  
 2. \_\_\_\_\_

  
 WSHS Model Legislature  
 Third Session  
 House Senate  
 Introduced by  
Kess McNeil Bill # 8

Committee: \_\_\_\_\_  
 House: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Senate: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Governor: \_\_\_\_\_

1.1 A bill for an act  
 1.2 relating to gambling; lowering the legal age for  
 1.3 gambling to 16; requiring the governor to request  
 1.4 tribal governments to lower the legal age for gambling  
 1.5 at casinos to 16; amending Minnesota Statutes 1996,  
 1.6 sections 240.25, subdivision 8; 349.2127, subdivision  
 1.7 8; and 349A.12, subdivisions 1, 2, and 5.  
 1.8 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:  
 1.9 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 1996, section 240.25,  
 1.10 subdivision 8, is amended to read:  
 1.11 Subd. 8. [~~AGE UNDER 16~~] A person under the age of ~~16~~  
 1.12 16 may not place a bet or present a pari-mutuel ticket for  
 1.13 payment with an approved pari-mutuel system.  
 1.14 Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 1996, section 349.2127,  
 1.15 subdivision 8, is amended to read:  
 1.16 Subd. 8. [MINIMUM AGE.] (a) A person under the age of  
 1.17 ~~16~~ years may not buy a pull-tab, tipboard ticket, paddlewheel  
 1.18 ticket, or raffle ticket, or a chance to participate in a bingo  
 1.19 game other than a bingo game exempt or excluded from licensing.  
 1.20 Violation of this paragraph is a misdemeanor.  
 1.21 (b) A licensed organization or employee may not allow a  
 1.22 person under age ~~16~~ to participate in lawful gambling in  
 1.23 violation of paragraph (a). Violation of this paragraph is a  
 1.24 misdemeanor.  
 1.25 (c) In a prosecution under paragraph (b), it is a defense  
 1.26 for the defendant to prove by a preponderance of the evidence  
 2.1 that the defendant reasonably and in good faith relied upon  
 2.2 representations of proof of age authorized in section 340A.503,  
 2.3 subdivision 6, paragraph (a).  
 2.4 Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 1996, section 349A.12,  
 2.5 subdivision 1, is amended to read:  
 2.6 Subdivision 1. [PURCHASE BY MINORS.] A person under the  
 2.7 age of ~~16~~ years may not buy or redeem for a prize a ticket in  
 2.8 the state lottery.

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**St. Charles HS participates. The 1997 bills are still individually hand typed by Mr. Minor's WSHS typing class and it takes a week to type the bills. the bill Book is now printed in the WAPS Print Shop. An improved data base lists the students to help organize the bills and committee process.**

Last Name	First Name	Committee	Bill #	House/Senate
Amann	David	Education	11	House
Anderson	Amy	Environment	01	Senate
Auna	Nicci	Environment	39	House
Baker	Dominique	Health & Human Services	61	Senate
Bambenek	Mandy	Education	15	Senate
Bartash	Norah	<b>Chair, Judiciary</b>	16	House
Batell	Mike	Health & Human Services	14	Senate
Batell	Brian	<b>Chair, Environment</b>	13	House
Bell	Leanna	Judiciary	57	Senate
Blaser	Brian	Taxes	12	House
Blumentritt	Dylan	Environment	30	House
Boehmke	Sarah	Judiciary	65	House
Boland	Becky	General Legislation	63	House
Broadwater	Sarah	General Legislation	36	House
Calvert	Lucas	Transportation	62	House
Casper	Kari	Education	52	House
Christenson	Abby	Environment	22	Senate
Desotelle	Leila	Health & Human Services	02	Senate
Downie	David	General Legislation	55	House
Fix	Nathan	Judiciary	18	House
Frikken	Keith	Taxes	67	House
Frosch	Andrew	Transportation	51	Senate
Gorman	John	Education	54	Senate
Hanke	Steve	Transportation	35	House
Hatfield	Adam	Taxes	60	House
Hawkins	Justin	Judiciary	04	Senate
Jones	Jessica	Education	50	House
Kauffman	Chris	Education	23	House
Kikus	Jenny	Education	40	Senate
Langowski	Christine	Health & Human Services	17	Senate
Lindsay	Matt	<b>Chair, Transportation</b>	42	Senate
Littlefield	Joe	Education	47	House
Lossen	Thor	Health & Human Services	34	House
Lowery	Jon	Education	49	House
Lynch	Ryan	<b>Chair, Health &amp; Human</b>	32 & 5	Senate

Last Name	First Name	Committee	Bill #	House/Senate
Marg	Becky	<b>Chair, General Legislation</b>	58	Senate
Martin	Morgan	Judiciary	53	House
McCreedy	Megan	<b>Chair, Education</b>	48	House
McNeil	Ross	General Legislation	08	House
Medema	Lee	Taxes	24	Senate
Meeker	Ryan	Environment	09	House
Moore	Hillary	Taxes	56	Senate
Mortensen	Alia	Taxes	03	Senate
Mueller	Katie	Education	10	House
Mueller	Josh	Transportation	41	House
Ness	Michael	Judiciary	38	House
Nguyen	Sang	Environment	43	House
Nolan	Grant	Judiciary	44	House
Odegaard	Justin	Health & Human Services	06	House
Olson	Salie	Judiciary	26	House
Pelowski	Ryan	Transportation	59	House
Peterson	Rachel	<b>Chair, Taxes</b>	27	House
Rahn	Josh	Judiciary	66	House
Rannenberg	Kurt	Transportation	64	House
Robinson	Cicely	Judiciary	46	Senate
Romaine	Tony	General Legislation	20	House
Rowekamp	Ryan	General Legislation	07	Senate
Smith	Adam	General Legislation	21	House
Snider	Samantha	Judiciary	25	Senate
Speltz	Emily	Transportation	45	House
Stedman	Tiffany	General Legislation	19	Senate
Stuart	Mike	Judiciary	33	House
Tasca	Megan	Transportation	37	Senate
Trickett	Jay	Judiciary	28	House
Veerkamp	Jill	Transportation	31	Senate
Wachowiak	Chris	General Legislation	29	House

Co-Authors of Bill  
 Senate  
 1. \_\_\_\_\_  
 2. \_\_\_\_\_  
 House  
 1. \_\_\_\_\_  
 2. \_\_\_\_\_



Committee \_\_\_\_\_  
 House: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Senate: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Governor: \_\_\_\_\_

WSHS Model Legislature  
 Third Session  
 House Senate  
 Introduced by  
Stedman, Tiffany Bill # 11

1.1 A bill for an act  
 1.2 relating to crime prevention; requiring that all new  
 1.3 chiefs of police of municipal police departments in  
 1.4 cities of the all classes and directors of statewide law  
 1.5 enforcement agencies appointed on or after  
 1.6 January 1, 1998, hold a bachelor's degree; proposing  
 1.7 coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 626.  
 1.8 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:  
 1.9 Section 1. [626.8625] [CHIEFS OF POLICE AND DIRECTORS OF  
 1.10 LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES REQUIRED TO POSSESS BACHELOR'S  
 1.11 DEGREE.]  
 1.12 Subdivision 1. [BACHELOR'S DEGREE REQUIRED.] (a) Except as  
 1.13 provided in subdivision 2, no person may be a chief of police of  
 1.14 a municipal police department or a director of a statewide law  
 1.15 enforcement agency unless the person holds a bachelor's degree.  
 1.16 (b) A person applying for appointment to the position of  
 1.17 chief of police of a municipal police department or director of  
 1.18 a statewide law enforcement agency on or after January 1, 1998,  
 1.19 must hold a bachelor's degree and submit proof that the person  
 1.20 holds the degree as part of the application.  
 1.21 Subd. 2. [EXCEPTION.] Chiefs of police of municipal police  
 1.22 departments and directors of statewide law enforcement agencies  
 1.23 appointed before January 1, 1998 without a bachelor's degree, must begin  
 1.24 schooling by September 1, 1998, and submit proof of that schooling,  
 1.25 in order to meet the requirements in subdivision 1.

Tiffany Stedman  
 October 26, 1997 hr.3  
 Proposed Bill and Explanation

Objective:  
 I am proposing a bill to require all chiefs of police obtain a bachelor's degree

A police officer must have a high school diploma (or have successfully passed a General Education Development Test), completion of an accredited police academy, and generally an accumulation of 60 hours education at a post-secondary level in Criminal Justice or a related field. Through experience and skills they can be promoted up the chain of command as in any job. Like the other jobs, I feel, the level of education should go up along with the promotion. This is not always the case in the Law Enforcement. In some places of this country the difference between a police officer and the chief of police is a little more than a couple of year's experience. \*\* Does not the public deserve more? After all a chief is responsible for all facets of the police department operations, personnel management, organizational structure, training, and fiscal administration. ^ He must deliver speeches and make decisions. While experience is one aspect of applying skills and understanding, education sets the basic fundamentals in place of how that process should be conducted

Law Enforcement is a business. One must need to know how to manage that business or it will fail. There is no magic formula for solving the problems that come along with that operation. It requires an entire staff of people working together and someone with proven leadership skills, a knowledge of the operations, and strong organizational skills to oversee that the work is being carried out in the best possible way. That overseer should have a firm base to grow from. That basis of knowledge, in a great part, should come from organized instruction. Simple proof of the accumulation and successful exhibition of that precious education is a bachelor's degree. A

bachelor degree states that the knowledge has been usefully demonstrated is clear black print. It says one was there, one studied, and one understood

Two persons can have the same years of experiences but the events of those experiences could be entirely different, (dictated by time, place, and other environmental aspects) thus acquiring different knowledge. Who is to say which one is the smarter, the quicker, or the better? There is no measure of the two. They can only be compared. But if the fundamentals are in place, and then the practice applied, the display of the attained skills is the operational difference.

Not to say that a one-day-old college graduate is any better than a five-year officer. Each of them lacks what the other has acquired. The academy is already mandatory and in place to begin the training. One must have the training to advance. Why not, if an officer wants to be paid more and take more responsibility, shouldn't they have shown the integrity by attaining the schooling too? Experience is important, but education should not be optional.

"... the proper function of the human race, taken in the aggregate, is to actualize continually the entire capacity possible to the intellect, primarily in speculation; then, through its extension and for its sake, secondarily in action." -- Dante

\* as reads in the Education and Experience Requirements of the Criminal Justice Standards Division of North Carolina Department of Justice. same applies to Minnesota and Wisconsin according to Officer Holly Quinlan of the Milwaukee Police Department

\*\* sighting a position opening for chief of police in West Orange, TX. "Appointed by position by Mayor with approval by the City Council. Responsible for overall administration of department. Should have associate degree in Criminal Justice and/or 10 years experience with 5 years minimum supervisory experience. leadership and communication skills. Salary depends on qualifications. Excellent benefits"

^ according to Position Responsibilities as written in an application request for chief of police in Stark County, Ohio

**An essay is required of participating students with a Pro paragraph and a Con paragraph. This is to assist students in debating the bill in committee and in the House and Senate. Sources are required to support their essays.**

## Oath of Office

I do solemnly swear that I will support and defend the constitutions of United States of America and Minnesota against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; that I take this obligation freely, without mental reservation or purpose of evasion; and that I will well and faithfully discharge the duties on which I am about to enter, so help me God.

1997 Governor

*Justin Adgeard*

1997 Speaker of the House

*Adam Smith*

1997 President of the Senate

*Tiffany Steiner*

Best Speaker of the House

*Betsy Babinski*

Best Speaker of the Senate

*Betsy Marg*

## Pages for December 1997

### 6th Grade

Heather McCready  
Kari May

### 7th Grade

Elizabeth Frosch  
Amy Kauffman  
Beth Fauffman  
Meidi Miller  
Liz Pflughoeft  
Matt Pflughoeft

### 8th Grade

Lucy Bartash  
Lindsay Johnson  
Erin Hawkinson  
Orion Henningsgaard(Not Sat.)  
Kassy Klinger  
Andy Peterson  
Ryan Seibert(Not Sat.)  
Sara Warnke(Not Sat.)  
Josh Wilke  
Nathan Wissman(Not Sat.)

**The Winona Model Legislature is still meeting on a Friday & Saturday. Conflicts on Saturday, as noted by the pages not attending on Saturday, push future sessions to a Thursday & Friday.**

# WINONA Model Legislature

December 12-13, 1997  
Winona State University  
Political Science Department  
Winona Senior High School  
Social Studies Department  
St. Charles High School  
Social Studies Department  
Winona Area Jaycees



184 pages

# WINONA Model Legislature

December 10-11, 1999  
Winona Senior High School  
Social Studies Department  
St. Charles High School  
Social Studies Department  
Cotter High School  
Social Studies Department  
Winona State University  
Political Science Department



# WINONA Model Legislature

December 8-9, 2000  
Winona Senior High School  
Social Studies Department  
St. Charles High School  
Social Studies Department  
Cotter High School  
Social Studies Department  
Winona State University



# WINONA Model Legislature

December 5-6, 2002  
Winona Senior High School  
Social Studies Department  
Cotter High School  
Social Studies Department  
Winona State University



284 pages

## St. Charles HS, Houston HS & Bluffview Montessori School attend the Winona Model Legislature.

# WINONA Model Legislature

December 4-5, 2003  
Winona Senior High School  
Social Studies Department  
Cotter High School  
Social Studies Department  
Winona Middle School  
Winona State University



# WINONA <sup>3</sup> Model Legislature

December 2-3, 2004  
Winona Senior High School  
Social Studies Department  
Cotter High School  
Social Studies Department  
Winona Middle School  
Winona State University



354 pages

# WINONA Model Legislature

December 1-2, 2005  
Winona Senior High School  
Social Studies Department  
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Social Studies Department  
Winona Middle School  
Winona State University



# Winona Model Legislature

December 6<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup> 2007 Tau Center, Winona State University West Campus  
Winona Senior High School  
Cotter High School  
St. Charles High School  
Houston High School  
Winona Middle School  
Bluffview Montessori  
Winona State University



483 pages

# Winona Model Legislature

November 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>, 2011 - Tau Center, Winona State University West Campus

Winona Senior High School  
Houston High School  
Winona Middle School  
Winona State University



2011

463 pages

# Winona Model Legislature

November 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>, Tau Center, Winona State University West Campus

Winona Senior High School  
Winona Middle School  
Rushford-Peterson High School  
Cotter High School  
Saint Mary's University  
Winona State University

2012



# Winona Model Legislature

November 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup>, Tau Center,  
Winona State University West Campus



Winona Senior High School  
Winona Middle School  
Cotter High School  
Saint Mary's University  
Winona State University

# Winona Model Legislature

November 20<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup> - Tau Center, Winona State University West Campus

Winona Senior High School  
Winona Middle School  
Cotter High School  
Winona State University



Aida Beckman  
2014  
Cotter

258 pages

# Winona Model Legislature

November 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>, 2015 - Tau Center, Winona State University West Campus

Austin High School  
Cotter High School  
Rushford-Peterson High School  
Saint Mary's University  
Winona Senior High School  
Winona Middle School  
Winona State University



372 pages

# Winona Model Legislature

November 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>, 2016 - Tau Center, Winona State University West Campus

Austin High School  
Cotter High School  
Rushford-Peterson High School  
Winona Middle School  
Winona Senior High School  
Winona State University



2016 Bill Book=281 Pages

# Winona Model Legislature

November 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>, 2017 - Tau Center, Winona State University West Campus

Austin High School  
Cotter High School  
Rushford-Peterson High School  
Winona Senior High School  
Winona Middle School  
Winona State University



Model Legislature Website: [wsu.mn/modelleg2017](http://wsu.mn/modelleg2017)  
Wifi: TauGuest  
Password: t@ugu35t

2017 Bill Book=13 Pages



**Tiffany Stedman and her mother hand made The Model Legislature Banners in 1997. They are hand painted on light canvas cloth with stitched edging and gourmets for the cable supports.**



**Tiffany Stedman and her mother hand made The Model Legislature Banners in 1997. They are hand painted on light canvas cloth with stitched edging and gourmets for the cable supports.**

Sometime back in September you led a rag tag group of challenge students into the world of government. Believe me, being part of that group, I had no idea what we were getting ourselves into. I never imagined that I could learn so much. I never imagined I could think so much and laugh so much. And I never knew my friendships with these kids could expand so much. Between our fits, fights, and complaining, yes, we actually did learn something and loved every minute of it! Your stories sparked our interest and made us ask questions about things that we had never thought about before.

Now bright eyed with imagination churning, I just wanted to express my gratitude. Mr. Pelowski, you open doorways to impressionable minds every day — hopefully not always to the Inferno — and you leave your mark. I just wanted you to know that it's a good one: the mark of educator that doesn't just teach, but expects and initiates. This is what true edu-

is all about.

I hope that somewhere along the line we met up to your challenges and, if in any way, returned the favor with our curiosity. I would like to think that we aided in brightening your days — if only on occasion — and gave you one of the things you need most: our attention.

Thank you for this, and thank you for a million more memories, the precious sparkles of my senior year. Thank you for all the times you just sat and talked to me and joked around; actually, especially for the times that we joked around.

Mr. P, it has truly been a delight.



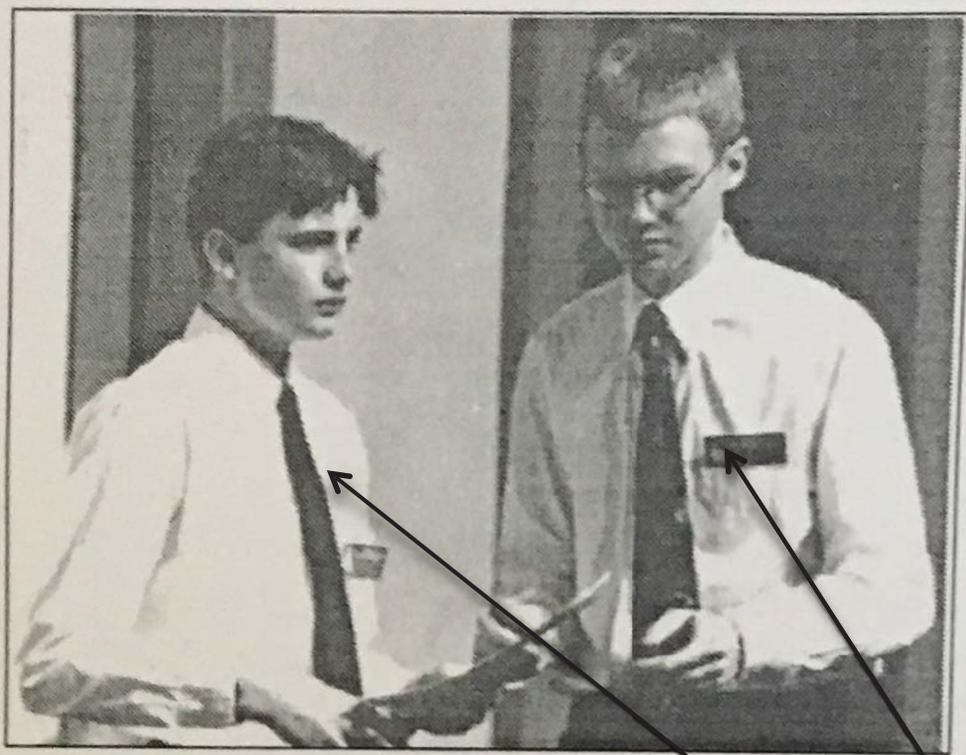
**Tiffany Stedman's *Thanks for the Memories* note to Mr. Pelowski upon her graduation.**



# THE 861 EDUCATOR

Volume 13  
Number 8  
April 1998

stand the value of life-long learning.



*Winona High School ninth graders Kurt Rannenber (left) and Ryan Pelowski (right) spent part of their spring break as pages for the Minnesota House of Representative. Ryan and Kurt were responsible for passing out amendments and carrying messages to House members during floor debates.*



In this year's model legislature the need for experience and leadership are the key.....vote R&P.  
Ryan Pelowski & Kurt Rannenber for your Governor & Lt. Governor



1997 BOARD  
NICCI AUNA  
NORAH BARTASH  
BRIAN BLASER  
BECKY BOLAND  
SARAH BROADWATER  
KARI CASPER  
ABBY CHRISTENSON  
LEILA DESOTELLE  
DAVE DOWNIE  
ANDREW FROSCH  
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BECKY MARG  
MEGAN McCREADY  
JUSTIN ODEGAARD  
SALIE OLSON  
RYAN PELOWSKI  
RACHEL PETERSON  
KURT RANNENBERG  
TONY ROMAINE  
EMILY SPELTZ  
TIFFANY STEDMAN  
GENE PELOWSKI-ADVISOR

1998 BOARD  
NICCI AUNA  
MANDY BAMBENEK  
MIKE BATELL  
BRIAN BLASER  
JACOB CALVERT  
ANDREW FROSCH  
BEN HYLE  
ADAM McMILLAN  
BRYAN MECHELL  
JEREMY MILLER  
RYAN PELOWSKI  
RACHEL PETERSON  
KURT RANNENBERG  
RACHEL SALISBURY  
MEGAN TASCA  
JAY TRICKET  
SARAH WERNIMONT  
ADVISORS - GENE PELOWSKI  
JAMES BROMELAND, TRISH HARVEY

In 2000 Ryan Pelowski & Kurt Rannenber will be elected Governor Pelowski and Lt. Governor Rannenber of the Winona Model Legislature running on their experience.

## Model Legislature Board of Directors 1999

Bambenek, Mandy Batell, Mike Blaser, Brian Frosch, Andrew Hyle, Ben McMillan, Adam Mechell, Bryan Pelowski, Ryan Rannenber, Kurt Riddle-Ford, Laura Miller, Heidi Frosch, Liz Pflughoeft, Matt Pflughoeft, Liz Papenfuss, Matt Zeller, Han Wernimont, Sarah Siok, Angela Hesch-Bruggeman, Laurel Mosley, Adair

The picture in the letter was taken in Winona one month before Senator Wellstone's death.

The letter arrived at Wellstone Minnesota's Campaign Headquarters the afternoon his plane crashed.

A former WSHS student and Model Legislature Participant, Bryan Merchell, opened the letter and was going to reply when the word came that the Wellstone plane had crashed.



# Winona Model Legislature



Winona Senior High School  
St. Charles High School  
Cotter High School  
Winona Middle School

October 20, 2002

Dear Senator Wellstone,

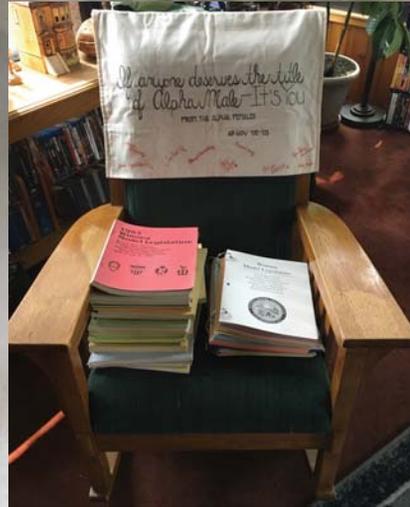
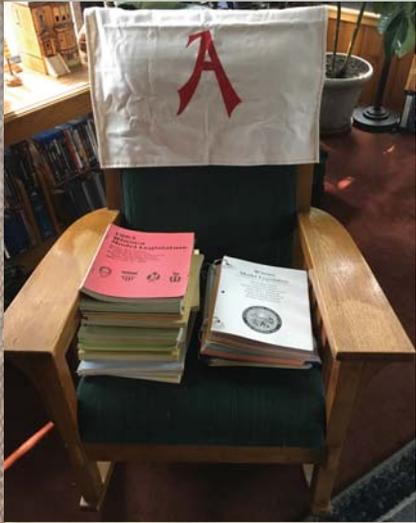
Thank you for accepting our invitation, on your recent visit to Winona (see picture below), to give the opening address to the Winona Model Legislature on Thursday, December 5, 2002 at the Maxwell Leadership Center on the campus of Winona State University, Winona, Minnesota at 9am. Please contact our advisor, Representative Gene Pelowski, through his office 651-296-8637 or by email at gpleowsk@luminet.net if you have any questions. We are looking forward to hearing your remarks on December 5th. Thank you again!

The Winona Model Legislature Student Board of Directors,



*Kelly Boastuff*  
*Shana Ferguson*  
*Kelly Carroll*  
*Elizabeth Prosch*  
*Amy Koffman*  
*amanda smith*  
*Jan Wood*  
*Ellen Wernicke*  
*Sarah Wernicke*  
*Ashley Klineberg*  
*Tyler Krumholz*  
*Blake Jessen*  
*Clint Medel*  
*Kevin Giesler*  
*Paul Thibby*  
*John Thompson*

Winona Model Legislature, WSHS, c/o Gene Pelowski, 901 Gilmore Ave, Winona, MN 55987



**Representative Pelowski is given a cover for his chair by the Alpha Females for his support of their Model Legislature Agenda. They were elected to Model Legislature offices of Governor, Speaker of the House, President of the Senate and Chair of Ways & Means.**

*If anyone deserves the title  
of Alpha Male - It's You*

FROM THE ALPHA FEMALES

AP GOV '02-'03

*Sarah Marchant*  
*Angie Haggard*  
*Sara Peltz*  
*Christina*  
*Elizabeth*  
*April*  
*Heidi Miller*  
*Nancy*  
*Bea*



**WSHS Alpha Females met with Senator Paul Wellstone in Winona a month before his death. Wellstone agreed to give the opening address at the Winona Model Legislature.**

# Winona Model Legislature Governor Sarah Merchlewitz(Alpha Female) presents Governor - Elect Pawlenty with a proposal. December 13, 2002



Eric Young of the Winona Daily News

On Thursday, governor-elect Tim Pawlenty was met at Bluffview Montessori School in Winona, Minn., by a crowd of more than 50 sign-waving students from local colleges and high schools and parents of Bluffview students. The signs spelled out messages of concern over education funding and the importance of quality schools and teachers. Here, Winona Senior High student Sarah Merchlewitz explains to Pawlenty the budget plan she and the Winona Model Legislature wrote as a resolution for the governor-elect.

## Pawlenty greeted with skepticism

Many at local school rally doubt governor can balance budget without raising taxes

Pawlenty greeted with skepticism: Many at local school rally doubt governor can balance budget without raising taxes

By Jerome Christenson / Winona Daily News

Governor-elect Tim Pawlenty's "no tax increase" message met with a skeptical reception Thursday morning at Bluffview Montessori charter school.

Holding up signs reading "Taxes teach children," "Don't pass the buck to schools, cities and counties," and "Don't shortchange the future," about 50 parents, high school and college students were on hand to meet Pawlenty when he arrived in Winona as part of a two-day "listen and learn" tour of southern Minnesota.

"We hope he (Pawlenty) will reconsider his no-tax pledge," said Winona school board member Sharon Ropes. "If he doesn't, schools and education are going to pay the price."

Pawlenty was presented with a petition signed by more than 50 Bluffview parents urging him to abandon his no-tax position and make "preserving all forms of quality public education the highest priority."

During his campaign for governor, Pawlenty maintained the state's fiscal woes can be remedied without increasing taxes, a position he maintained even as the state's projected deficit reached \$4.56 billion.

Sarah Merchlewitz, a senior at Winona Senior High, presented Pawlenty with a resolution passed a week ago by students participating in Winona Senior High School's Model Legislature. The resolution calls for dealing with the deficit through income tax reform, tax increases on alcohol and tobacco, and extending the state sales tax to clothing as well as spending cuts. Merchlewitz said high school students have a special responsibility to speak out "since we will be the ones directly affected," both by cuts in education funding and by higher taxes.

Pawlenty told the crowd he would "try to hold K-12 education harmless," but pointed out that school costs were up by 10 percent. "We have to slow down increasing costs," he added.

He reaffirmed his commitment to balancing the budget without a tax increase. "It's a principle that's at the heart of the debate in Minnesota," he said.

Pawlenty speaks to students during a question and answer session at Bluffview Montessori. Eric Young of the Winona Daily News

After touring the school, Pawlenty spent some time with Montessori middle-school students. Student Zoë Reinhard asked the governor how he planned to balance the budget without raising taxes.

Pawlenty told the students taxes in Minnesota are some of the highest in the country, and while the amount of taxes the state collects is still going up, "spending is going up much faster." State spending is going up by 10 percent to 15 percent a year, he said. "Ask your mom or dad if their paycheck is going up 10 or 15 percent," Pawlenty said. "We can't grow government faster than paychecks."

Winona County Commissioner-elect Dwayne Voegeli was skeptical. "If he can balance the budget, not raise taxes, and have his big road building project I'll kiss his toe," Voegeli said



Eric Young of the Winona Daily News

On Thursday, governor-elect Tim Pawlenty was met at Bluffview Montessori School in Winona, Minn., by a crowd of more than 50 sign-waving students from local colleges and high schools and parents of Bluffview students. The signs spelled out messages of concern over education funding and the importance of quality schools and teachers. Here, Winona Senior High student Sarah Merchlewitz explains to Pawlenty the budget plan she and the Winona Model Legislature wrote as a resolution for the governor-elect.

# Pawlenty greeted with skepticism

Many at local school rally doubt governor can balance budget without raising taxes

A copy of the Resolution Winona Model Legislature Governor Sarah Merchlewitz is holding in the picture and gave to Governor-Elect Tim Pawlenty is at the right.



## Winona Model Legislature December 12, 2002 Resolution for Governor-Elect Tim Pawlenty

Resolved: The following is a budget plan enacted by the 2002 Model Legislature of Winona held last Thursday and Friday (Dec. 5th and 6th).  
We would hope that you look at our proposal though it may differ from yours.

Our solution to Minnesota's massive budget deficit is Income Tax Reform, Tax Increases on Alcohol and Tobacco, extending the Sales Tax to Clothing, along with selected Spending Cuts.

Although tax increases are never favorable, Minnesotans demand the highest quality of life, which requires sustaining programs and services.

*Sarah Merchlewitz*  
Governor  
*Heidi Miller*  
Lt. Governor  
*Amy Kuffner*  
Speaker of the House  
*Senja Piddell-Jard*  
President of the Senate

*Senate Floor Leader Bob Kuffner, Senator Chris Yard*  
*Representative David Schmidt, Ryan Young, Rep. Alan Dalton*  
*Senator Tyler Kimmholz, Rep. Justin Blum*  
*Sen. MacDonald, Rep. Nick Lowery, Chief Clerk Ellen Wannerke*

**LISTENING from A1**  
*Pawlenty:  
 Education  
 must be more  
 accountable*

Star Tribune – December 13, 2002

# Pawlenty is lending an ear on road trip

*Governor-elect hears state's fears*

**By Mark Brunswick**  
*Star Tribune Staff Writer*

WINONA, MINN. — Gov.-elect Tim Pawlenty embarked on what was billed as a two-day listening tour of southern Minnesota on Thursday, and he got an earful — mostly about the state's looming \$4.56 billion deficit.

In Winona, about 30 parents of students at Bluffview Montessori, the first charter

school in the nation, met Pawlenty outside as he arrived for a visit. Bearing signs that said, "Pawlenty: Please be everybody's governor" and "Taxes teach children," the parents said they were concerned that his no-tax-increase campaign pledge would hamstring his ability to solve the budget problem and still deliver quality education.

"We don't see why he has to adhere to an ideology like



Source: Office of Gov.-elect Tim Pawlenty

Ray Grumney/Star Tribune

that," said parent Steve Leonhardi. "He should be more pragmatic about solving the problem."

But Pawlenty, a Republican, said he would not budge on his pledge, pointing to the disparities between government

spending and revenues.

"It's a principle that is at the heart of the debate in Minnesota."

**LISTENING continues on A10:**  
 — Winona high schoolers had a solution to the budget crisis.

"It's not just how much money we're spending, but what we're getting for it," he said. "We're interested in alternatives and innovation in education. We should encourage innovation and options for parents and children so they can find a solution that's best for them."

Outside Bluffview, Winona high schoolers waited for a chance to put in their two cents' worth. It took them only two days, they said, to solve the

budget crisis. Among their recommendations:

- Increase taxes on cigarettes and liquor.
- Take \$500,000 from the tobacco settlement proceeds.
- Extend the sales tax to clothing (which they said would generate \$300 million a year).
- Create a new tax bracket for those who earn \$100,000 or

more.

➤ Give the working poor a tax credit.

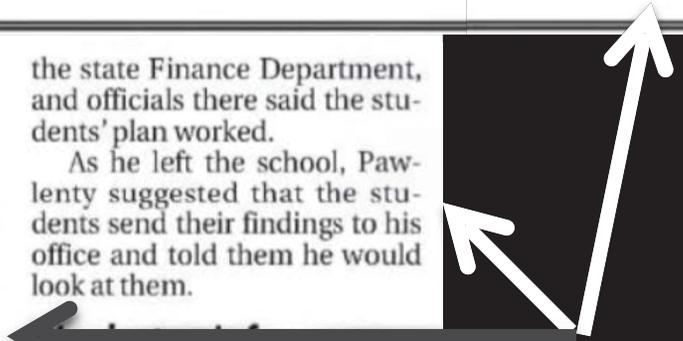
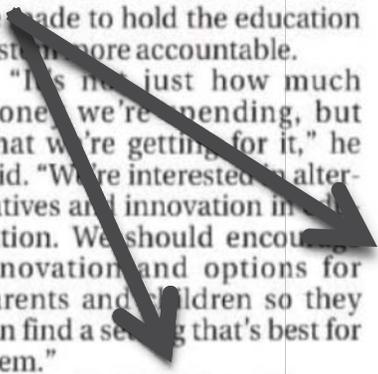
"We did it by the skin of our teeth, but it can be done," said Sarah Merchlewitz, a student at Winona High School who was elected governor of the Winona Model Legislature.

Her government teacher, state Rep. Gene Pelowski, DFL-Winona, ran the numbers by

the state Finance Department, and officials there said the students' plan worked.

As he left the school, Pawlenty suggested that the students send their findings to his office and told them he would look at them.

**...aying put, for now**  
 Before Winona, Pawlenty stopped in Red Wing. Afterward he journeyed on to Roch-



# WINONA Model Legislature

December 5-6, 2002

**Winona Senior High School**  
Social Studies Department

**Cotter High School**  
Social Studies Department

**Winona State University**



## Table of Contents

Bill #	Page #	Color	Committee
1-10	1-28	Pink	Commerce
11-18	35-61	Goldenrod	Education
19-25	68-91	Blue	Enviro & Ag
26-37	98-135	White	Health & HS
38-42	142-151	Yellow	Ways & Means
43-58	158-195	Green	Judiciary
59-75	202-239	Red	Transportation
76-85	247-281	Orange	Salmon Gen. Leg.

WSHS Social Studies Department Advisor, Gene Pelowski  
Cotter High School Advisor, Mike Meurer

*Special Thanks to Winona State University, County Bar Association, Robert Kierlin, Marcia Ward, Goodview Activity Group, MN State College-SE Technical College, Fred's Body Shop, Eric and Catherine Bartleson, First Place Trophy, and for their generous support.*

**The 2002 Model Legislature is dominated by the Alpha Females, Senator Paul Wellstone's death, Tim Pawlenty elected Governor and the participation of Page Ben Ruberg .**

Schedule of Events 2002

# 2002 Model Legislature Pages

## Never Park the Bus

Paid for by Friends Who Loved and Admired Paul Wellstone.

**A special tribute to Senator Wellstone uses the Bob Dylan “Forever Young” video clip played at the Wellstone Memorial.**

Thursday, December 5<sup>th</sup>

8:00-8:30	Registration at Front Desk/Refreshments
8:30-8:35	Prayer, Pastor Wade Davick
8:35-8:50	Wellstone Tribute
9:00-9:30	Candidate Speeches & Elections of Officers
9:30-9:40	Swearing in of Elected Officers
9:55-10:00	Governor Address
10:10-12:00	Committee Meetings
12:00-12:45	Lunch at Krysko Commons
12:50-1:05	Parliamentary Procedure Workshop In Joint Session
1:05-2:40	House and Senate Convene
2:40-3:00	Announcements
3:00	Recess

Friday, December 6<sup>th</sup>

8:30-10:30	Committee Meetings
10:30-11:45	House and Senate Convene
12:00-12:45	Lunch at Krysko Commons
12:45-2:00	House and Senate Convene
2:00	2003 Model Legislature Board Volunteers
2:20	Governor Address and Presentation of Awards
2:30-2:45	Announcements
3:00	Adjournment of 2002 Model Legislature

- Andy Ayers
- Melanie Blasko
- Jenna Hamre
- Elliott Heath
- Chelsea Hinrichs
- Alyssa Kenow
- Amanda Peter
- Ben Ruberg
- Kristin Sackreiter
- Erin Smith
- Ellie Thomas
- Lindsey VanDeWater
- Paul Warneke
- Matt Weegman
- Mitch Weegman

**Ben Ruberg is a Page in 2002. He will use his computer expertise to transform the Model Legislature in 2005-6.**

Last Name	First Name	Committee Assignments	Bill #	House/ Bill Topic
Allen	Chris	Judiciary	65	House Universal law for helmets
Anderson	Heidi	Commerce	50	House Mandating counseling for domestic abusers
Bambenek	Mike	Commerce	46	House Controlled substance punishment
Bestul	Kelly	Judiciary	85	House Raising bartending age to 21
Bestul	Mike	General Legislature	61	House Transportation for any resident pupil
Blom	Justin	Commerce	17	House Condom distribution in sex ed.
Bohn	Nicole	Judiciary	19	House Penalties for littering
Carroll	Kelly	Education	6	House Banning pop sales in schools
Chapman	Pamela	Environmental and Agriculture	28	House Grant money for Minneapolis
Dalton	Alex	Commerce	24	House Establishing emissions limitations
Darbo	John	Education	26	House Amending child support guidelines
Deedrick	Charles	General Legislature	69	House Organ donor on ID card
Ericksen	Kira	Environmental and Agriculture	16	House Funding change in stem cell research
Fletcher	Max	Education	36	House Prohibiting smoking
Frosch	Elizabeth	Education*	38	House Increasing cigarette tax
Frosch	Elizabeth	Education*	58	House Gas tax increase for public transit
Heaser	Chris	Education	43	House Animal abuse penalties increased
Heath	Garrett	Ways and Means	44	House Changing curfew laws
Hyle	Sam	Environmental and Agriculture	80	House Criminal voting
Johnson	Tim	Health and Human Services	78	House Same sex marriage
Johnsrud	Stefan	Environmental and Agriculture	51	House Recover damages for graffiti
Johnstone	Tyler	Environmental and Agriculture*	49	House Revoking license for one DWI
Karick	Nick	Ways and Means	62	House Removing speed limits
Kauffman	Amy	Transportation -chair	41	House Indexing minimum wage
Kauffman	Amy	Transportation -chair	38	House Increasing cigarette tax
Kearney	Peggy	Environmental and Agriculture	70	House Expiration for driver's license
Kendall	William	General Legislature	25	House Light pollution
Kilmarton	Seamus	Environmental and Agriculture	1	House Sales tax exemption
Kinneberg	Ashley	General Legislature	76	House Maintaining insurance rates
Krall	Joe	Education	67	House Prohibiting cell phone use in cars
Levinson	Holly	Education	86	House Missile ban
Loewen	Erik	General Legislature	47	House Legalizing sparklers
Lorenzen	Emily	Health and Human Services	83	House Expanding DNA collection law
Lowery	Nick	Health and Human Services	82	House Regulating e-mail solicitations
Mayorga	Silviano	General Legislature	45	House Keg registration

Last Name	First Name	Committee Assignments	Bill #	House/ Bill Topic
McCready	Heather	General Legislature	75	House Allowance of vehicle coasting
Mechell	Christopher	General Legislature	66	House Prohibiting smoking while driving
Merchlewitz	Sarah	Education-chair	8	House Extending sales tax to clothing
Merchlewitz	Peter	Judiciary	37	House Toxicity of drinking water
Miller	Heidi	Ways and Means -chair	34	House Mistreatment residents long term care
Miller	Sarah	Health and Human Services	10	House Standard price for movies
Nicklay	Jacob	Health and Human Services	68	House Banning cell phone use in cars
Norton	Eric	Judiciary	7	House Banning sale of video games
Papenfuss	Matt	Judiciary	72	House Prohibit road salt use
Pflughoeft	Matt	Commerce -chair	64	House Driver's examination at age 70
Pollock-Foote	Jesse	Health & Human Services	12	House Junk food ban in schools
Rybarczyk	Michael	Commerce	59	House Traffic regulations for fire trucks
Satka	Laura	Judiciary	33	House Prohibiting partial-birth abortions
Schmidt	David	Judiciary	23	House Promotion of E-85 oil
Schroeder	Matt	Transportation*	27	House Medical use of marijuana
Schwartz	George	Commerce*	15	House Pledge of Allegiance in School
Shea	Chris	Transportation	30	House Smoking bans
Smith	Amanda	Transportation	4	House Banning sale of violent video games
Spang	C.J.	Transportation	52	House Alcohol punishments increased
Stoa	Ryan	Transportation	9	House Public ownership of MN Twins
Thompson	John	Environmental and Agriculture	63	House Restrictions on speeding
Walsky	Haley	Transportation	81	House Inspecting residential buildings
Wilbright	Dane	Transportation	27	House Compassionate use act for marijuana
Wilson	Amber	Ways and Means	18	House Extracurricular participation
Wilson	Valerie	Ways and Means	35	House Prohibiting pop in schools
Young	Ryan	Ways and Means	74	House Revenue from motor vehicle tax
Arnold	Jenny	Commerce	71	Senate Pedestrian right of way
Bambenek	Molly	Commerce	22	Senate Energy efficient products
Biesanz	Andy	Commerce	53	Senate Prison labor use
Blank	Lindsey	Ways and Means	57	Senate Defining vagrancy
Compton	Peter	Commerce	40	Senate Exemption of military from income tax
Emmons	Cassie	Environmental and Agriculture	13	Senate Student use of medication
Hemmelman	Brandon	Education	5	Senate Prohibiting mass purchase of firearms
Hesch	Will	Health and Human Services*	77	Senate Insurance for acupuncture
Holmquist	Abby	Education	31	Senate Parent authorized tanning until 18

Last Name	First Name	Committee Assignments	Bill #	House/ Bill Topic
Huggenvik	Andrea	Education	32	Senate Non-smoking hotel rooms
Jessen	Blake	Environmental and Agriculture	3	Senate Smoking restrictions
Kauffman	Beth	Judiciary-chair	84	Senate Required training for school board members
Krings	Mandy	General Legislature*	42	Senate Making college tuition tax deductible
Krumholz	Tyler	General Legislature-chair	21	Senate Regulating light pollution
MacDonald	Chris	General Legislature	48	Senate Firearms and safety requirements
Marek	Mike	Health and Human Services	54	Senate Legalizing fireworks
Meier	Natalie	Environmental and Agriculture -chair	55	Senate Prison time for sex offenders
Mormon	Linda	J.A.S.L. -chair	101	Senate Newspeak in public buildings
Olson	Angela	Transportation	29	Senate Banning smoking in restaurants
Pflughoeft	Liz	Judiciary*	60	Senate Requiring bicycle helmets
Pomeroy	Jamie	Health and Human Services	14	Senate School related abuse
Porter	Cameron	General Legislature	11	Senate Physicals for high school athletes
Riddle-Ford	Sonja	Health & Human Services-chair	79	Senate Mandatory voting
Rowe	Nyssa	Health and Human Services	56	Senate Decreasing drinking age
Thompson	Peter	Transportation	20	Senate Labeling for GMO free foods
Warneke	Ellen	Transportation	39	Senate Eliminating income tax
Wenzel	Sara	Ways and Means	73	Senate Prohibiting transport of animals
Yard	Chris	Ways and Means *	2	Senate Industrial Hemp

An improved data base links bills to Committee and House and Senate. The hand work needed on each bill header is cumbersome and not linked to the data base. Only one copy exists.

Co-Authors of Bill

Senate  
1. \_\_\_\_\_  
2. \_\_\_\_\_

House  
1. \_\_\_\_\_  
2. \_\_\_\_\_

Bill # 1

WSHS Model Legislature

2002 Session

Host Committee  
Commerce  
Ways and Means  
Legislative Action

Action Taken in Committee \_\_\_\_\_

House/Senate Bill  
Introduced by  
Representative/Senator  
Seamus K. Martin

House: \_\_\_\_\_  
Senate: \_\_\_\_\_  
Governor: \_\_\_\_\_

A bill for an act to \_\_\_\_\_

1.1 A bill for an act  
1.2 relating to taxes; sales and use; exempting certain  
1.3 sales of pets from sales taxes; amending Minnesota  
1.4 Statutes 2000, section 297A.70, by adding a  
1.5 subdivision.  
1.6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:  
1.7 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2000, section 297A.70, is  
1.8 amended by adding a subdivision to read:  
1.9 Subd. 17. (SALES BY NONPROFIT ANIMAL SHELTERS.) Sale of an  
1.10 animal by an exempt organization under section 501(c) of the  
1.11 Internal Revenue Code is exempt provided that the organization's  
1.12 main purpose is animal rescue and the price of the animal does  
1.13 not exceed the reasonable costs incurred in caring for the  
1.14 animal prior to its sale. Reasonable costs include food,  
1.15 shelter, advertising for placement, and veterinary costs,  
1.16 including costs for spaying or neutering.  
1.17 [EFFECTIVE DATE.] This section is effective for sales made  
1.18 after June 30, 2003.

Co-Authors of Bill Senate 1. Mike Bestul House 1. Mike Bestul

Model Legislature 2003

Legislative Action: *passed - 1/15 MW House*

Bill Number: SF1

Action taken in Committee: *passed*

1. Commerce *passed*

2. Transportation *passed*

3. Ways and Means *passed*

A Bill for an Act to Open a casino in the airport

Override Veto

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA: Section 1. MINNESOTA STATUTES 2002, section 62A.714, subdivision 17, as added by Laws 2003, article 117, chapter 22, section 22, is amended to read:

1.17 Subd. 17. [PLACES OF PUBLIC ASSEMBLIES, FIRE ALARM SYSTEMS, FIRE ALARM SYSTEM REQUIRED] Subdivision 1. [DEFINITION]. As used in this section, a "place of public assembly" means a privately owned building that contains an arena, auditorium, stadium, hall, bar, club, or other similar area that is open to the public where entertainment events occur, regardless of whether an admission fee is charged.

1.17 (2) its total square footage.

1.17 (3) when it was constructed.

1.18 Subd. 2. [DEFINITION]. An "approved fire alarm system" shall include manual fire alarm boxes and smoke detectors with alarm verification or another approved detection device.

1.21 Subd. 3. [FIRE ALARM SYSTEM REQUIRED]. An owner or manager of a place of public assembly having an occupancy load of 300 or more shall ensure that it has an approved fire alarm system installed in accordance with sections 907.2.1 through 907.2.1.3 of the International Fire Code.

Co-Authors of Bill Senate 1. Keele Ritter House 1. Heather McCarty

Model Legislature 2003

Legislative Action: *passed - 1/17 MW House*

Bill Number: SF24

Action taken in Committee: *passed*

1. General Legislation *passed*

2. Judiciary *passed*

3. Ways and Means *passed*

A Bill for an Act to Require automatic fire alarm systems

Override Veto

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA: Section 1. MINNESOTA STATUTES 2002, section 907.2.1, is amended to read:

1.18 Subd. 2. [DEFINITION]. An "approved fire alarm system" shall include manual fire alarm boxes and smoke detectors with alarm verification or another approved detection device.

1.21 Subd. 3. [FIRE ALARM SYSTEM REQUIRED]. An owner or manager of a place of public assembly having an occupancy load of 300 or more shall ensure that it has an approved fire alarm system installed in accordance with sections 907.2.1 through 907.2.1.3 of the International Fire Code.

Co-Authors of Bill Senate 1. Gao Nue Xiong House 1. Matt Thom

Model Legislature 2003

Legislative Action: *passed - 1/17 MW House*

Bill Number: SF23

Action taken in Committee: *passed*

1. Health & Human Services *passed*

2. Judiciary *passed*

3. Ways and Means *passed*

A Bill for an Act to Recognize同居 marriages

Override Veto

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA: Section 1. MINNESOTA STATUTES 2002, section 117.14, is amended to read:

1.14 Subdivision 1. [DEFINITION].同居 marriage means a relationship between two persons who are not related by blood, marriage, or adoption, who are of legal age, who are not already married to another person, and who intend to enter into a permanent, exclusive relationship that is similar to a marriage.

1.14 Subd. 2.同居 marriage may be recognized under the same provisions that apply to a marriage.

1.14 Subd. 3.同居 marriage may be recognized under the same provisions that apply to a marriage.

1.14 Subd. 4.同居 marriage may be recognized under the same provisions that apply to a marriage.

1.14 Subd. 5.同居 marriage may be recognized under the same provisions that apply to a marriage.

Co-Authors of Bill Senate 1. Pam Chapman House 1. Mac Hannon

Winona Model Legislature 2003

Legislative Action: *passed - 2/15 MW House*

Bill Number: HF22

Action taken in Committee: *passed*

1. Tax *passed*

2. Ways & Means *passed*

3. Ways and Means *passed*

A Bill for an Act to Allow open sales tax for Minnesota cities

Override Veto

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA: Section 1. MINNESOTA STATUTES 2002, section 62A.01, is amended to read:

1.01 Subd. 1. [DEFINITION]. "Open sales tax" means a sales tax levied by a city on the sale of tangible personal property, other than real estate, that is not subject to the state sales tax.

1.01 Subd. 2. A city may levy an open sales tax on the sale of tangible personal property, other than real estate, that is not subject to the state sales tax.

1.01 Subd. 3. A city may levy an open sales tax on the sale of tangible personal property, other than real estate, that is not subject to the state sales tax.

Co-Authors of Bill Senate 1. Gary Winzell House 1. Arnie Grossardt

Winona Model Legislature 2003

Legislative Action: *passed - 4/30 MW House*

Bill Number: HF21

Action taken in Committee: *passed*

1. Health & Human Services *passed*

2. Commerce *passed*

3. Ways and Means *passed*

A Bill for an Act to Require coverage for prescription contraceptives

Override Veto

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA: Section 1. MINNESOTA STATUTES 2002, section 62A.01, is amended to read:

1.01 Subd. 1. [DEFINITION]. "Prescription contraceptive" means a drug or device used to prevent pregnancy, including but not limited to birth control pills, injectables, implants, intrauterine devices, and condoms.

1.01 Subd. 2. A health plan that provides coverage for medical services, including but not limited to hospitalization, surgery, and medical services, shall also provide coverage for prescription contraceptives.

1.01 Subd. 3. A health plan that provides coverage for medical services, including but not limited to hospitalization, surgery, and medical services, shall also provide coverage for prescription contraceptives.

# Bills signed into law by the 2003 Model Legislature Governor Chris Yard.

Co-Authors of Bill Senate 1. Christopher Allen House 1. Steve Witte

Winona Model Legislature 2003

Legislative Action: *passed - 2/3 MW House*

Bill Number: SF1

Action taken in Committee: *passed*

1. Judiciary *passed*

2. Ways & Means *passed*

3. Ways and Means *passed*

A Bill for an Act to Increase penalty for illegally carrying firearms

Override Veto

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA: Section 1. MINNESOTA STATUTES 2002, section 62A.714, subdivision 17, as added by Laws 2003, article 117, chapter 22, section 22, is amended to read:

1.17 Subd. 17. [PLACES OF PUBLIC ASSEMBLIES, FIRE ALARM SYSTEMS, FIRE ALARM SYSTEM REQUIRED] Subdivision 1. [DEFINITION]. As used in this section, a "place of public assembly" means a privately owned building that contains an arena, auditorium, stadium, hall, bar, club, or other similar area that is open to the public where entertainment events occur, regardless of whether an admission fee is charged.

1.17 (2) its total square footage.

1.17 (3) when it was constructed.

1.18 Subd. 2. [DEFINITION]. An "approved fire alarm system" shall include manual fire alarm boxes and smoke detectors with alarm verification or another approved detection device.

1.21 Subd. 3. [FIRE ALARM SYSTEM REQUIRED]. An owner or manager of a place of public assembly having an occupancy load of 300 or more shall ensure that it has an approved fire alarm system installed in accordance with sections 907.2.1 through 907.2.1.3 of the International Fire Code.

Co-Authors of Bill Senate 1. Emily McGann House 1. Emily McGann

Winona Model Legislature 2003

Legislative Action: *passed - 2/20 MW House*

Bill Number: SF20

Action taken in Committee: *passed*

1. Transportation *passed*

2. Environment and Agriculture *passed*

3. Ways and Means *passed*

A Bill for an Act to Encourage fuel conservation

Override Veto

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA: Section 1. MINNESOTA STATUTES 2002, section 62A.714, subdivision 17, as added by Laws 2003, article 117, chapter 22, section 22, is amended to read:

1.17 Subd. 17. [PLACES OF PUBLIC ASSEMBLIES, FIRE ALARM SYSTEMS, FIRE ALARM SYSTEM REQUIRED] Subdivision 1. [DEFINITION]. As used in this section, a "place of public assembly" means a privately owned building that contains an arena, auditorium, stadium, hall, bar, club, or other similar area that is open to the public where entertainment events occur, regardless of whether an admission fee is charged.

1.17 (2) its total square footage.

1.17 (3) when it was constructed.

1.18 Subd. 2. [DEFINITION]. An "approved fire alarm system" shall include manual fire alarm boxes and smoke detectors with alarm verification or another approved detection device.

1.21 Subd. 3. [FIRE ALARM SYSTEM REQUIRED]. An owner or manager of a place of public assembly having an occupancy load of 300 or more shall ensure that it has an approved fire alarm system installed in accordance with sections 907.2.1 through 907.2.1.3 of the International Fire Code.

Co-Authors of Bill Senate 1. Peggy Keane House 1. Leah McElroy

Winona Model Legislature 2003

Legislative Action: *passed - 1/32 MW House*

Bill Number: SF16

Action taken in Committee: *passed*

1. Judiciary *passed*

2. Judiciary *passed*

3. Judiciary *passed*

4. 609.109 Presumptive and mandatory sentences for repeat sex offenders.

5. Subdivision 1. Definition; conviction of offense. For purposes of this section, "offense" means a completed offense or an attempt to commit an offense.

7. Subd. 2. Presumptive executed sentence. Except as provided in subdivision 3 or 8, if a person is convicted under sections 609.242 to 609.246, within 15 years of a 9, previous sex offense conviction, the court shall commit the defendant to the commissioner of corrections for not less than ~~one~~ 36 years, nor more than the 11. maximum sentence provided by law for the offense for which convicted, 12. not withstanding the provisions of sections 292.19, 243.05, 609.11, 609.12, and 13. 609.135. The court may stay the execution of the sentence imposed under this 14. subdivision only if it finds that a professional assessment indicates the offender is 15. accepted by and can respond to treatment at a long-term inpatient program 16. exclusively treating sex offenders and approved by the commissioner of corrections.

Co-Authors of Bill Senate 1. Brent Dornfeld House 1. Jason Giers

Winona Model Legislature 2003

Legislative Action: *passed - 2/10 MW House*

Bill Number: HF19

Action taken in Committee: *passed*

1. Commerce *passed*

2. General Legislation *passed*

3. Ways and Means *passed*

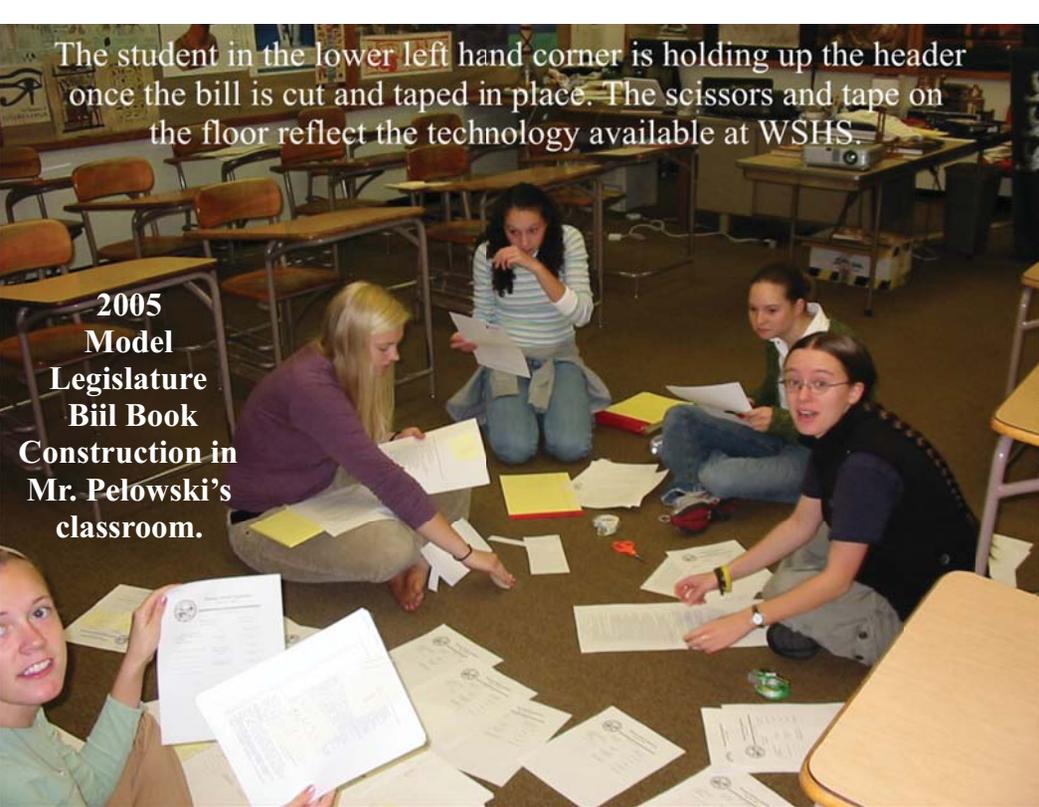
A Bill for an Act to Mandate consideration of open source software in governmental operations

Override Veto

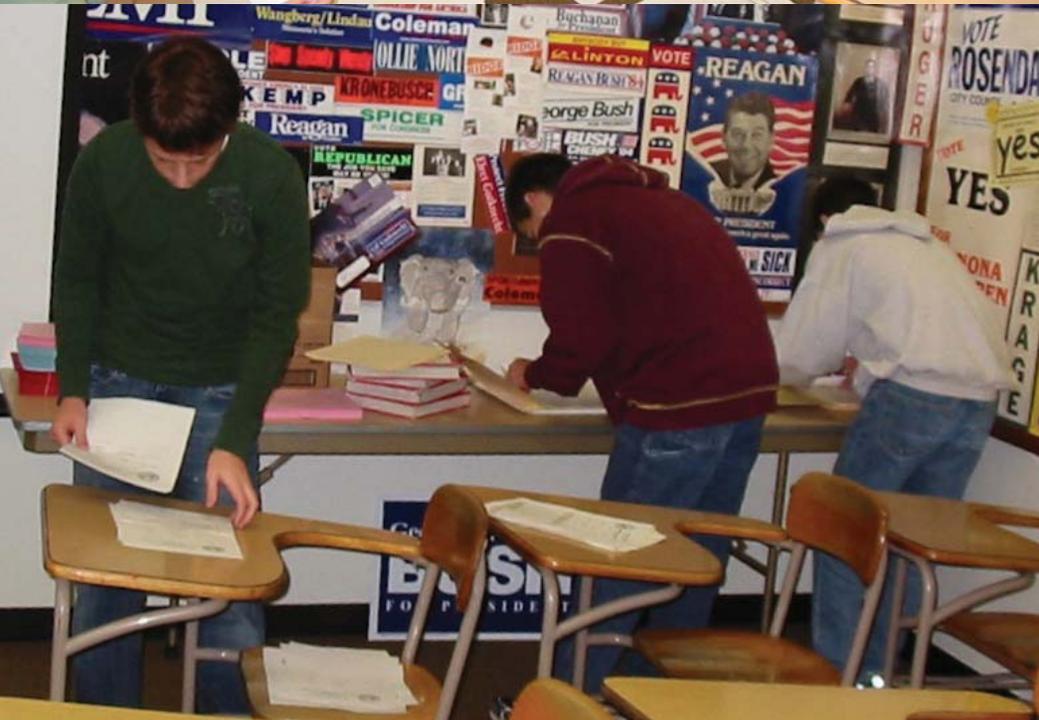
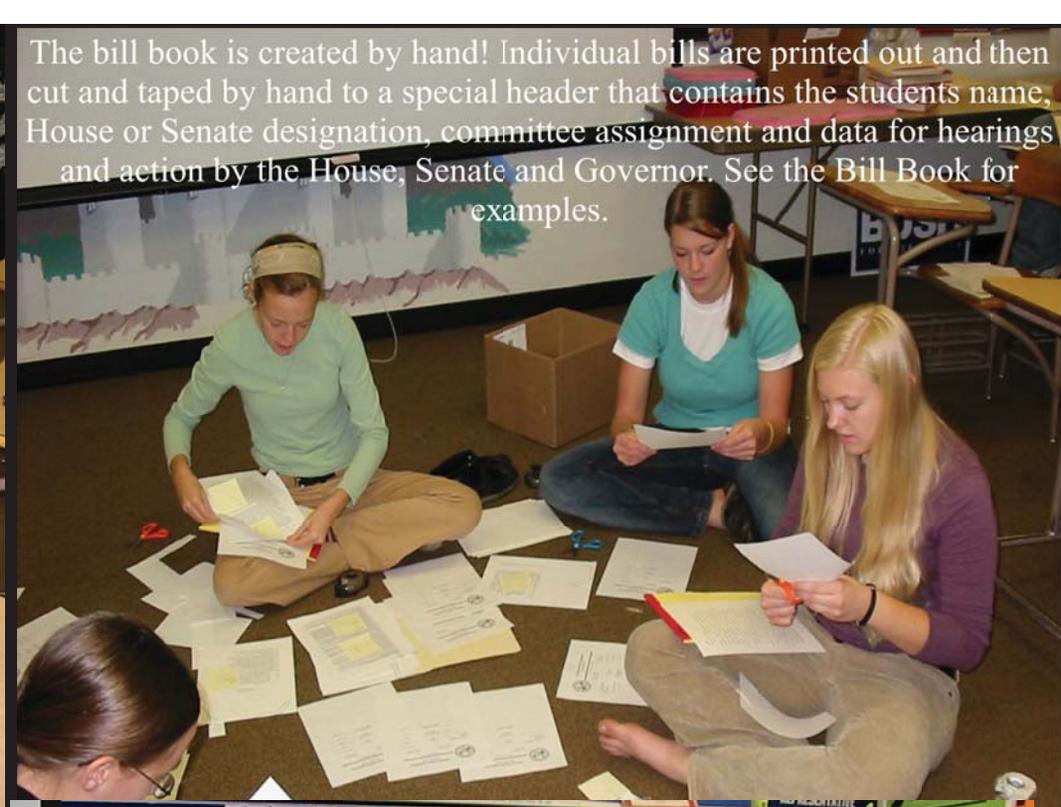
BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA: Section 1. [OPEN SOURCE SOFTWARE REQUIREMENTS] Subdivision 1. [DEFINITION]. As used in this section: (a) "Open source software" means software that guarantees the user, without further cost, (1) unrestricted access to the responsive source code, (2) exhaustive inspection of the working mechanisms of the software, (3) use of the internal mechanisms and arbitrary portions of the software, to adapt them to the needs of the user; (4) freedom to make and distribute copies of the software; and (5) modification of the software for any purpose. (b) "Open standards" means specifications for the encoding and transfer of computer data that (1) are available for all to read and implement; (2) do not lock the user into a particular vendor's product; (3) are free for all to implement with no royalties or fee except for a fee or fees required by the standards organization for certification of compliance; (4) do not force one implementer over another for any reason other than the technical standards compliance of an implementation; and (5) do not prohibit the implementation of extensions, but may employ license terms that prevent interoperation of the standards through proprietary practices. (c) "Proprietary software" means software that does not fulfill all of the parameters provided by open source software.

The student in the lower left hand corner is holding up the header once the bill is cut and taped in place. The scissors and tape on the floor reflect the technology available at WSHS.

2005  
Model  
Legislature  
Bill Book  
Construction in  
Mr. Pelowski's  
classroom.



The bill book is created by hand! Individual bills are printed out and then cut and taped by hand to a special header that contains the students name, House or Senate designation, committee assignment and data for hearings and action by the House, Senate and Governor. See the Bill Book for examples.



# Advanced Placement American Government Journal

The Winona Senior High School, Advanced Placement American Government students are required to write a Journal of what they did to get their bill passed during the legislative session.

The following student referred to herself in her Journal in the third person. It was in the spirit of Ceasar's Commentary on his Conquest of Gaul.

**“What was amazing was how professional everyone is, in the committee and in the House. Everyone has the ability to argue, agree, discuss in such a respected way, it is amazing. As the second and last day of Model Legislature came to a close many things for Rep. ----- had been learned about legislation.**

- 1. You need perseverance and virtue to get anywhere in Legislation.**
- 2. You have to push your bill and make sure your voice is heard.**
- 3. Expressing your opinion is key in committee time.**
- 4. There is no place for a passive voice or person**
- 5. Model Legislature is an experience that allows you a chance to see what politics is like and what it means to think for the world.”**

# WINONA Model Legislature

December 1-2, 2005  
Winona Senior High School  
Social Studies Department

Cotter High School  
Social Studies Department

Winona Middle School

Winona State University



## Table of Contents

Page #	Committee
CO1.01-1.09	Commerce(SALMON) <small>Internet, Regulated Industries, Insurance, Local Units of Government</small>
ED2.01-2.92	Education(LT. BLUE) <small>prek. k-12, Higher Ed. HS League</small>
EA3.01-3.51	Environment & Agriculture(GREEN) <small>Water, Air, Soil, Pollution</small>
HH4.01-4.990	Health & Human Services(PINK) <small>Welfare, Long Term Care, Health Care</small>
JU5.01-5.18	Judiciary(GOLDEN ROD) <small>Civil &amp; Criminal Legal Issues</small>
TR6.01-6.44	Transportation(LAVENDER) <small>Roads, Bridges, Licenses, Fuel</small>
GL7.01-7.64	General Legislation(ORANGE) <small>Elections &amp; Veterans &amp; MISC</small>
TA8.01-8.31	Tax(RED) <small>Sales, Income, Fees, Excise, All Revenue Raising Items.</small>
WM9.01-9.02	Ways & Means(YELLOW) <small>Budget Related Items</small>

## Schedule of Events 2005

### Thursday, December 1<sup>st</sup>

9:00-9:30 Registration at Front Desk/Refreshments  
9:30-9:35 Prayer by Ian Nicholson, WSHS Senior  
9:45-10:20 Candidate Speeches & Elections of Officers  
10:25-10:30 Swearing in of Elected Officers  
10:30-10:40 Governor's Address  
10:45-12:00 Committee Meetings  
12:00-12:45 Lunch  
1:00-1:30 Joint Session to Recognize Senator Bob Kierlin & WSU  
President Judith Ramaley  
1:25-3:25 House and Senate Convene  
3:25-3:30 Announcements  
3:30 Recess

### Friday, December 2<sup>nd</sup>

9:00-10:30 Committee Meetings  
10:30-11:45 House and Senate Convene  
12:00-12:45 Lunch at Krysko Commons  
12:45-3:00 House and Senate Convene  
3:10-3:20 Governor's Address and Presentation of Awards  
3:30 Adjournment of 2005 Model Legislature

## Gravitas

Substance: weightiness: A serious or dignified demeanor: Formality in bearing and appearance. (Latin gravitas)  
The most important characteristic of a leader in the Roman Republic.

A special thank you goes to the Winona Senior High School, Advanced Placement American Government Students. They raised over \$2000 for the printing of the bill book, awards, supplies needed to put on the Winona Model Legislature. It was their leadership(Gravitas) in organizing the entire Model Legislature and putting together this bill book that has been essential to the success of the Winona Model Legislature!

*Winona Senior High School Advisor  
Gene Pelowski*

**Winona Senior High School, Advanced Placement American Government**  
Michael Bestul, Derek Brommerich, Julia Chapman, Kayla Dahl, John Darbo, Grace Flinsch, John Fox, Jeremy Girard, Claire Hammer, Joel Herrick, Kirsten Himmler, Nicole Howes, Stefan Johnsrud, Joseph Krall, Nimit Lad, Walter Meine, Peter Merchlewitz, Ian Nicholson, Scott Olberding, Joseph Orlowski, Sarah Parker, Sarah Rathman, Erin Schofield, Sarah Schofield, Brent Spencer, Rebecca Thieret, Michael Thull, Danielle Wick, Ashley Watts, Kayla Wolfe, Jacob Zimbric

Ben Ruberg's computer expertise organized the spreadsheets, merged the data from the spreadsheets to the headers, created the bill headers, name tags, name tents and roll call sheets for this year's Model Legislature.

WSHS Juniors Jenny Schmidt, Mandy Hyde, Hannah Judish, Alyssia Kenow and Andy Ayers have spent hours cutting and pasting this year's bills into their headers for the bill book.

Cotter High School Advisor, Mike Meurer has been outstanding in his support of the Winona Model Legislature.

Winona State University has been a generous and gracious host of the Winona Model Legislature.

The contributions of these individuals and groups generated over \$2000. Marcia Ward, Winona National Bank, Merchant's Bank, Robert Kierlin, David & Kelly Ruberg, Judge Jeffrey D Thompson, The Winona Eagles, Fred's Auto Body, Dr. & Mrs. Birdsall, Dr. & Mrs. Himmler, Ed Thompson, Montgomery Flinsch, Larry & Carla Laber, Eric & Catherine Bartleson, WSHS Student Council, Eric Johnsrud & Sunraiser Kiwanis.

# 2005

## Model Legislature Bill Book Innovations

It's 300 pages color coded by the committee the bill goes to first for visual tracking when moved from one of the nine standing committees. This color coding appears on the Table of Contents Page. Two day Model Legislature appears. Gravitas page thanks fundraising now needed to support printing of bill book and materials for the legislative session.



Winona Model Legislature  
Session 2005

Alphabetical Order of the House and Senate

First Name	Last Name	School and Grade	A Bill For An Act To	House/Senate	Bill #	Page #
Andy	Ayers	WSHS-11	additional funding for school lunches.	Senate	SF46	2.47
Elaine	Ayers	WSHS-9	criminal penalties for cockfighting.	House	HF1	5.05
Mike	Bestul	WSHS-12	stadium proposal.	House	HF2	7.4
Maria	Biebel	CHS-11	Stadium funding and drug testing.	Senate	SF50	7.04
Kurt	Boilestad	CHS-12	renewable energy.	House	HF90	2.12
Mike	Brickl	CHS-12	electronic mail messages.	Senate	SF78	7.11
Raylee	Brat	WSHS-11	school language programs.	House	HF3	2.5
Derek	Brommerich	WSHS-12	conceal and carry law.	House	HF4	5.13
Ashlie	Bublitz	WSHS-11	school attendance required for drivers licenses.	Senate	SF47	2.34
Julia	Chapman	WSHS-12	freedom to Breathe Act.	House	HF5	4.78
Bryan	Cooper	WSHS-11	school attendance required for drivers licenses.	House	HF6	2.18
Kayla	Dahl	WSHS-12	seatbelt violation primary offense.	House	HF7	6.29
John	Darbo	WSHS-12	prohibiting pretenses to learn identity of others.	Senate	SF48	5.09
Shuham	Debnath	CHS-11	freedom to Breathe Act.	House	HF51	4.99D
Peter	DeGallier	WSHS-11	conceal and carry law.	House	HF8	5.16
Leah	DeGrazia	WSHS-9	creating a vanity tax.	House	HF48	6.26
Bretta	Diekmann	CHS-11	freedom to Breathe Act.	House	HF52	4.57
Drew	Donahue	WSHS-10	transferring extracurricular activities to local governments.	House	HF9	2.7
Jon	Duelman	CHS-11	freedom to Breathe Act.	House	HF53	4.99G
Katy	Eng	WSHS-9	requiring information of post-partum depression.	Senate	SF49	4.3

First Name	Last Name	School and Grade	A Bill For An Act To	House/Senate	Bill #	Page #
Emily	Eng	WSHS-11	upper level courses for middle school students.	House	HF44	2.82
Stephan	Faet	WSHS-9	increasing minimum wage.	House	HF10	1.97
Grace	Finch	WSHS-12	stem cell research.	Senate	SF51	4.36
John	Fox	WSHS-12	eliminating clothing exemption.	Senate	SF52	6.11
Aaron	Gemes	CHS-11	corpsa bicycly.	House	HF54	7.01
Harper	Gese	WSHS-11	alternative science class instruction.	House	HF11	2.59
Jeremy	Giard	WSHS-12	Restriction on Sale and Possession of Anabolic Steroids	House	HF12	3.22
White	Grant	CHS-11	regulating mud flaps.	House	HF55	8.43
Tom	Heckstath	CHS-12	immovable taxes.	House	HF52	6.01
Clark	Hanner	WSHS-12	legale medicinal marijuana.	Senate	SF13	4.2
Joel	Hanson	WSHS-10	regulating employment of minors where alcohol is served.	House	HF13	4.83
Megan	Haffest	WSHS-9	allowing athletes to participate during teachers' strikes.	Senate	SF54	2.33
Elvitt	Hall	WSHS-11	sale of health beverages in schools.	House	HF14	4.17
Joel	Hensel	WSHS-12	appropriating money for MPR.	Senate	SF55	7.26
Kristen	Hennar	WSHS-12	resolving emergency rooms to provide emergency contraception.	House	HF15	4.58
Noelle	Hoves	WSHS-12	prohibiting cell phone usage in vehicles.	House	HF16	6.28
Gene	Hunt	WSHS-11	reforestation.	House	HF17	3.41
Mandy	Hyffe	WSHS-11	gifted and talented.	Senate	SF17	2.09
Hayden	Hyde	WSHS-11	video game ratings.	House	HF18	7.64
Mike	Johnson	CHS-11	clean air act.	House	HF36	4.58
Shelan	Johnson	WSHS-12	prohibiting sale of antibacterial soaps.	Senate	SF56	4.77
Hannah	Judson	WSHS-11	modifying teacher licenses.	House	HF20	2.81
Cliff	Kaehler	CHS-11	funding for school breakfast based on religious belief diet constraints.	House	HF7	2.15
Moussien	Kearse	CHS-12	prescription medication.	Senate	SF73	4.61
Alyssia	Kerco	WSHS-11	increasing education funding.	House	HF21	6.05
Art	Klaeger-Mundt	WSHS-10	clarifying policy on renewable fuel.	House	HF22	3.24
Maggie	Kuder	CHS-12	uniform lockdown policy for schools.	Senate	SF74	2.01
Jessie	Kudrowski	CHS-11	allowing employers to require random drug tests.	House	HF58	7.63
Jon	Kvatt	WSHS-12	renaming state office building.	House	HF18	7.01
Nomi	Lad	WSHS-12	universal health care system.	Senate	SF58	4.7
Judith	Lueck	CHS-12	freedom to Breathe Act.	Senate	SF75	4.99E

First Name	Last Name	School and Grade	A Bill For An Act To	House/Senate	Bill #	Page #
Erin	MacLean	WSHS-12	life imprisonment for second violent conviction.	Senate	SF59	5.01
Annise	Maloney	WSHS-11	penalties for interfering with breast-feeding.	House	HF23	4.11
Matthew	Mares	CHS-12	methamphetamine.	Senate	SF76	4.36
Paul	McComick	CHS-12	cash grant funds.	Senate	SF77	4.55
Jim	McGuire	WSHS-11	handheld cell phones in vehicles.	Senate	SF60	6.2
Noah	Meier	WSHS-11	prohibiting firearms.	House	HF24	3.28
Brennan	Meier	WSHS-9	increase ethanol in gasoline.	House	HF47	6.13
Alex	Meine	WSHS-11	alcohol tax.	Senate	SF61	4.13
Water	Meine	WSHS-12	increasing minimum wage.	Senate	SF62	1.01
Peter	Marchelwitz	WSHS-12	appropriating money for MPR.	House	HF25	7.2
Lexia	Morman	WSHS-13	insulate mandatory Pep-a-feets.	House	HF26	9.01
Ian	Nicholson	WSHS-12	funding for college scholarships.	House	HF27	2.68
Camilie	Nicholson	WSHS-9	WIC coupons may be used to purchase organic food.	Senate	SF63	4.75
Scott	Oberland	WSHS-12	Coya Knutson memorial.	House	HF28	7.18
Joe	Orlowski	WSHS-12	recycling of waste electronic products.	Senate	SF64	3.33
Sarah	Parler	WSHS-12	Clean Water Legacy Act.	House	HF29	3.01
Eric	Prestrawsky	WSHS-11	bricycle usage.	House	HF30	6.17
Karlan	Proing	WSHS-10	funding for alternative energy sources.	Senate	SF65	6.23
Amy	Quintan	WSHS-11	requiring lifejackets for children.	House	HF31	4.85
Sarah	Rathman	WSHS-12	prohibiting cell phone usage in vehicles.	Senate	SF66	6.32
Math	Rockwell	WSHS-11	funding telecommunications for education.	Senate	SF67	2.64
Ilan	Rubary	WSHS-11	restrictions on herbicides.	Senate	SF72	3.18
Cole	Schmidlapp	WSHS-12	bicycle usage.	House	HF33	6.4
Jerry	Schmitt	WSHS-11	appropriating additional education finance.	Senate	SF68	2.36
Sarah	Schofield	WSHS-12	child seatbelts.	House	HF34	6.96
Erin	Schofield	WSHS-12	tuition freezes.	House	HF35	2.53
Liz	Selove	WSHS-11	international baccalaureate pilot program.	House	HF36	2.94
Sadie	Shaw	CHS-11	teenage driving and cell phones.	House	HF37	4.68
Brent	Spencer	WSHS-12	funding for compulsions gambling prevention.	Senate	SF69	7.38
Jessica	Spencer	WSHS-10	plate placement on capitol grounds.	Senate	SF68	7.38
Becca	Therett	WSHS-12	gay marriage.	House	HF38	7.23

First Name	Last Name	School and Grade	A Bill For An Act To	House/Senate	Bill #	Page #
Shay	Thompson	WSHS-9	additional income tax bracket.	House	HF39	8.19
Michael	Thull	WSHS-12	casino in airport.	House	HF40	7.29
Mike	Turek	CHS-10	lifejacket regulations.	House	HF60	2.07
Paul	Warneke	WSHS-11	changing taxes to fees.	House	HF41	8.24
Ashley	Watts	WSHS-12	penalty for leaving children unattended in cars.	House	HF42	4.62
Matt	Weegman	WSHS-11	prohibiting computer-assisted remote hunting.	House	HF43	3.31
Mitch	Weegman	WSHS-11	regulating sales of American flags.	House	HF44	1.05
Danielle	Wick	WSHS-12	marriage a union of two committed persons.	House	HF45	7.36
Rachel	Wolfe	CHS-11	information on shaken baby syndrome.	House	HF61	4.52
Kayla	Wolfe	WSHS-12	community ownership of Minnesota Twins.	Senate	SF70	7.15
Sam	Wotzka	CHS-11	legalize texas hold'em.	House	HF32	7.09
Will	XU	WSHS-11	transportation finance.	House	HF49	6.01
Jake	Zimbrick	WSHS-12	wind to hydrogen pilot program.	Senate	SF71	3.22
TSS331	Mr. Barlow	WSU	alternative compensation for teachers and staff development.	House	HF63	2.84
TSS331	Mr. Comes	WSU	restricting outdoor light pollution.	House	HF64	3.44
TSS331	Mr. Graves	WSU	prohibiting speed contests.	House	HF65	7.62
TSS331	Mr. Johnson	WSU	requiring carbon monoxide alarms.	House	HF66	3.47
TSS331	Mr. Lokanc	WSU	continued implementation of No Child Left Behind.	House	HF67	2.89
TSS331	Mr. Olcott	WSU	methamphetamine.	House	HF68	4.87
TSS331	Mr. Ottum	WSU	appropriating money for unmarked graves.	House	HF69	7.56
TSS331	Mr. Stinson	WSU		House	HF70	7.64
TSS331	Mr. Stockdale	WSU	prohibiting credit scoring.	House	HF71	7.59
TSS331	Ms. Fielder	WSU	state park and recreation area operations.	House	HF72	3.5



Winona Model Legislature  
Session 2005

Authors of the Bill

Senate Author  
Walter Meine

House Author  
Kirsten Himmler

Committee Hearing

1. Commerce
2. Health & Human Services
3. Ways & Means
- 4.

Bill Number

SF62

Legislative Action

House

Action Taken in Committee

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_

Bill Introduced By

Walter Meine  
Senate

Senate

Governor

A Bill For an Act To

increasing minimum wage.

Override Veto

1.1 A bill for an act  
1.2 relating to employment; increasing the minimum wage;  
1.3 amending Minnesota Statutes 2004, section 177.24,  
1.4 subdivision 1.

1.5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

1.6 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2004, section 177.24,

1.7 subdivision 1, is amended to read:

1.8 Subdivision 1. [AMOUNT.] (a) For purposes of this

1.9 subdivision, the terms defined in this paragraph have the

1.10 meanings given them.

1.11 (1) "Large employer" means an enterprise whose annual gross

1.12 volume of sales made or business done is not less than \$500,000

1.13 (exclusive of excise taxes at the retail level that are

1.14 separately stated) and covered by the Minnesota Fair Labor

1.15 Standards Act, sections 177.21 to 177.35.

1.16 (2) "Small employer" means an enterprise whose annual gross

1.17 volume of sales made or business done is less than \$500,000

1.18 (exclusive of excise taxes at the retail level that are

1.19 separately stated) and covered by the Minnesota Fair Labor

1.20 Standards Act, sections 177.21 to 177.35.

1.21 (b) Except as otherwise provided in sections 177.21 to

1.22 177.35, every large employer must pay each employee wages at a

1.23 rate of at least \$5.15 an hour beginning September 1, 1997, at a

1.24 rate of at least \$5.90 an hour beginning July 1, 2005, and at a

2.1 rate of at least \$6.65 an hour beginning July 1, 2006. Every

2.2 small employer must pay each employee at a rate of at least

2.3 \$4.90 an hour beginning July 1, 2005, and at a rate of at least

2.4 \$5.65 an hour beginning July 1, 2006.

2.5 (c) Notwithstanding paragraph (b), during the first 90

2.6 consecutive days of employment, an employer may pay an employee

2.7 under the age of 20 years a wage of \$4.25 an hour. No employer

2.8 may take any action to displace any employee, including a

2.9 partial displacement, through a reduction in hours, wages, or

2005  
Ben Ruberg, WSHS  
Student, uses his  
Mac Book Pro to  
digitize the Model  
Legislature  
Bill Book. Creating  
a bill header that  
ties data directly to  
each bill.

A major advance  
and now hand  
work done only  
during the Model  
Legislature Session.  
WSU TSS students  
participate as  
legislators and  
advisors.

1.01



# Winona Model Legislature Session 2005

## Authors of the Bill

Senate Author  
Walter Meine

House Author  
Kirsten Himmler

## Committee Hearing

1. Commerce
2. Health & Human Services
3. Ways & Means
- 4.

## Legislative Action

Bill Number  
SF62

## Action Taken in Committee

Bill Introduced By  
Walter Meine  
Senate

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Governor

A Bill For an Act To  
increasing minimum wage

Override Veto

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2.4 \$6.40 an hour beginning July 1, 2006.  
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**2005**  
**Ben Ruberg,**  
**WSHS Student,**  
**uses his Mac Book**  
**Pro to digitize the**  
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**Creating a bill**  
**header that ties**  
**data directly to**  
**each bill.**



# Model Legislature



December 7 & 8, 2006

Ms. Gobler

# WSU TSS Student Ms. Gobler's Journal

## Voting...



- Students voted for candidates that supported their beliefs and ideologies
  - The stickers in the picture state the Ruberg is for Women's Rights
  - These students also created yard signs, a first for Model Legislature

# The Winona Model Legislature Gravitas Award 2006

## Ben Ruberg

The Roman state sought leaders with Gravitas for its Respublica. Ben Ruberg's leadership in the Winona Model Legislature was essential for its success in 2005 and 2006.

This modern Fasces, an oversized Gavel, is in recognition of his Gravitas.



Representative Gene Pelowski

2007  
 WSU President  
 Darrell Krueger  
 supports having  
 WSU Technology  
 Staff use Ben  
 Ruberg's, WSHS  
 Senior, computer  
 generated Model  
 Legislature  
 Bill Book to  
 create a web  
 based version.

Model Legislature ▶ Model Legislature 2007 ▶ Alpha Order with Link to Bill ▾  
 A collection of bills for the 2007 Model Legislature.

Home Dashboard Event Schedule This List: Model Legislat... ?

Documents  
 Shared Documents  
 Model Legislature 2018  
 Lists  
 Pages 2018  
 Committee Chairs 2018  
 Election 2018  
 Minnesota Legislative Websites  
 House  
 Senate  
 All Site Content

Type	Name	First Name	Last Name	School Grade	Bill	Assigned House	House Number	Senate
	Isabella Albright	Isabella	Albright	Winona Senior High-9	Family Planning Clinics RNs to dispense birth control.	Senate		SF184
	Lisa Amundson	Lisa	Amundson	Winona Senior High-12	Global Warming Mitigation Act	Senate		SF192
	Elaine Ayers	Elaine	Ayers	Winona Senior High-11	Prairie and wetland restoration planning relating to U of M land in Dakota County and money appropriated.	Senate	HF816	
	Viviane Bain	Viviane	Bain	Winona Senior High-10	Modifies Sustainable Forest Act	House		SF1785
	Myles Beckman	Myles	Beckman	Winona Senior High-11	Exempts veterans from firearm certificate.	House	HF260	
	Callie Bensel	Callie	Bensel	Cotter-12	Renewable Standard Energy Established	House	HF4	
	Paul Blacklock	Paul	Blacklock	Winona Senior High-12	Prohibits possession of firearms for reasons of mental health.	House	HF2531	
	Tom Blacklock	Tom	Blacklock	Winona Senior High-11	Lignocellulosic ethanol production grant.	Senate	HF2448	
	Lauren Borkowski	Lauren	Borkowski	St. Charles-10	Prohibiting body piercing under the age of 18.	Senate	HF1013	
	Jon-Michael Brandt	Jon-Michael	Brandt	Winona Senior High-10	Regulating biodiesel fuel sales.	House		SF1890
	Brooke Brewer	Brooke	Brewer	Winona Senior High-11	Regulating amusement rides.	House	HF1824	SF1370
	Tim Bruels	Tim	Bruels	Winona Senior High-12	Transportation vehicle Sales Tax Proceeds	House	HF964	
	Christopher Bullard	Christopher	Bullard	Winona Senior High-12	Funds for hearing aid loan bank for children.	House	HF1071	
	Jacob Dalton	Jacob	Dalton	Winona Senior High-10	Changing Income Tax Rates	Senate	HF1932	
	Heather Dansingburg	Heather	Dansingburg	Winona Senior High-12	Encourages School Districts to Purchase Locally Grown Foods.	House	HF2006	
	Heather Dansingburg2	Heather	Dansingburg	Winona Senior High-12	I-35 Bridge Collapse	House	HFSS2	
	Erik Darbo	Erik	Darbo	Winona Senior High-12	Restricting 4X4 Truck Trail Development.	House	HF1127	
	Joshua DeGallier	Joshua	DeGallier	Winona Senior High-12	Minnesota Prayer Day	House		HR0005
	Jessie Delano	Jessie	Delano	Cotter-12	Modifying where sex offenders may reside upon release	House	HF476	
	Jacob DeMarais	Jacob	DeMarais	Cotter-12	Low emission vehicle program identical to California.	House		SF481
	Sonja Deuscher	Sonja	Deuscher	Winona Senior High-11	ERA Constitutional Amendment	House	HF225	

Gail Buhler

Subject: Greetings and a thank you

Date: Fri, 22 Aug 2003

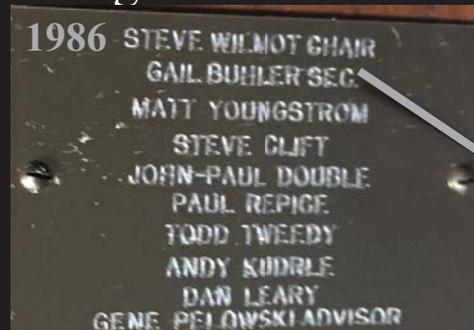
Representative Pelowski,

I'm not sure whether or not you remember me. I'm Gail Buhler. I was a student of yours who graduated in 1987 and interned for you during one of your first years in St. Paul.

I've been meaning to write you an email for a long time now to thank you for the excellent education you gave me. I am constantly amazed at how often I am able to recall and use things I learned in your class. I currently live in Washington DC, a few blocks from the National Cathedral, and think of your World History course everytime I walk around the Cathedral grounds. My husband always comments on how jealous he is that I had such a great education. The more I learn about high school educations in other areas of the country, the more impressed I am by the extremely high quality teachers the Winona School District has. I must say that your courses have proven to be the most influential courses I have ever taken, including any of my college or law school courses. Thank you!

I am also very happy to see that you are still representing Winona and the surrounding area in the legislature!

Gail Buhler





Minnesota House of Representatives  
House K-12 Finance Division

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Winona Senior High School junior Joel Hanson, pictured above, served as a page in the Minnesota House of Representatives last week. Hanson testified before the House K-12 Education Finance Committee with state Rep. Gene Pelowski, DFL-Winona, to talk about how technology can be used in the classroom. Hanson also took questions from committee members.

WDN 2/28/07

April 30, 2009

### Former Pelowski Student Enjoys Hands-On Learning Experience

#### As Minnesota House of Representatives Intern

ST. PAUL – Joel Hanson, first year political science student at the University of Minnesota, is about to conclude his session long internship with Rep. Gene Pelowski at the Minnesota House of Representatives. Along with conducting research, meeting with legislators, and providing support to legislative staff, it's been another opportunity for Hanson to learn from one of his favorite high school teachers at Winona Senior High School, Rep. Pelowski.

"There are differences between learning from Mr. Pelowski in the classroom and learning from Rep. Pelowski in the Legislature, but the similarity is I learned a lot," said Hanson, who interned for Pelowski throughout the 2009 session. "This has been a great opportunity see the legislative process in action and I've enjoyed every minute."



# Minnesota Senate All Staff

## 2017-2018 Biennium Ninetieth Legislature

Joel Hanson  
Media Relations Specialist

# Student Grows Up To Be Just Like Teacher



When Representative Tom Tillberry presented his first bill on the House Floor Representative Gene Pelowski was Speaker Pro Tem.

Representative Tillberry begin by saying, "This is just like being in Mr. Pelowski's American Government Class or Model Legislature except this time it is for real."

DFL Rep. Gene Pelowski, right, poses with DFL Rep. Tom Tillberry who used to be one of Pelowski's students.

## Pelowski sees former student present bills

By Britt Johnsen  
Winona Daily News

Pelowski, who was a leader in committee and on the floor.

When he presented his bills, Tillberry told other legislators he was reminded of being in Pelowski's American Government class at least 25 years ago — and that he had Pelowski to thank for where he is today.

"I had to pause and take in this nostalgia," said Till-

"I don't think you can get more involved than this."

DFL Rep. Gene Pelowski, on seeing a former student present bills

berry, 43. Pelowski said it was an

honor to hear bills from a former student. His goal with activities like model Legislature — where middle school and high school students write and hear bills just like a regular government body — was to get students involved.

"I don't think you can get more involved than this," he said.

In all his years of teaching, Winona Senior High School teacher and DFL Rep. Gene Pelowski never had a moment like this.

On May 9, DFL Rep. Tom Tillberry, of Fridley, one of Pelowski's former students, presented his first bills to



Governor Dayton, Representative Pelowski & Senator Miller (Former Pelowski Student & Winona Model Legislature Participant)

Governor Dayton visits WSU in June 2012.



Steven Clift is <sup>MEM</sup> attending **Join Tim Walz and Peggy Flanagan** ... at the **Urban Growler Brewing Company**.

Yesterday at 9:20 PM · Saint Paul · 🌐

I think **Peggy Flanagan** chose the best candidate for Governor to bring her forward as the next Lieutenant Governor of Minnesota - **Tim Walz**.

Peggy and I spoke about the power of convening in democracy and their campaign's promise to give Minnesotan "a seat at the table" on decisions that impact their lives. As a former Executive Branch employee, that is a radically wonderful democratic vision that will require bold lead... See More



Participated in the Winona Model Legislature.

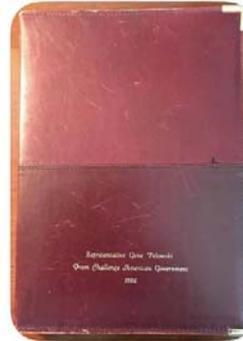


Sheldon Mains  
i need a photo with Peggy too.

1d Like Reply



Gene Pelowski  
Good to see you engaged in this political year. The leather folder your class gave me is still in use.



16h Like Reply



Steven Clift  
Ha, I met some House DFL Media constituent service folks recently and told them to check to see if you still had your folder. **Gail Buhler** Say, I wonder where that GeneBO drawing is?

15h Like Reply

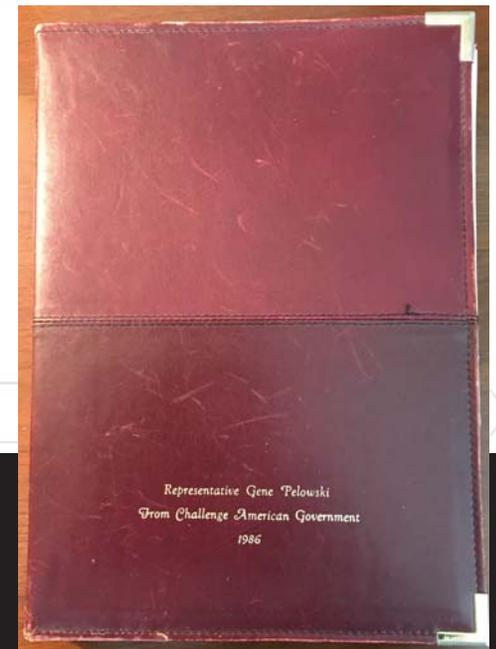


Gene Pelowski  
The folder is on my desk in the State Office Building.



15h Like Reply

Write a reply...





**WSU President Darrell Krueger is given a special honor by the Winona Model Legislature's Speaker Of The House, President Of the Senate, Governor and Lt. Governor for his outstanding support of the Winona Model Legislature.**

Nov. 28, 2007



Model Legislature Campaign Party  
Wenonah Echelard & Leah Mueller  
Saturday, Dec 1<sup>st</sup> at 7:00 pm  
203 West Wabasha  
(507) 458-5319  
Formal dress, hors d'oeuvres. Be There!

Dear Representative Pelowski

My name is Wenonah Echelard and I am a gubernatorial candidate for the 2007 Winona Model Legislature. My Lieutenant Governor, Leah Mueller, and I want to get Model Leg started early this year. In order to plan Minnesota's budget we must know the estimated expenditures. We would like to support your bill. If your bill appropriates any money, please send Leah or I an e-mail containing the estimated cost of your bill. If you have any questions about your bill or Model Legislature please feel free to contact Leah or I through e-mail or in school.

Thank you for considering us as the 2007 Model Legislature Governor and Lt. Governor.

Wenonah Cecilia Echelard

Leah Rae Mueller

Wenonah Cecilia Echelard  
wenonahe@hbci.com  
(507) 457-9600

Leah Rae Mueller  
LRMueller07@winona.edu  
(507) 457-3310

Pelo,  
Thanks for your  
help w/ the campaigning,  
I'm excited for Model Leg  
and to see the outcome.  
- Leah Mueller

Pelowski -  
you've made it possible for  
the Alpha Females to strike again.  
Thank you for all your help  
and inside support.  
Please consider making an  
appearance at our campaign  
party.  
- Wenonah  
Echelard

The Dark Horse

Alpha Females: The Next Generation

A2

# Alpha Females: The Next Generation

# A2



"Governor" Wenonah Echelard and "Lt. Governor" Leah Mueller from the Winona Model Legislature testify in Rep. Pelowski's Government Operations, Reform, Technology, and Elections Committee.



**The 2007 Winona Model Legislature's Speaker Of The House, President Of the Senate, Governor and Lt. Governor and Committee Chairs meet with Representative Pelowski in the Governor's Office.**

# **2008 MINNESOTA House of Representatives Government Operations, Elections and Reform Committee**



**Lori Mjoen and Adam Gelle, WSU Technology Staff, testify on the creation of the Winona Model Legislature Web Site. They explained the level of technology needed to support it and the benefits to the students by using a WSU web site.**



**Ann MacDonald, Director of the WSU Leadership Institute & Office of Outreach & Continuing Education, testifies on the support needed to sustain the Winona Model Legislature. Secretary of State Mark Ritchie testifies on the hands on learning of the legislative process that takes place during the Winona Model Legislature.**

# State Representative Gene Pelowski Jr.

295 State Office Building  
State Office Building  
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.  
651-296-8637

For more information contact: Matt Swenson [651-297-8406](tel:651-297-8406)

Posted: 2007-11-21 00:00:00

Share on:



## Column/LTE

### CAST YOUR VOTE IN THE "CAPITAL FOR A DAY" CAMPAIGN

Minnesota will celebrate 150 years of statehood in 2008. At its Sesquicentennial, the State of Minnesota will be celebrating its rich and unique history throughout the course of the entire year – beginning this January. As part of that celebration, the Minnesota Sesquicentennial Commission is sponsoring the "Capital For A Day" campaign.

Minnesotans across the state are encouraged to log on to the Sesquicentennial website at <http://www.mn150years.org/capital4aday2.html> and vote for their favorite city to be named "Capital For A Day." Nominations have come in from all over the state, and now it is up to voters to narrow the field down to five winning communities – one from each of Minnesota's five "biomes."

I strongly encourage all residents of Winona to log on and join the vote. This is a great opportunity to share the Winona story with all Minnesotans. Right now, Winona is leading the vote tally in our biome. Together, we can make Winona the next "Capital For A Day."

Southeastern Minnesota cities are included in the "Driftless Area" biome listed on the website. In that category, voters will have the opportunity to vote for one of the following cities: Winona, Minnesota City, Rushford, Wabasha, Rochester, Reads Landing, Lake City, or Caledonia. You are then encouraged to vote for your favorite cities in each of the other four Minnesota biomes. One vote is allowed per person, per biome.

Winning communities will be recognized during Minnesota's Statehood Week, May 11th – 18th, 2008. These communities will work with the Minnesota Sesquicentennial Commission to plan activities and help raise awareness for their community. Activities could include any number of events including visits by Sesquicentennial Commission members, tours of the town, picnics, recognition of Sesquicentennial grant winners, or hosting civic engagement roundtable discussions.

You have until Monday, Nov. 26 to vote. So log on and vote today.

**The Winona Model Legislature will go into its first one day Special Session as part of the celebration.**



Winona Fire Captain, Kurt Lossen, hangs two banners Monday morning at City Hall commemorating Minnesota's sesquicentennial and Winona's Capital for a Day celebration which takes place Friday. The banners were designed by Don Dennis, graphics coordinator for the City of Winona. (Photo by Fred Schulze/Winona Daily News)

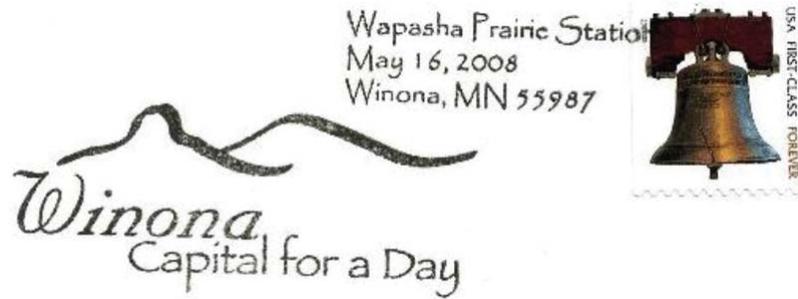
Fred Schulze

Winona will celebrate being Capital for a Day on Friday with music, fireworks and conversations about the city's history and future. The event is part of Minnesota's sesquicentennial celebration.



#### CAPITAL FOR A DAY CELEBRATION

- 5:43 to 6:15 a.m., Sunrise ceremony, Lake Park
- 7:45 to 8:30 a.m., flag raising, Gov. Pawlenty, City Hall
- 8:15 a.m. to noon, reconciliation ceremony, Lake Park
- 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Model Legislature, City Hall
- Noon, recognition ceremony, Levee Park
- 1 to 2 p.m., community conversation, Levee Park
- 1 to 3:30 p.m., truth circle, Lake Park
- 4:30 to 9:30 p.m., family picnic activities, Lake Park
- 7 p.m., commemorative aerial photograph, Lake Park
- 9:30 p.m., fireworks, Lake Park



**Winona is selected to be one of the five cities to be Capitol for a Day. The City of Winona asks the Winona Model Legislature to meet in City Hall in conjunction with other activities to celebrate being Capitol for a Day.**



**It will be the only one day Special Session Of The Winona Model Legislature. A limit number of bills are introduced.**



Model Legislature participation in Capitol for a Day on Friday, May 16<sup>th</sup>.

Please highlight your name if you will participate in the Model Legislature Capitol for a Day in the Winona City Hall on Friday, May 16<sup>th</sup>.



*Governor Pawlenty joined Rep. Pelowski to unveil the Sesquicentennial stamp featuring the Highway 43 Bridge during "Capitol for a Day" in Winona. Rep. Pelowski worked to pass a transportation bill that will provide the funding to repair the bridge and move up its replacement several years. Winona County will receive \$13.7 million and Houston County will receive \$9.7 million for local road and bridge maintenance over the next ten years due to the passage of the bill.*

Model Leg Capitol for a day.

HF2554 - see link  
<http://wdoc.house.leg.state.mn.us/leg/LS85/HF2554.1.pdf>

HF2007 - see link  
<http://wdoc.house.leg.state.mn.us/leg/LS85/HF2007.0.pdf>

HF2628 - see link  
<http://wdoc.house.leg.state.mn.us/leg/LS85/HF2628.1.pdf>

HF456 - see link <http://wdoc.house.leg.state.mn.us/leg/LS85/HF0456.0.pdf>

HF2904 - see link <https://www.revisor.leg.state.mn.us/bin/showPDF.php>

HF3726 - see link  
<http://wdoc.house.leg.state.mn.us/leg/LS85/HF3726.0.pdf>

HF4178 - see link  
<http://wdoc.house.leg.state.mn.us/leg/LS85/HF4178.0.pdf>

HF655 - see link <http://wdoc.house.leg.state.mn.us/leg/LS85/HF0655.3.pdf>

HF3380 - see link  
<http://wdoc.house.leg.state.mn.us/leg/LS85/HF3380.3.pdf>

HF3495 - see link  
<http://wdoc.house.leg.state.mn.us/leg/LS85/HF3495.0.pdf>

HF1932 - see link  
<http://wdoc.house.leg.state.mn.us/leg/LS85/HF1932.0.pdf>

**Students sign up for the one day Special Session Of The Winona Model Legislature at it's regular session. It will be the only Special Session Of The Winona Model Legislature.**

**Winona is selected to be one of the five cities to be Capitol for a Day. The City of Winona asks the Winona Model Legislature to meet in Special Session in City Hall. Governor Pawlenty addresses a Joint Session Of The Winona Model Legislature in the Winona City Council Chambers. It will be the first and so far only Special Session Of The Winona Model Legislature.**





# Winona Model Legislature Session 2008

## Authors of the Bill

Senate Author  
President of the Senate

House Author  
Speaker of the House

### Committee Hearing

1. Education
2. Ways and Means
3. [Committee 3]
4. [Committee 4]

Bill Number  
HF1  
SF1

### Legislative Action

House

Senate

Governor

Override Veto

### Action Taken in Committee

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_

Bill Introduced By  
Speaker of the House  
President of the Senate  
Winona Senior High  
House  
  
A Bill For an Act Relating To  
Establishment of Winona  
State University & Minnesota  
System of Higher Education

## An Act

To provide for the establishment of State Normal Schools.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Minnesota:

### Section First.

There shall be established within five years after the passage of this act, an institution to educate and prepare teachers for teaching in the common schools of this State, to be called a State Normal School. There shall be established within ten years after the passage of this act, a second State Normal School, and within fifteen years a third: Provided, there shall be no obligations to establish the first Normal School until the sum of five thousand dollars is donated to the State in money and lands or in money alone, for the erection of the necessary buildings, and for the support of the professors or teachers in such institution, but when such sum is donated for such purpose, a like sum of five thousand dollars shall be, and hereby is appropriated by the Legislature on the order of the proper officers and shall be paid out of any moneys in the treasury not otherwise appropriated by law, for the use and benefit of such institution.

### Section Two.

Whenever a second sum of five thousand dollars shall have been donated to the State for the establishment of a second State Normal School, a like sum of five thousand dollars shall be and hereby is appropriated by the Legislature, and shall be on the order of the proper officers, paid out of any moneys in the treasury not otherwise appropriated by law for the use and benefit of such institution.

### Section Three.

Whenever a third sum of five thousand dollars shall have been donated to the State for the establishment of a third State Normal School, a like sum of five thousand dollars shall be and hereby is appropriated by the Legislature, and on the order of the proper officers, shall be paid out of any money in the treasury not otherwise appropriated by law, for the use and benefit of such institution.

### Section Four.

The Governor within thirty days after the passage of this act shall appoint six electors, one from each judicial district, who shall constitute the State Normal Board of Instruction. Those appointed from the even judicial districts shall hold their offices for the term of four years, and those appointed from the odd judicial districts shall hold their office for the term of two years. The Legislature shall during its session in one thousand eight hundred and sixty elect three Normal Directors to fill the vacancies created by the expiration of the term of office of the three directors appointed from odd districts, and biennially thereafter, the Legislature shall elect three directors to fill the vacancies created by this Act. The Legislature shall also fill from time to time all vacancies that may arise by death, resignation, removal from the State or otherwise, Provided, that the Normal Board shall have power to fill any vacancy occurring during the recess of the Legislature till its next meeting.

### Section Five.

The Normal Board at their first meeting, which shall be held at the Capitol of the State, shall severally take and subscribe an oath or affirmation to support the constitution of the United States and of the State of Minnesota, and faithfully to execute the trust and discharge the duties

of their office. They shall elect one of their number president, who shall continue in office for two years and until his successor is chosen, and they shall appoint some suitable person as treasurer, who shall hold his office for one year, but may be removed at any time at the pleasure of the board. The treasurer, before entering upon the duties of his office, shall give bonds in the penal sum of five thousand dollars, faithfully to execute the trust and discharge the duties of this office. The State Superintendent of public instruction shall be ex officio a member of the Normal Board, and shall be secretary of the same.

Section Six.

Immediately after the organization of the board, they shall proceed to divide the State into three Normal districts, uniting in the formation of the first, two contiguous Judicial districts, of the second, two, and of the third, two.

Section Seven.

The Normal Schools provided for in this Act, shall be located by the Normal board, but only one shall be located in any one Normal district. In locating any one Normal School the board shall have due regard to healthfulness and beauty of situation, to accessibility and general convenience, to the wants of the common schools and the wishes of donors, who may make munificent donations, conditioned upon a particular location.

Section Eight.

It shall not be within the province of the Legislature or of the Normal Board, to remove any State Normal School from its original location, during the period of ten years from its establishment, without the consent of the donor or donors, who made to the State the first donation of five thousand dollars for the foundation of such school.

Section Nine.

The Normal board are authorized and empowered to contract for the erection of all buildings connected with the State Normal Schools, to appoint all professors or teachers in such institutions, to prescribe the course of study and the pre-requisites for admissions, and in general, to adopt all needful rules for the government of said schools.

Section Ten.

The Normal board are authorized annually to appoint for each Normal school, a prudential committee, consisting of three persons, one of whom shall be a member of said board. Said prudential committees shall have the general oversight and management of the prudential affairs of the several schools, subject to the order of the board, to whom they shall each make a detailed report of their doings, and of the condition and wants of the particular institution committed to their care.

Section Eleven.

There shall be no charge for tuition to persons, who may be admitted to the privileges of any State Normal School, and who shall sacredly engage to become teachers of the public schools of the State for such times and on such conditions as shall be prescribed by the Normal Board.

Section Twelve.

The board through the State Superintendent shall make an annual and detailed report of their doings to the Governor, who shall transmit the same to the Legislature. They shall also report respecting the conditions, success and progress of the several Normal schools.

Section Thirteen.

The Normal directors shall be entitled to such payment for their services as may be provided by law.

Section Fourteen.

The Normal directors in any Normal district, with the State Superintendent, shall be the special visitors of the Normal school in such district, and they together or by one or more of their number, or by some competent person or persons of their appointment, shall visit and examine such school at least two days each session for ascertaining the mode of instruction and the progress of the pupils, and for promoting the best welfare of such institution and the common schools of the State.

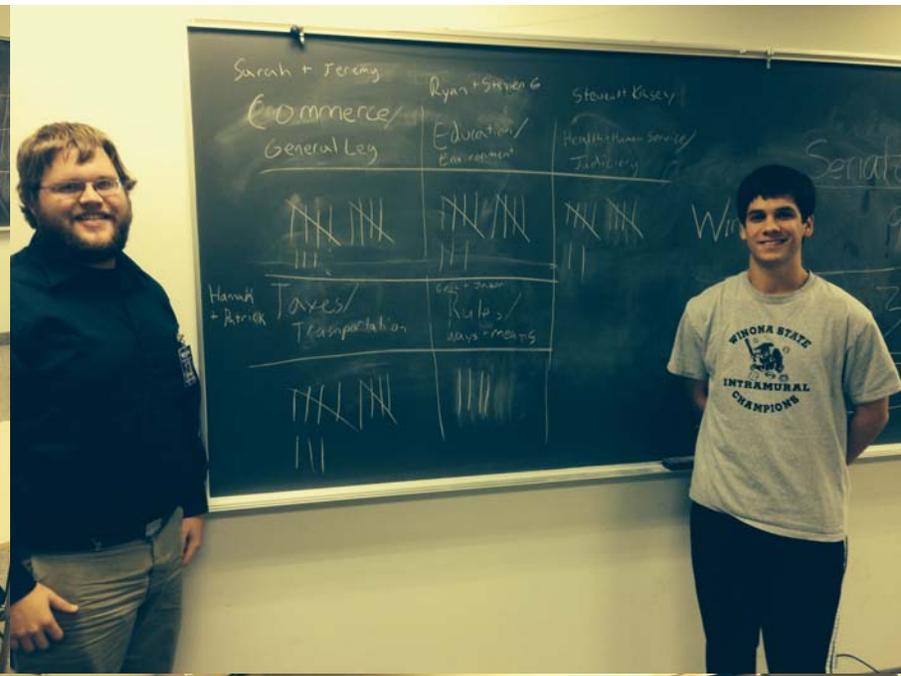
Section Fifteen.

This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage.

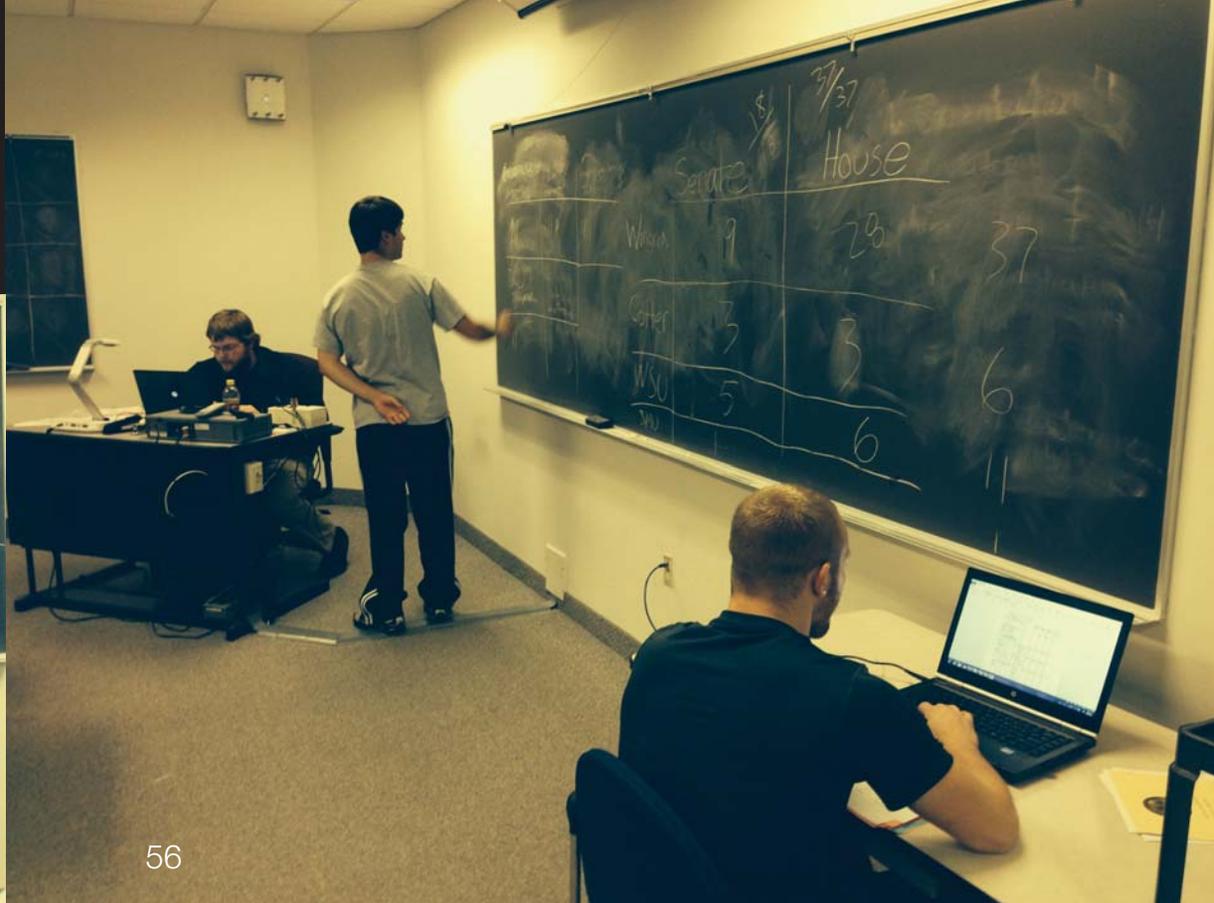
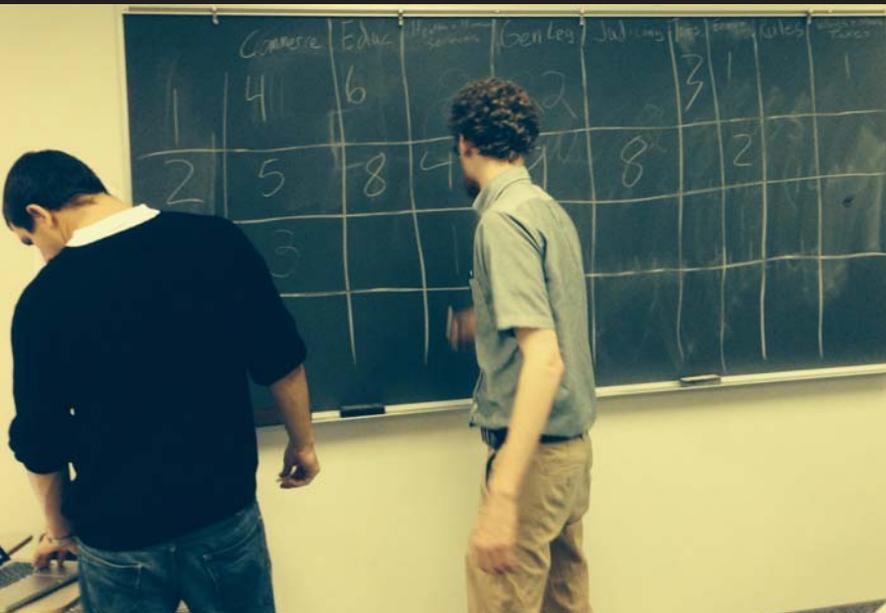
Approved August the second  
Eighteen hundred fifty eight,  
Henry H. Ashley

Geo. Bradley  
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

William H. H. H.  
President of the Senate.



**2012-Present  
WSU Teaching Social Studies in the  
Secondary students take over  
organization of the Model Legislature.**





## Winona Model Legislature Session 2012

### Authors of the Bill

Senate Author

Jamie Ramirez



House Author

Veronica Colletti

Legislative Action

### Committee Hearing

1. Education
2. Taxes
3. General Legislation
4. Ways and Means

Bill Number  
HF1133

House

### Action Taken in Committee

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_

Bill Introduced By  
Veronica Colletti  
WSU  
House

Senate

Governor

A Bill For an Act Relating  
To  
Undergraduate stable tuition  
rate provided

Override Veto



## Winona Model Legislature Session 2013

### Authors of the Bill

Senate Author

Veronica Colletti



House Author

Jason Worden

Legislative Action

### Committee Hearing

1. General Legislation
2. Education
3. Ways and Means
4. Rules

Bill Number  
HF1633  
SF1530

House

### Action Taken in Committee

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_

Bill Introduced By  
Veronica Colletti  
WSU  
Senate

Senate

Governor

A Bill For an Act Relating  
To  
Bonding Bill for the  
creation of WSU's  
Education Village

Override Veto

**WSU 2012 TSS Student Veronica Colletti is the only TSS student to participate in two Winona Model Legislatures. Ms. Colletti asked to participate in the 2013 Model Legislature after her experiences in the 2012 Model Legislature. Ms. Colletti sponsored the WSU Education Village legislation in 2013. Ms. Colletti ran into unexpected opposition in the Education Committee when her fellow legislators questioned the need and the expense. It would take all her skill acquired in the 2012 Model Legislature to get the bill to the Governor's desk for signature.**

Ways + Means - Andy  
 O. Hoplin - chair  
 A. Maser  
 K. van Cleave - VC  
 E. Nibelink  
 Z. Jang  
 Judiciary - Zacharda  
 A. Iyengar - chair  
 A. Beckman - VC  
 C. Allen  
 J. Welch  
 J. Leahy

Commerce - Adam  
 J. Priest - chair  
 A. Velikoff  
 M. Luban  
 B. Benk  
 B. Winney - David - VC  
 Transportation - Mott  
 J. Burck  
 C. Peterson - chair  
 C. Bartz - VC  
 F. Todie  
 N. Haven  
 P. Tanthorn

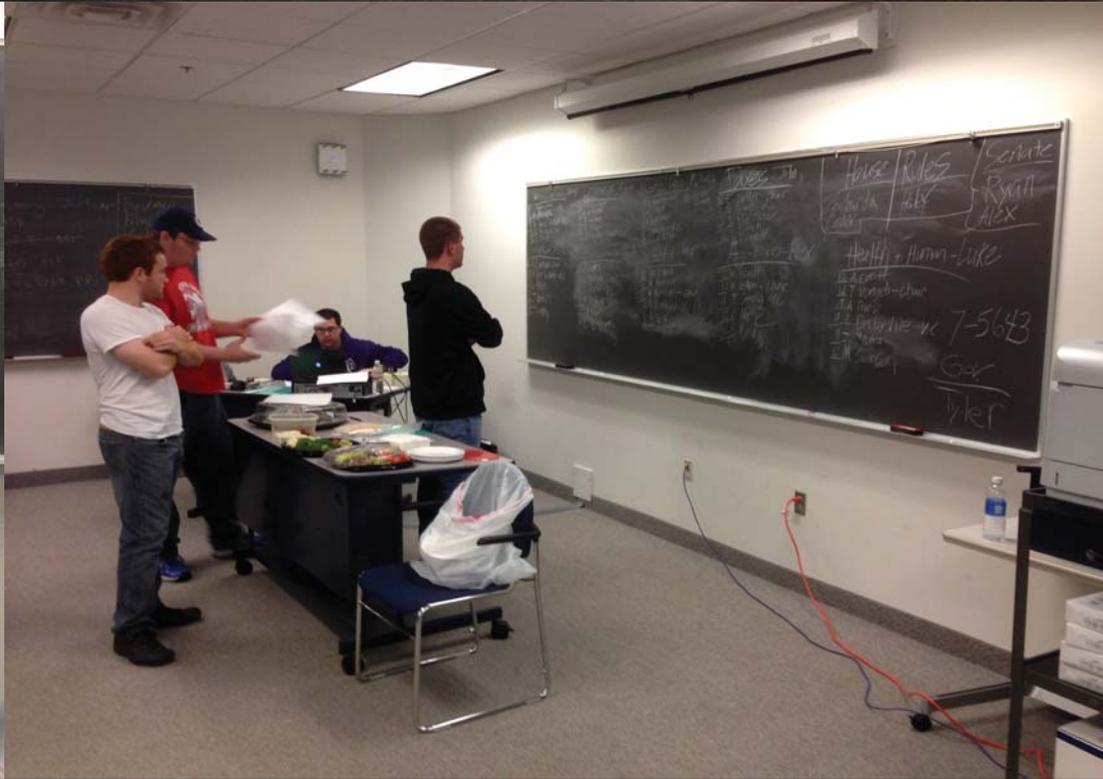
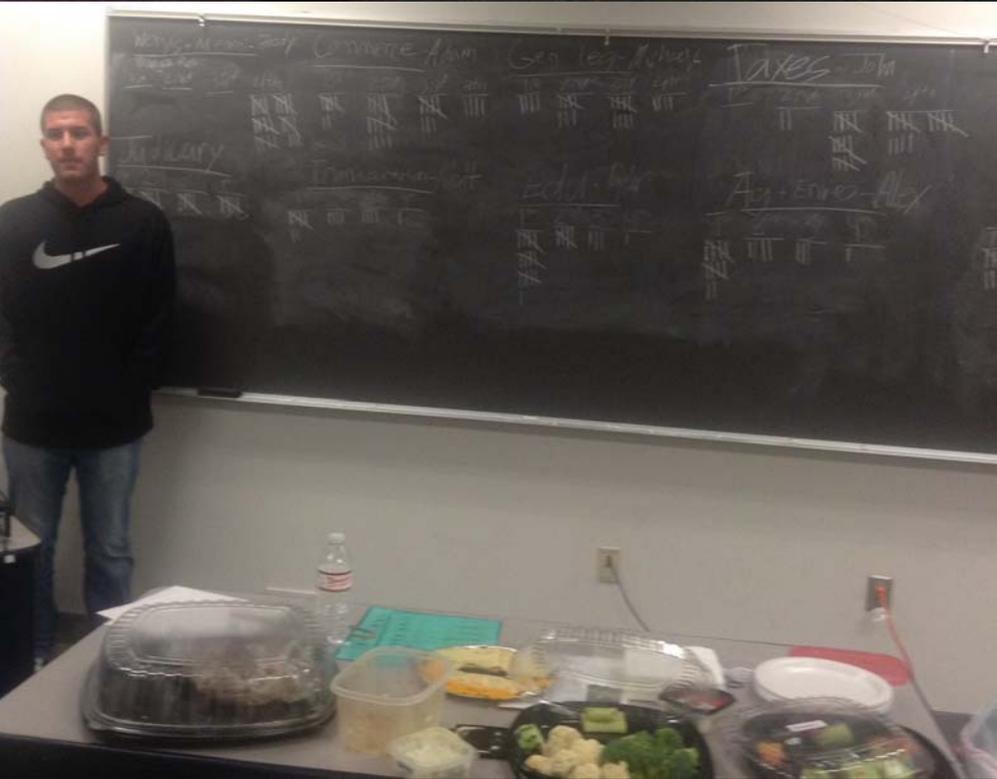
Gen leg - Michael  
 K. Hanson - chair  
 H. Z. Mill  
 H. B. Purr  
 J. Haven - VC  
 T. Lechler  
 Edu - Taylor  
 H. O'Neill  
 A. Hoopner  
 A. Hartman - chair  
 E. Baethers - VC  
 A. Witt

Taxes - John  
 E. Zeller - chair  
 M. Finner - VC  
 J. Brethow  
 S. French  
 D. Crede  
 Ag + Enviro - Alex  
 W. Beault  
 H. Killen - chair  
 T. Stadig - VC  
 C. Miley  
 S. Hyung

House	Rules	Senate
Zacharda	Haley	Ryan
Conley		Alex

Health + Humm - Luke  
 A. Ewert  
 T. Voegeli - chair  
 A. Parisi  
 L. Derbyshire - VC 7-5643  
 J. Nadera  
 M. Swanson  
 Gov  
 Tyler

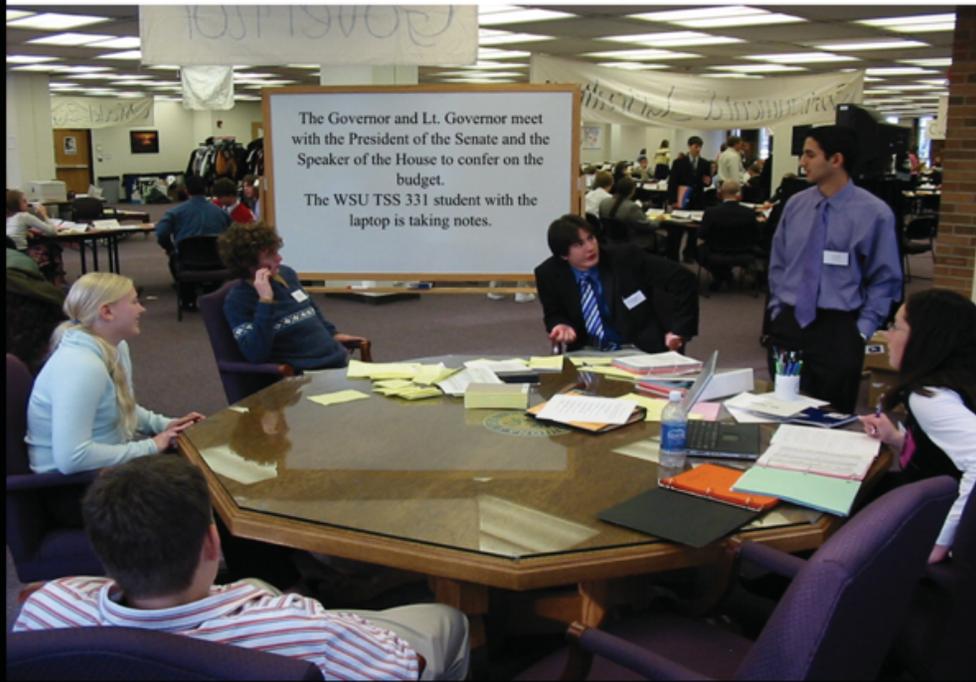
**2014 WSU TSS students use blackboard to balance bills in committee and in the House and Senate. Mr. Pelowski brings in food. Class starts at 5pm but it will go after midnight.**



# What is the Model Legislature Now?

- A two day educational hands on learning program modeled after the Minnesota State Legislature held at Winona State University for grades 6-12 and the WSU 331 Teaching Social Studies in the Secondary students. 120 to 150 students participate in the two day program.
- Grades 6-7 are pages to the nine Standing Legislative Committees, Senate, House of Representatives and Governor's Office. Grades 8-12 are members of the Senate, House of Representatives and the Governor's Office.
- The WSU 331 Teaching Social Studies in the Secondary students are committee administrators and advisors to the Senate, House of Representatives and Governor's office. They produce a multimedia journal of this unique learning experience as a final activity for their grade.
- Winona Senior High School, Winona Middle School and Cotter High School, St. Charles High School, Lewiston-Altura High School, Rushford-Peterson High School, Houston High School and Montessori Middle School have participated.

### Governor's Budget Meeting

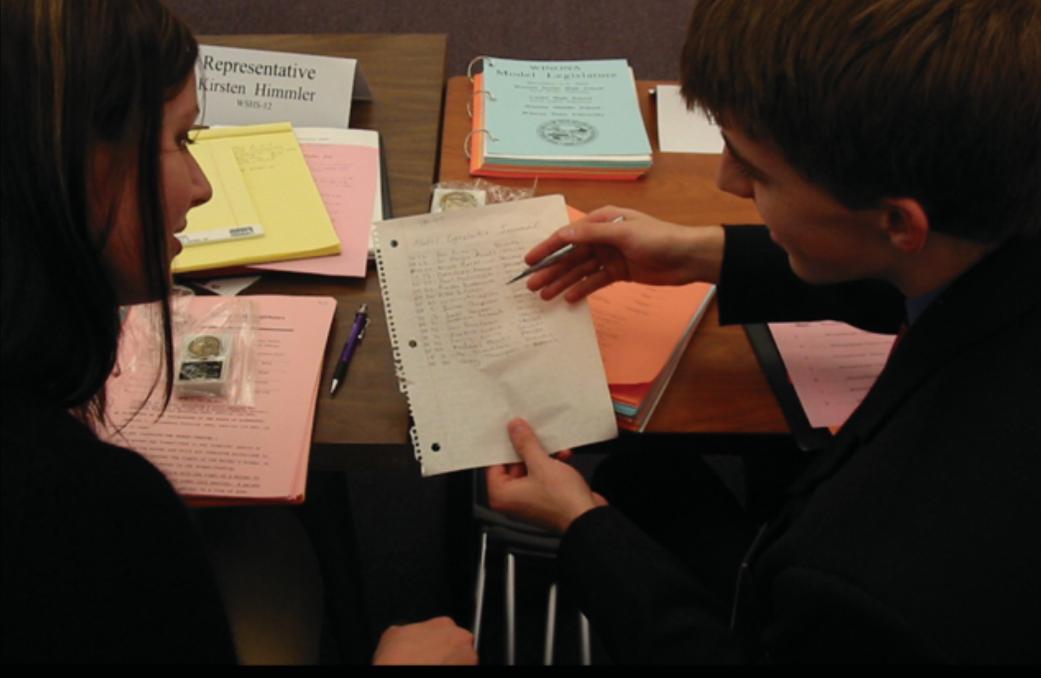


The Governor and Lt. Governor meet with the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House to confer on the budget. The WSU TSS 331 student with the laptop is taking notes.

The Senate debates whether a bill should be moved directly from a committee to the floor of the Senate. This is a very rare motion and has the Floor Leader on the left debating the Senator standing on the right.



The Chairperson and Vice Chairperson of the Health & Human Services Committee go over a list of bills to be heard before the committee. It is the responsibility of the Chairperson to set the agenda for the committee.



The Committees meet from 9am to noon. Bills have to pass as many as five Committees before they can be heard in the Senate or the House.



Committees are where the detailed work of the legislature takes place to debate, amend and pass legislation. The Chairperson holds the gavel which is the symbol of her authority. A WSU TSS 331 student uses his laptop to assist the students in their debate on the bills.

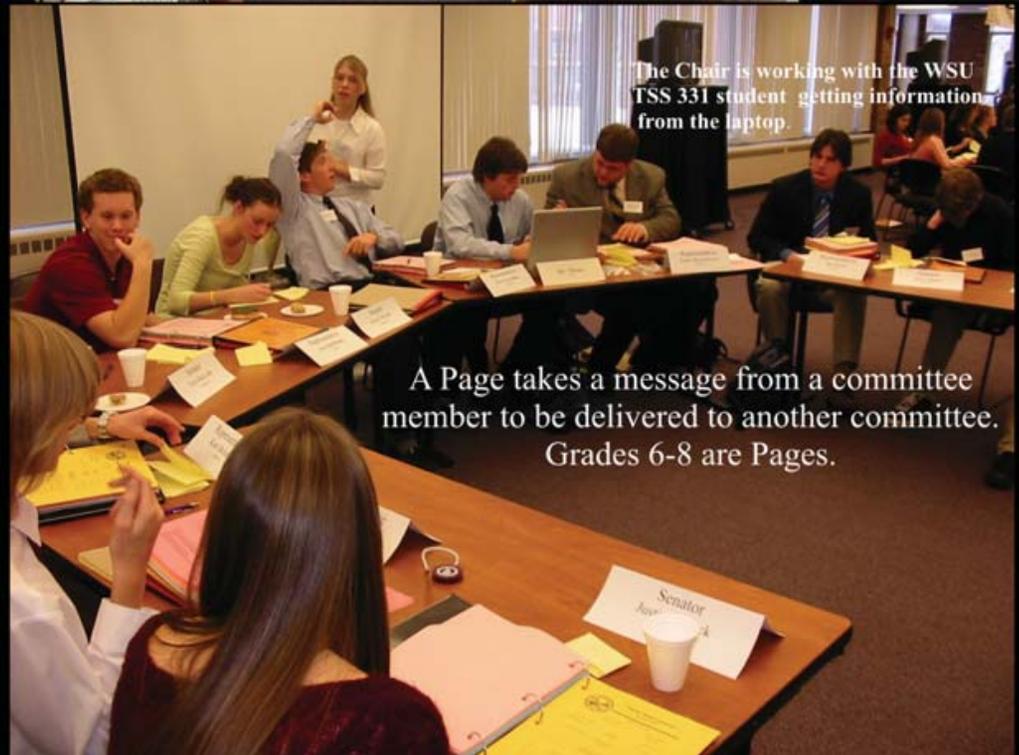


Debate in the Senate is controlled by the Floor Leader. She is standing explaining a procedural point to the two Senators who are debating.

The President of the Senate relies on the Floor Leader to maintain order during a debate.



Students from WSHS Challenge World History participate in the 2006 Winona Model Legislature. Representative democracy invented in Athens.



The Chair is working with the WSU TSS 331 student getting information from the laptop.

A Page takes a message from a committee member to be delivered to another committee. Grades 6-8 are Pages.

## The House of Representatives Rules Committee

Parents stop by to watch their children present and debate legislation.



The Rules Committee is the final stop for a bill on its way to the floor of the House of Representatives.

The Speaker of the House and the House Floor Leader are members of the Rules Committee.

At times the discussions can be heated.

## Senate Rules Committee

Presenting a bill to Health & Human Services on crutches may help get passed. Being the Chairperson of the Committee also helped pass the bill



# WSU TSS 331 Students Confer during a Committee Recess.



The WSHS Principal and WSU President monitor the Education Committee.

# THE PAGES

These are the 6th-8th grade students who were pages for the 2005 Winona Model Legislature. Each received a medal on a ribbon. They are the leadership of future Winona Model Legislatures.



The graphic below is from the Representative's Journal whose bill passed.

*MY BILL PASSED!!! They amended it to include who would enforce it and that it could be a primary offense. YaY!!! It just passed transportation. It was awesome.*

MY BILL PASSED!!! They amended it to include who would enforce it and that it could be a primary offense. YaY!!! It just passed Transportation. It was awesome.





**WSHS Moira Marek, Chair Of The Ways & Means Committee, listens to WSU Ethan Scheck explain why HF 1747 should be heard in the Ways & Means Committee.**

**Video Clip  
3 minutes**



Ethan Scheck.jpg

	Scheck,Ethan	Ethan	Scheck	WSU	A bill to build a stadium for the Minnesota Vikings and St. Paul Saints	House	HF1747
	Marek, Moira	Moira	Marek	Winona Senior High-11	modifying driving while impaired crimes	House	HF1719



**Winona Model Legislature  
Session 2012**

Governor: Emmet Hedin Lieutenant Governor: Sam Downs

Friday 11/16/2012

Model Legislature ▶ ... 2012 Governor's Office ▶ Governors Minutes.docx

9:05am

Rep. McNally came in to talk about starting omnibus, HF3004 to start the session. Also Addressed HF 376 to ask if the governor supports.

9:13am

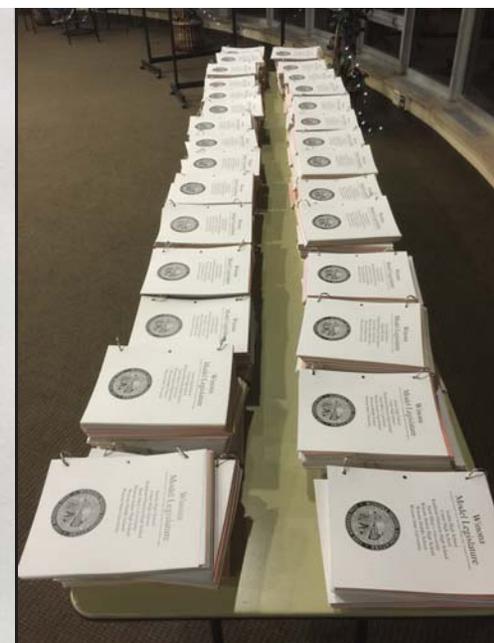
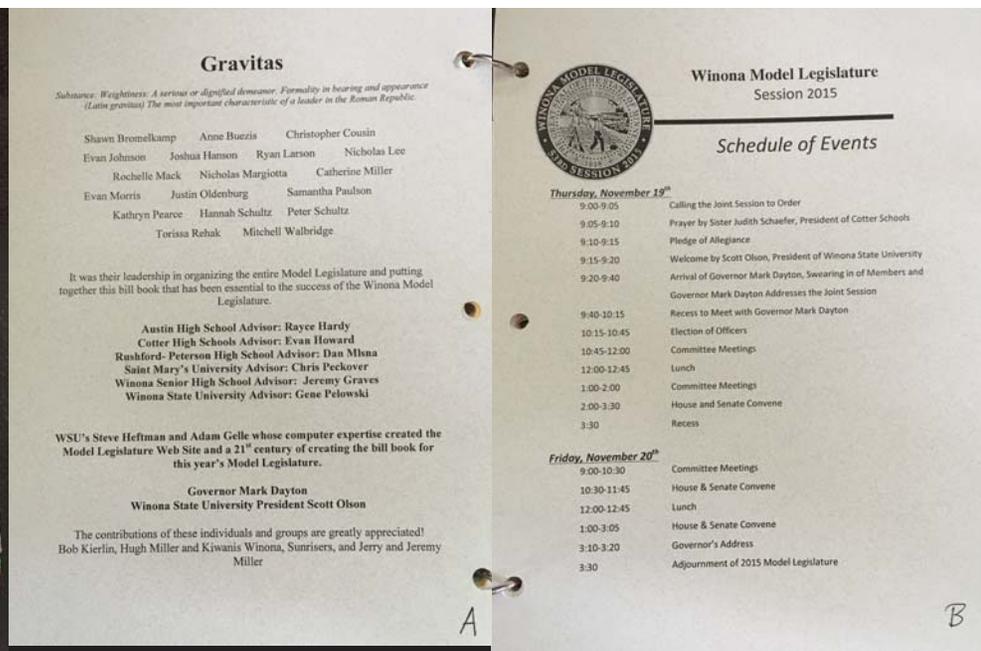
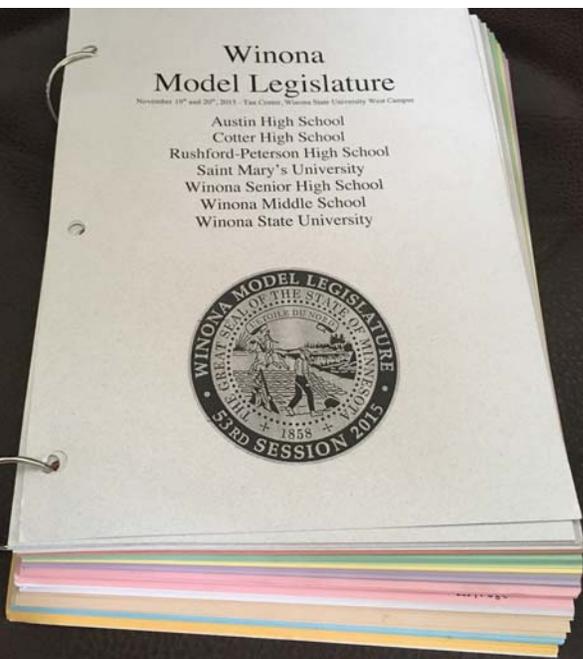
10:05

Reps. Krageschmidt, Bothum, Judisch came into office arguing that the governor is supporting negative labels and are saying GMO's should not have GMO's on it. Governor states that GMO's should be on labels and they are not in a negative light. Reps. Powers and Iyengar Stated that opposition is indirectly agreeing with the Governor. Rep. Allen came in asking governors stance.

Governor again Stated that he is for GMO's being on label

10:29

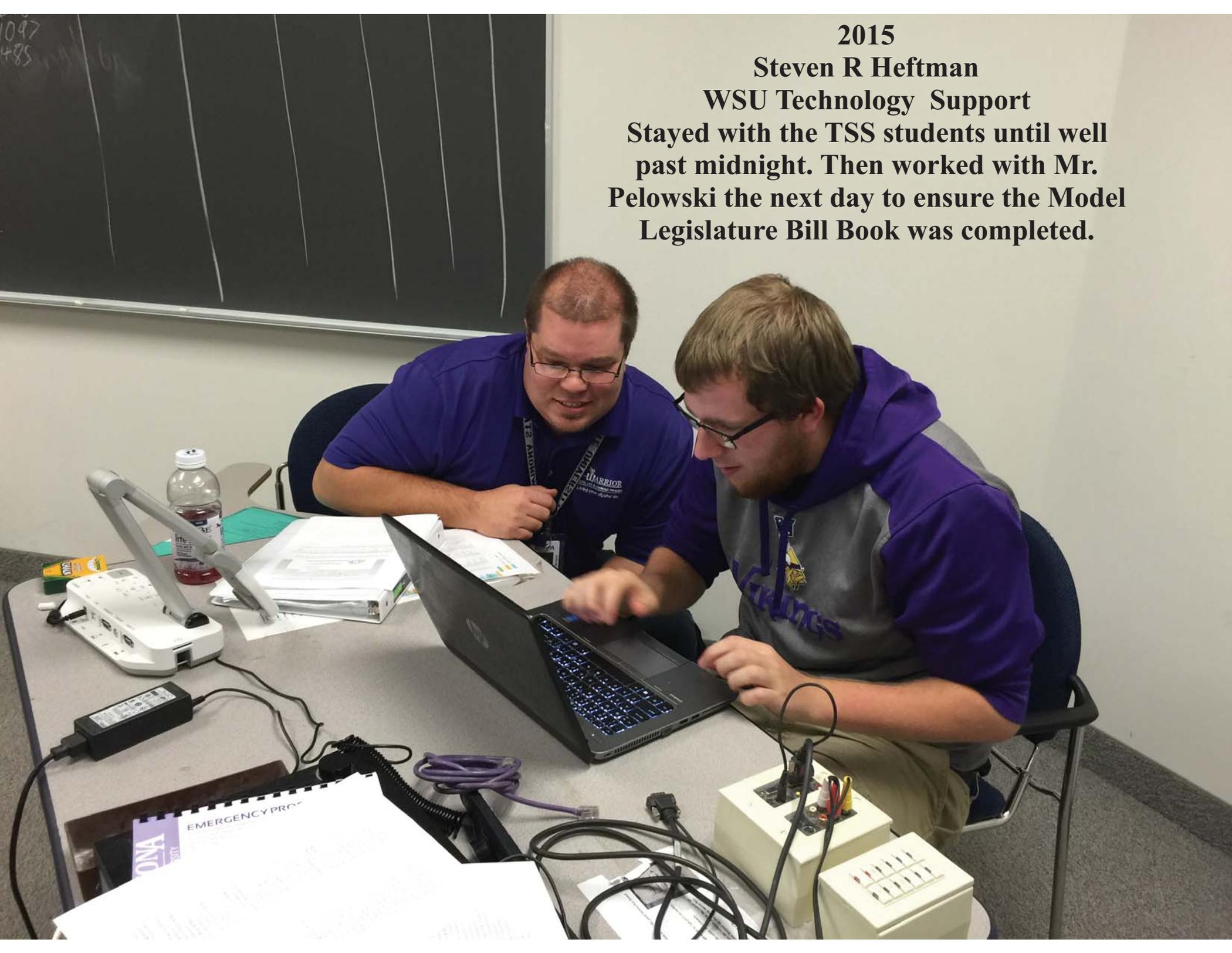
**Video Clip  
7 minutes**



2015 Bill Book=372 Pages  
 WSU TSS students stressed to maximum. Paper reduction needed!



**2015**  
**Steven R Heftman**  
**WSU Technology Support**  
**Stayed with the TSS students until well**  
**past midnight. Then worked with Mr.**  
**Pelowski the next day to ensure the Model**  
**Legislature Bill Book was completed.**





**Gene Pelowski**

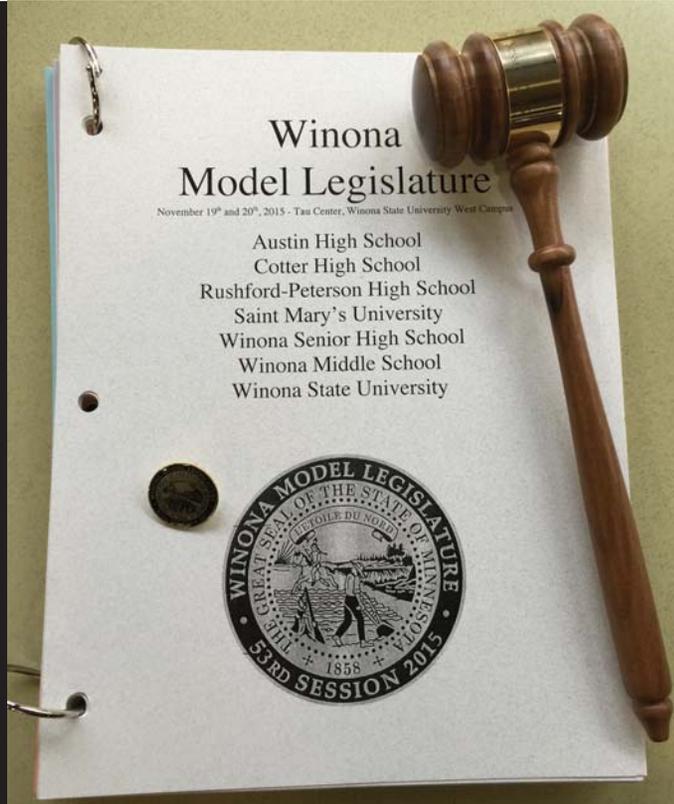
December 6, 2015 · 2

Representative Gene Pelowski presented Governor Mark Dayton with a Winona Model Legislature engraved gavel, pin and bill book. Governor Dayton was scheduled to address the opening of the Winona Model Legislature on November 19th, but the passing of Dayton's father and funeral prevented Dayton from attending the event.

Governor Dayton promised to address the opening of the Model Legislature in November 2016 and to attend 2016 Cotter Schools Foundation Meeting on the same day.

Dayton and Pelowski met for an hour in the Governor's Mansion and discussed the passing of their fathers this fall. They also discussed the history of the Winona Model Legislature with numerous alumni serving in every level of government over the past 53 years.

Governor Dayton took the gavel for his next meeting, saying it will serve him well in keeping order at meetings in the Governor's Mansion.

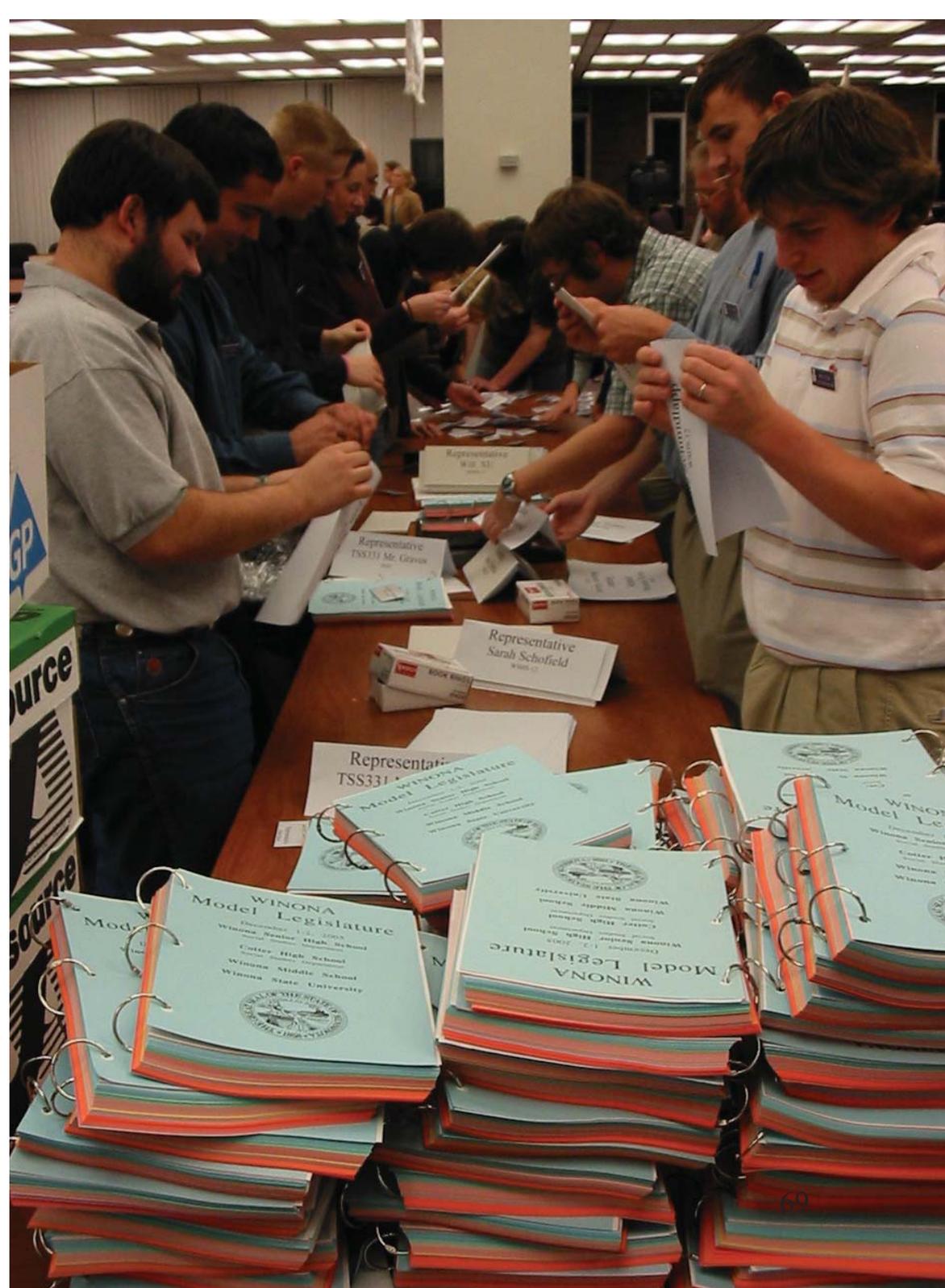


The WSU TSS 331 students help prepare the Wednesday evening before the Thursday and Friday Model Legislative sessions, in WSU's Maxwell Leadership Center.

The bill books stacked in the foreground are the essential element for the success of the Model Legislature. The 250 page bill book contains the bills of the students participating, the committee assignments, the House or Senate designations and the basic organizational data of the Model Legislature.

The bill book takes three months to prepare for the printer. It is compiled in the WSHS Advanced Placement American Government class.

The 150 copies of the bill book cost over \$1000 to print.





Model Legislature Pins with the Minnesota State Seal are similar to the pins given to members of the Minnesota Legislature. Pins were first used at the 50th Anniversary Model Legislature Session. Pages receive a badge to wear as identification. Everyone also wears a name tag. Gavels are presented to all leadership positions and committee chairs to keep.





Official Message

To: \_\_\_\_\_

Request: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Sent By: \_\_\_\_\_

Advisor/Staff Member (WSU): \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Time \_\_\_\_\_

Note: ALL NOTES WILL BE SIGNED OFF BY ADVISOR BEFORE DELIVERY. If the above note is not signed Pages will not deliver note. Also any unofficial notes will not be passed and will be turned into the advisor.



To: \_\_\_\_\_  
(First Name, Last Name) (House/Senate or Committee or Governor's Office)

From: \_\_\_\_\_  
(First Name, Last Name) (House/senate or Committee or Governor's Office)

**New message system is created to stop inappropriate note messages. Every note has to be signed off by an Advisor or WSU TSS student.**

# Reflection/Classroom Application

Before this I didn't have much knowledge about this process. After going through this I have a much better understanding about the legislative process. I really enjoyed seeing the conviction and dedication some of these students had about their bills. The passion they showed made this whole thing worth all the work we put into it. Also, like I said earlier, this made us closer as a class. There is no other class I've taken at Winona State where I got to know my class mates so well. It was a great experience, and I'm happy we had such an awesome team!

This is something that I could use in my classroom. It doesn't have to be this exact thing, but adding some type of model UN, or mock trial to a Social Studies class really brings things to life.

## Mock Model Legislature

- ❖ Video of Representative Pelowski allowed me to see how meetings were held and ran in the legislature. This video also gave me an idea of what was expected of us.
- ❖ Having assigned roles and peers present their bills to the class allowed me to understand better how the Model Legislature were to run.
- ❖ Gave me understanding how bills are moved, passed, and appealed through legislation. I also learned the rules of debate and participating in debate.
- ❖ The labels for each member was surprising to me as well as the rules of responding during the presentation.

TSS331 FINAL JOURNAL Due on Wednesday of Final Week by 5pm

Please place your final in file entitled 2017 TSS Journals by 5pm of final week on the Model Legislature Home Page.

A Digital Journal based on your work with the Winona Model Legislature students in the 2017 Winona Model Legislature and those weeks prior working with any other elements of the experience. This includes all elements of preparation for participation in the Winona Model Legislature.

Final=JOURNAL of the Model Legislature experience of working with students and how everyone applied their Social Studies Skills and learned from the application of those skills over the two days of working with grade 6-12 students.

**This should be done in a digital format with video clips, graphics and text illustrating how Social Studies skills were monitored, applied and adjusted during the experience.**

***The issue to be addressed is what you learned and what the students learned over the course of participating in the Winona Model Legislature and how everyone learned from each other.***

Worth 0-500 points.

### WHAT I LEARNED

Throughout the entire process of the Model Legislature, I learned a lot about teaching social studies courses. By selecting my bill, I was able to create a plan and do research to get ready to present to the class. When I actually presented the bill, I learned that I had to be ready for questions at all times, as well as be prepared to answer those question. That experience was new and fun. I was able to learn a lot about preparing from it.

I also learned a lot from my experience at Cotter High School. By working with Representative Pelowski and Mr. Howard, I learned about teamwork in achieving tasks. The most helpful part of that experience however was when I got to present to the students in Mr. Howard's classes. I taught them about model legislature and how to use the websites. I answered their questions, and we discussed what the events of the day would be like. It reemphasized my prior experience presenting the bill, but in a real classroom setting. This was very helpful to me.



# 2015 Winona Model Legislature

Create a WIX site!



HOME | PRE-WORK | THE LEGISLATIVE SESSION | IN THE MEDIA | THE EDUCATION VILLAGE | THE EXPERIENCE

## GOALS OF MODEL LEGISLATURE

### 1 GOAL

Create a model Minnesota legislature, that teaches students the basics of government and procedures.

### 2 GOAL

Allow students to drive the legislative agenda--without inhibiting their ideas or suggestions for legislation.

### 3 GOAL

Expose students to the "behind the scenes" aspects of government.



### 4 GOAL

Promote strong speaking skills in all facets of their experience; whether it be through running for office, or by introducing your bill.

### 5 GOAL

Encourage the development of interpersonal relationships through committee work.

### 6 GOAL

Develop strong leadership qualities through a variety of speaking and communication activities.

## MODEL LEGISLATURE IN ACTION!

There are really two aspects of Model Legislature--the House and Senate Sessions, as well as committee work. Between these two areas, students work to introduce their bills, answer numerous questions about the bill, and involve required parties to ensure the passing of their bill. Getting a bill passed in two short days is no easy task... In fact, I learned that first hand when the bill I introduced (SF1152) died in committees and never saw the light of either the House or Senate floor.

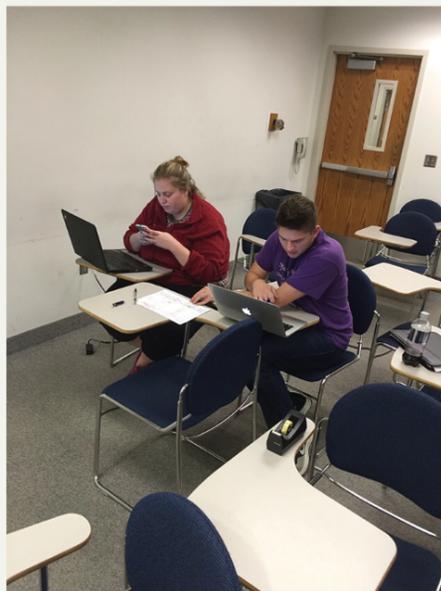
The first day of Model Legislature consisted of elections and a lot of work in committees. Students slowly began to understand the processes of government, and as they went from committee to committee, learned how to successfully lobby on behalf of their own bill.

Additionally, students on the first day had to elect a Governor, Speaker of the House, and President of the Senate. The elections for these positions saw many candidates--however, amazingly, a Governor and President of the Senate were both selected in the first election round! While many of the students didn't campaign, some did... Unfortunately for that Gubernatorial candidate, the campaigning didn't pay off as they lost.

On day two, students began their work in session. Rules committee had to meet to make sure bills were going to their right floor. Overall, the sessions were jam packed and full of bills. The Governor was pushing his agenda, and the leaders of the House and Senate had numerous meetings to try to get a



## What I've Learned...



Overall, this was an excellent experience that taught me a great deal not just about the Minnesota Legislature, but also a great deal about the organizational capacity for teachers. As a future educator, it became clear to me fairly quickly how difficult putting something this Model Legislature on can become--especially without a support system. Additionally, I learned about the great capacity for learning highschool students have, as well as their drive to impress. Witnessing these instances, made it clear to me that any one of your students can be successful given the right amount of support.

In addition to this, Model legislature taught me about the importance of having a great support system. Coming into the class, I knew very few of my colleagues in the Social Science History Teaching major. Leaving Model Legislature and this class has taught me about the importance of forming relationships with those you will be working most closely with. Many in this group have become my friends. The three days (setup, two legislative session days) brought me closer with many of these peers. We learned together, and also occasionally ran into failure together. But we learned problem solving skills, and we certainly learned how to make it appear as though we had *everything* that happened planned--even if sometimes, we were caught offguard. Those skills and qualities are going to be used significantly as teachers.

In addition, it seemed clear to me that the HS students were interested and involved. While the WSU students could help and guide, we really let the high school students run the show--and I was so impressed with how well they did.

Building the Bill Book: "What are we doing? How are we going to get this all done? Is this even possible?"



Day One of Model Legislature: "Here we go! Let's get this done!"

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# TSS 331 Student Josh Hanson creates First Web Page Journal!

7:11 PM 83%

joshhanson12.wix.com

Josh Hanson EDUC 331 Final Journal.docx

modellegislature | IN THE MEDIA

Create a WIX site!

# 2015 Winona Model Legislature

HOME PRE-WORK THE LEGISLATIVE SESSION IN THE MEDIA THE EDUCATION VILLAGE THE EXPERIENCE

## Media Coverage

WinonaDailyNews.com



## Policy, process and personality

**Annual Model Legislature kicks off in Winona**

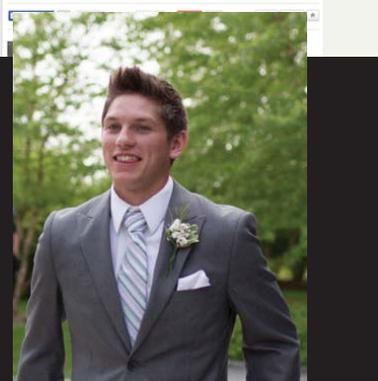
**GENE PELOWSKI**

Representative Gene Pelowski said that the Model Legislature is a great opportunity for students to learn about the legislative process and to see how government works.

He said that the Model Legislature is a great opportunity for students to learn about the legislative process and to see how government works.

He said that the Model Legislature is a great opportunity for students to learn about the legislative process and to see how government works.

## Policy, process and personality: Annual Model Legislature kicks off in Winona



*"This is how government ought to work."*

--WSU President Scott Olson

## 53rd Model Legislature

BY KA YANG ON NOVEMBER 18, 2015 IN ACADEMIC NEWS, EVENTS, TWITTER



Winona State University will host the 53rd annual Model Legislature with Representative Gene Pelowski at 9 a.m. Thursday, Nov. 19, at the Tau Center on WSU's West Campus.

Public and private school students in grades 6-12 from several areas will participate in the Model Legislature, in which high school students serve as members of the House of Representatives, State Senate and Governor's Office, and middle school students will serve as pages.

Students from Saint Mary's University, Winona State University and Minnesota State College Southeast Technical have been invited to attend the Model Legislature to take part as legislators. WSU students teaching secondary Social Studies will administer the nine standing legislative committees and staff the offices of Governor, Speaker of the House and President Pro Tem of the Senate.

Representative Gene Pelowski will run this year's bill and essay project as part of the Model Legislature.

The 2015 Model Legislature is free and open to the public.

Create a WIX site!

# 2015 Winona Model Legislature

HOME PRE-WORK THE LEGISLATIVE SESSION IN THE MEDIA THE EDUCATION VILLAGE THE EXPERIENCE



## What is Education Village?

Education Village is Winona State's response to the new, 21st Century teaching that must happen. The proposal is for a state of the art renovation of Wabasha to create a "village" for the College of Education. This village will expose teacher education candidates and majors to students from day one in the program.

I was fortunate enough to get to be a student representative at both the House and Senate bonding tours. At these tours, Minnesota legislators were brought in and shown what the education village is all about. Education village is number 9 on the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities bonding priorities. Both bonding tours seemed excited and intrigued by the proposal. If approved, nearly 30 million dollars will be appropriated for the creation of the education village.

## Winona State University presents \$25 million Education Village plan to visiting state senators

By Tai Simmons, Reporter | CONNECT

IN THE NEWS!

This site was created using WIX.com. Create your own for FREE >>>

# TSS 331 Student Josh Hanson creates First Web Page Journal!

**WSU President Scott Olson and Representative Gene Pelowski discuss the future of the Winona Model Legislature. President Olson will authorize the WSU Technology Staff to meet with Pelowski in the fall 2017 to upgrade the Model Legislature Web Site.**

**President Olson's support has been essential to the success of the Winona Model Legislature.**



# Winona Model Legislature

November 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>, 2016 - Tau Center, Winona State University West Campus

Austin High School  
Cotter High School  
Rushford-Peterson High School  
Winona Middle School  
Winona Senior High School  
Winona State University



2016 Bill Book=281 Pages

# Winona Model Legislature

November 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>, 2017 - Tau Center, Winona State University West Campus

Austin High School  
Cotter High School  
Rushford-Peterson High School  
Winona Senior High School  
Winona Middle School  
Winona State University



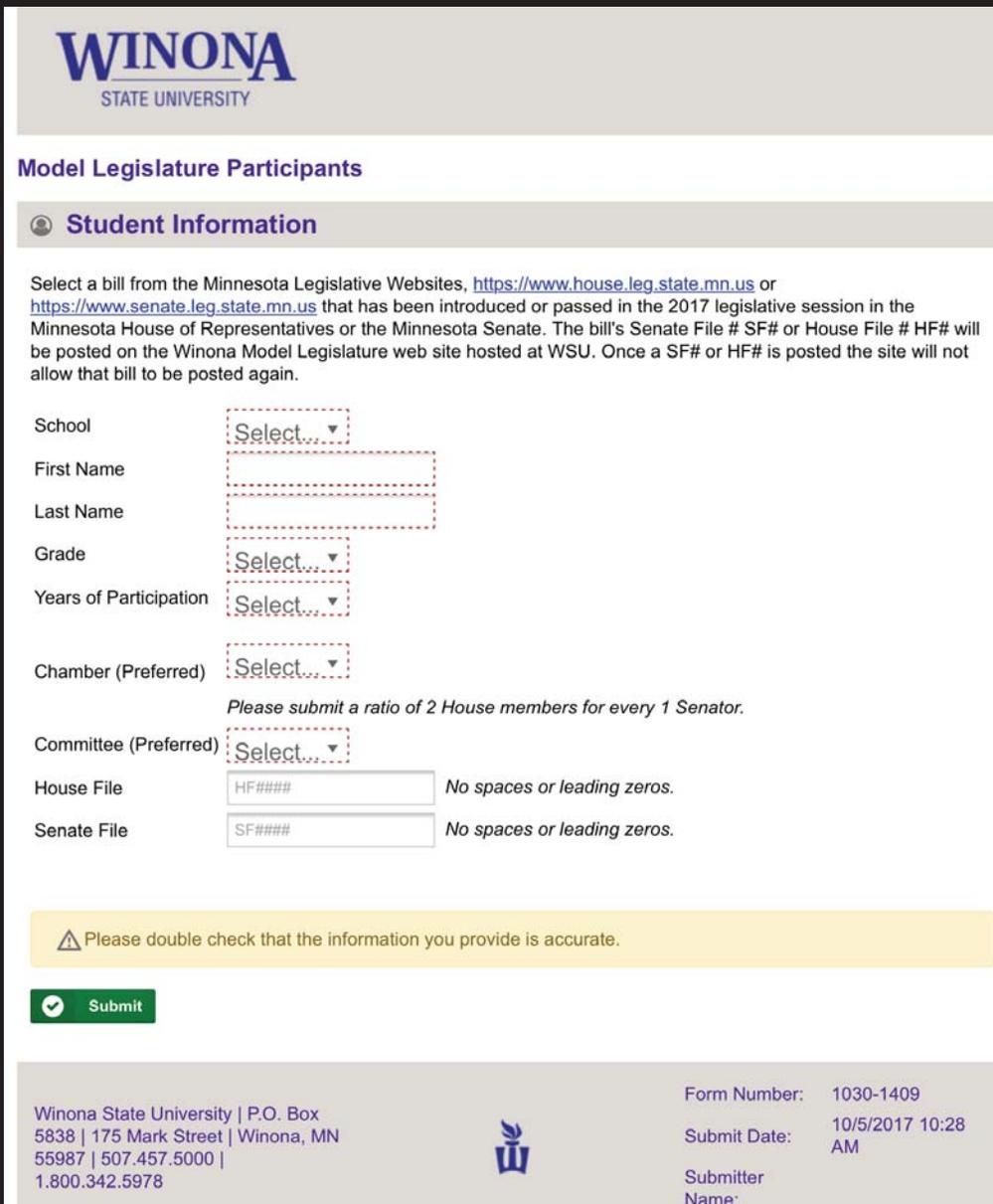
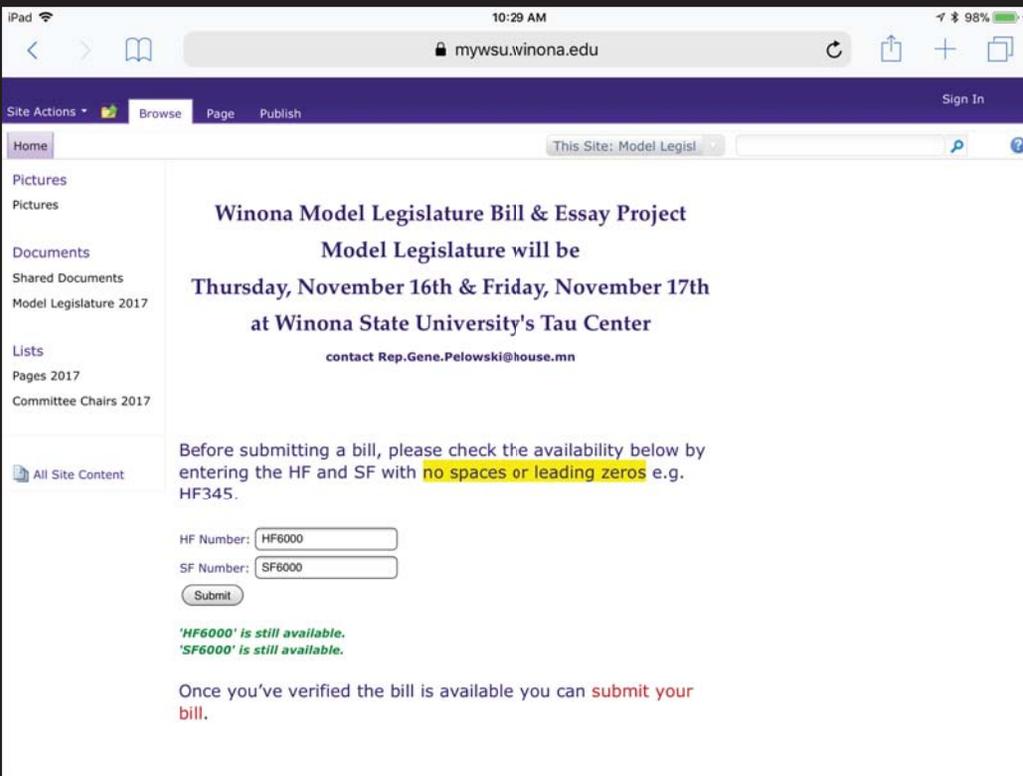
Model Legislature Website: [wsu.mn/modelleg2017](http://wsu.mn/modelleg2017)

Wifi: TauGuest

Password: t@ugu35t

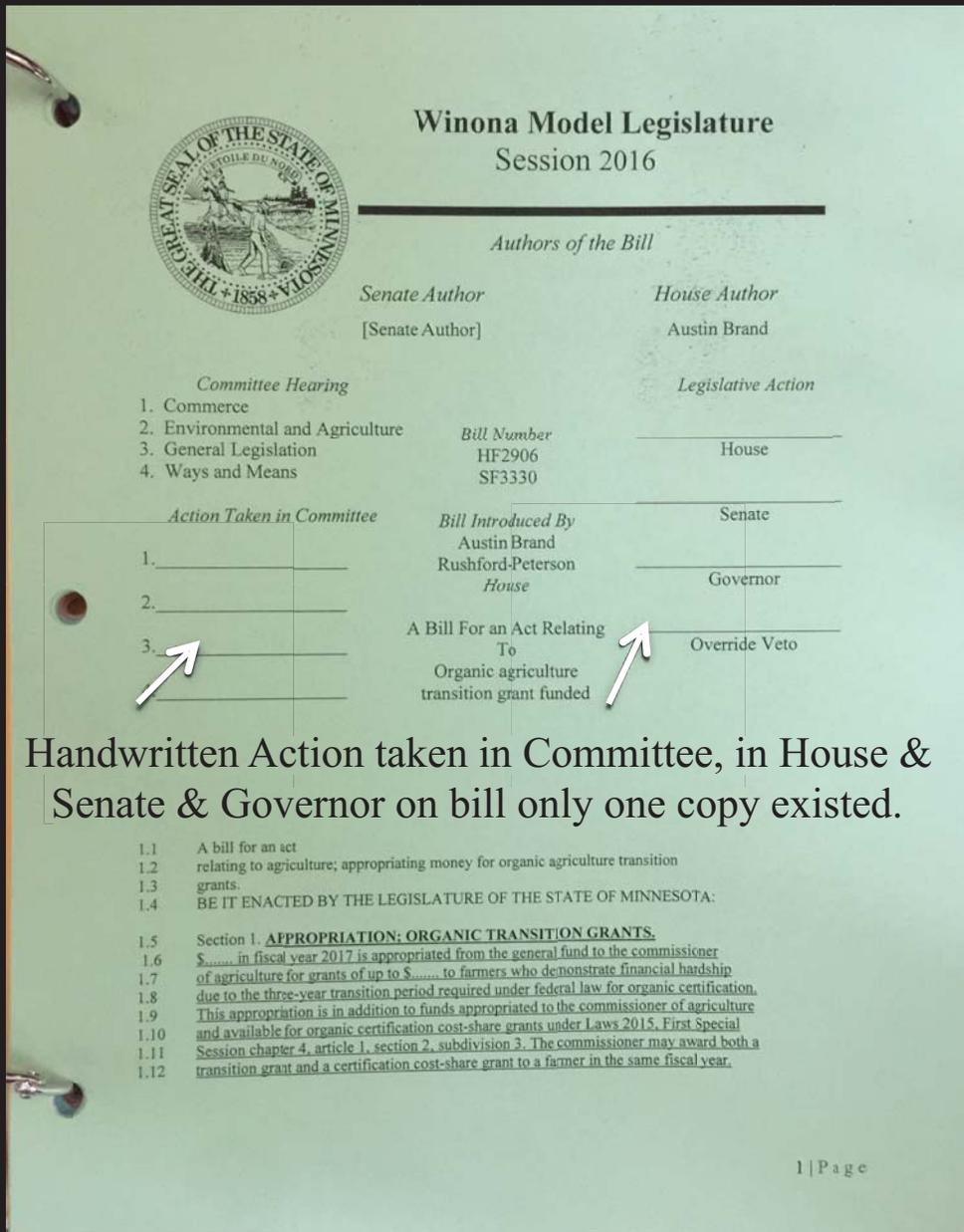
2017 Bill Book=13 Pages

Transformation of the WSU Model Legislature, grades 6-12 participating were 120-133 students, into a web based hands on learning experience is evident by the reduction in the size of the bill book from 281 pages in 2016 to 13 pages in 2017.



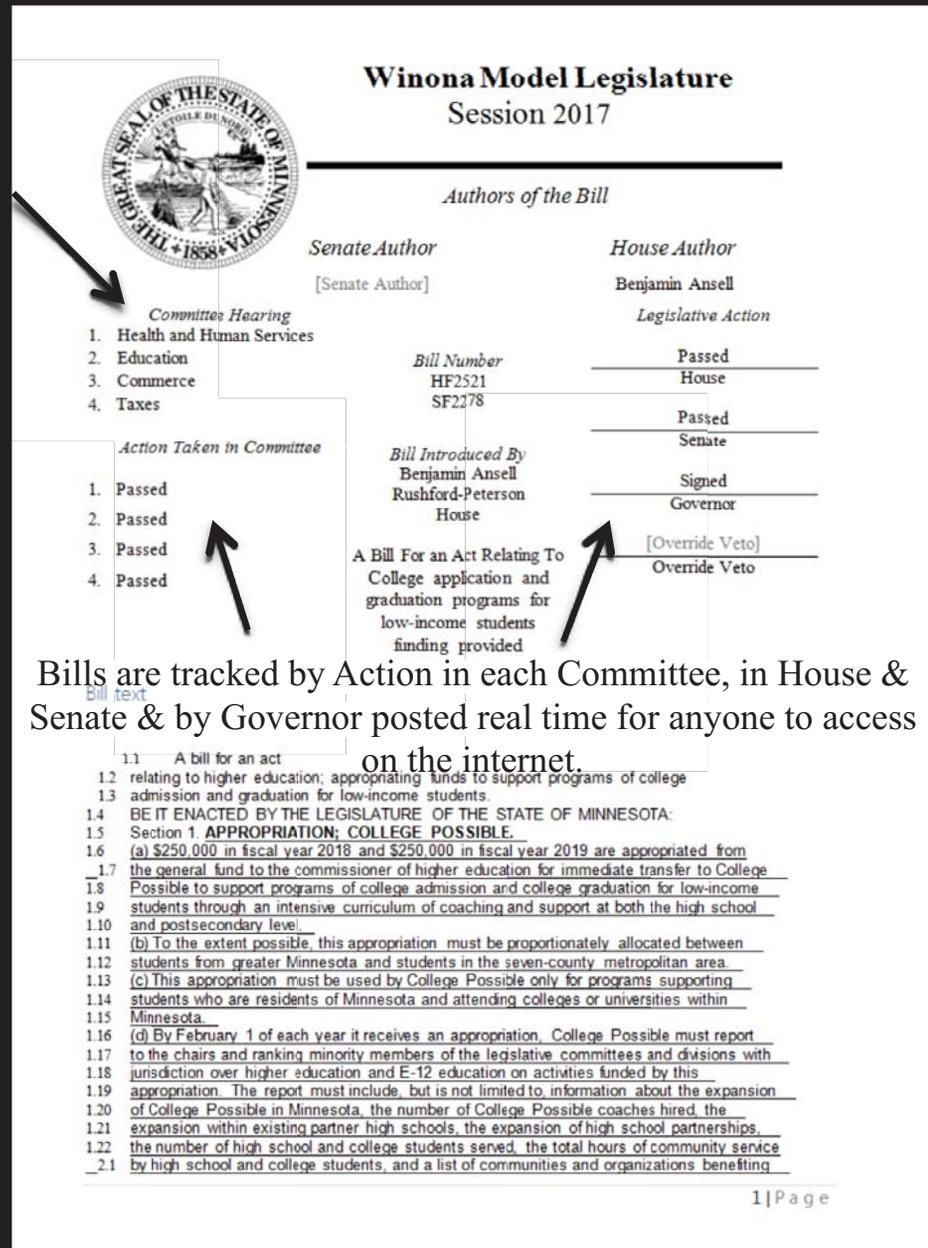
# Winona Model Legislature Advisor Information for posting students to the WSU Winona Model Legislature Site 2017.

In the late summer and fall of 2017, at the direction of WSU President Scott Olson, Adam Gelle and various WSU technology staff created a portal for other schools to enter bills into the Model Legislature web site. Example above displays the transformation.



Handwritten Action taken in Committee, in House & Senate & Governor on bill only one copy existed.

Mirror image of Minnesota Legislature Revisor System created at WSU Model Legislature.



Bills are tracked by Action in each Committee, in House & Senate & by Governor posted real time for anyone to access on the internet.

In the late summer and fall of 2017, there were 19 meetings with Adam Gelle and various WSU technology staff, on transforming the Model Legislature web site into a digital web based Model Legislature. Example above displays the transformation.



# Winona Model Legislature Session 2016

## Authors of the Bill

Senate Author  
Andrea Larson

House Author  
Joshua Doerr

### Committee Hearing

1. General Legislation
2. Commerce
3. Environmental and Agriculture
4. Judiciary

Bill Number  
HF5025  
SF5025

### Legislative Action

House  
*JH 1-16*  
Senate  
*Aidan Bedman*  
Governor  
*1-149*

### Action Taken in Committee

1. *Peterson M... 11-18*
2. *B B*
3. *Halle Bauer*
4. *tone...*

A Bill For an Act Relating To  
Cooperative Electric  
Association Governance

Override Veto

- 1.1 A bill for an act
- 1.2 **216B.028 COOPERATIVE ASSOCIATION GOVERNANCE:**
- 1.3 **Subd. 1: Effective Democratic Control:** Electric Cooperatives
- 1.4 are democratic organizations controlled by their members, who
- 1.5 actively participate in the setting of rates, policies and making
- 1.6 other decisions essential to the operation of the electric
- 1.7 cooperatives. Members of electric cooperatives are represented
- 1.8 by an elected cooperative board of directors. Requirements for
- 1.9 the governance of electric cooperatives is provided for in
- 1.10 chapter 308A.
- 1.11 **Subd. 2: Application of 216B by Cooperative Electric**
- 1.12 **Associations:** As locally controlled and effectively governed
- 1.13 organizations, it is deemed unnecessary and burdensome to
- 1.14 subject electric cooperatives to duplicative commission review.
- 1.15 Interpretation, adoption and application of 216B shall be the sole
- 1.16 responsibility of the governing boards of the electric
- 1.17 cooperatives. Standards and rules adopted by the governing
- 1.18 boards of electric cooperatives shall, to the extent possible,
- 1.19 address issues raised in commission orders developed from this
- 1.20 section.



# Winona Model Legislature Session 2017

## Authors of the Bill

Senate Author  
[Senate Author]

House Author  
Benjamin Ansell

### Committee Hearing

1. Health and Human Services
2. Education
3. Commerce
4. Taxes

Bill Number  
HF2521  
SF2278

### Legislative Action

Passed  
House  
Passed  
Senate

### Action Taken in Committee

1. Passed
2. Passed
3. Passed
4. Passed

Bill Introduced By  
Benjamin Ansell  
Rushford-Peterson  
House

Signed  
Governor  
[Override Veto]  
Override Veto

A Bill For an Act Relating To  
College application and  
graduation programs for  
low-income students  
finding provided

### Bill text

- 1.1 A bill for an act
- 1.2 relating to higher education; appropriating funds to support programs of college
- 1.3 admission and graduation for low-income students.
- 1.4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:
- 1.5 Section 1. **APPROPRIATION; COLLEGE POSSIBLE.**
- 1.6 (a) \$250,000 in fiscal year 2018 and \$250,000 in fiscal year 2019 are appropriated from
- 1.7 the general fund to the commissioner of higher education for immediate transfer to College
- 1.8 Possible to support programs of college admission and college graduation for low-income
- 1.9 students through an intensive curriculum of coaching and support at both the high school
- 1.10 and postsecondary level.
- 1.11 (b) To the extent possible, this appropriation must be proportionately allocated between
- 1.12 students from greater Minnesota and students in the seven-county metropolitan area.
- 1.13 (c) This appropriation must be used by College Possible only for programs supporting
- 1.14 students who are residents of Minnesota and attending colleges or universities within
- 1.15 Minnesota.
- 1.16 (d) By February 1 of each year it receives an appropriation, College Possible must report
- 1.17 to the chairs and ranking minority members of the legislative committees and divisions with
- 1.18 jurisdiction over higher education and E-12 education on activities funded by this
- 1.19 appropriation. The report must include, but is not limited to, information about the expansion
- 1.20 of College Possible in Minnesota, the number of College Possible coaches hired, the
- 1.21 expansion within existing partner high schools, the expansion of high school partnerships,
- 1.22 the number of high school and college students served, the total hours of community service
- 2.1 by high school and college students, and a list of communities and organizations benefiting

In 2016 only one copy of a bill that was signed by the Governor existed. In 2017 an on line version of a bill signed by the Governor was available to everyone on line.



2:27 PM 55%

mywsu.winona.edu

Education Minnesota - Election 2018 Model Legislature 2017 - All Bills

Library Tools Documents Library Sign In

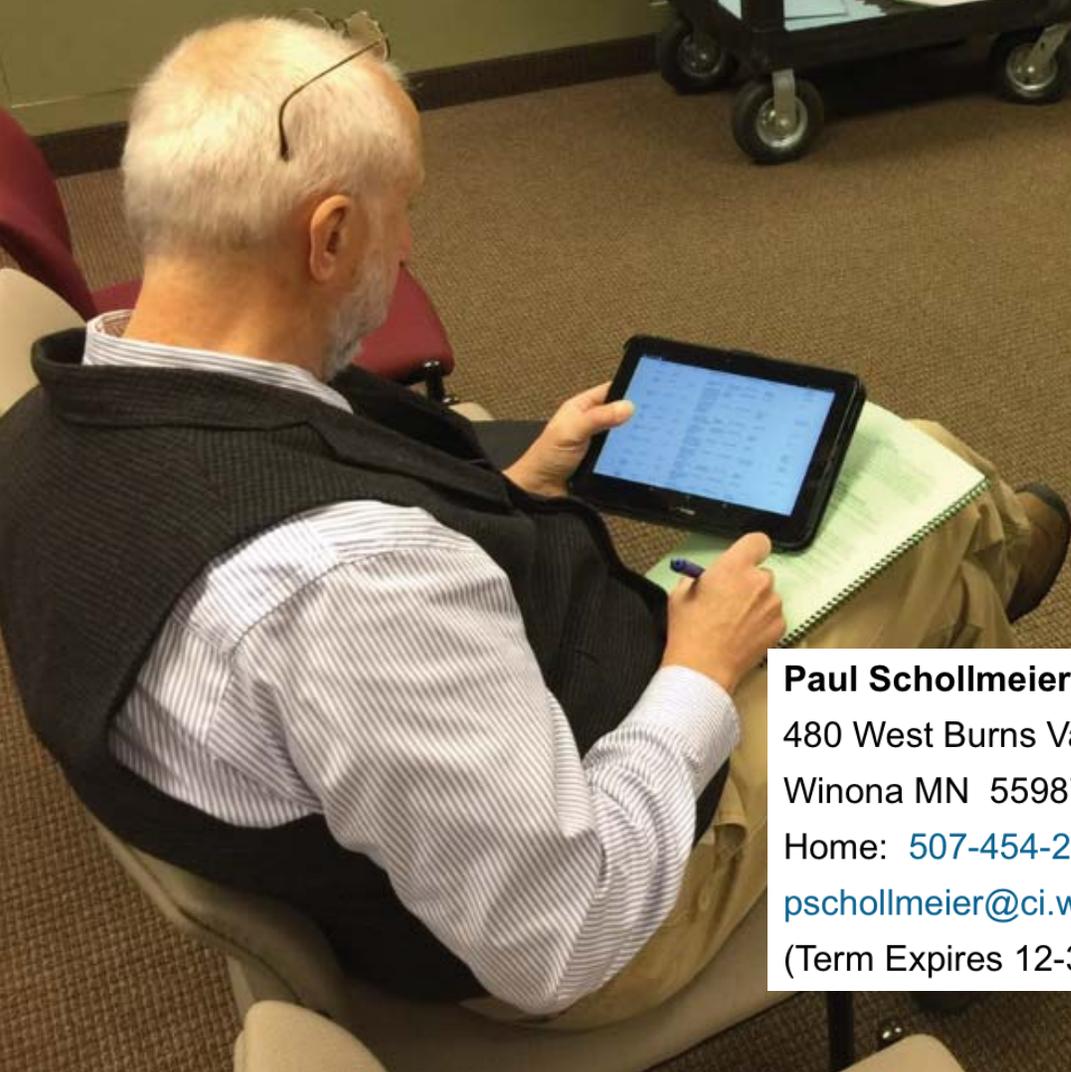
Model Legislature • Model Legislature 2017 • All Bills •  
A collection of bills for the 2017 Model Legislature.

Home Dashboard Event Schedule This List: Model Legis...

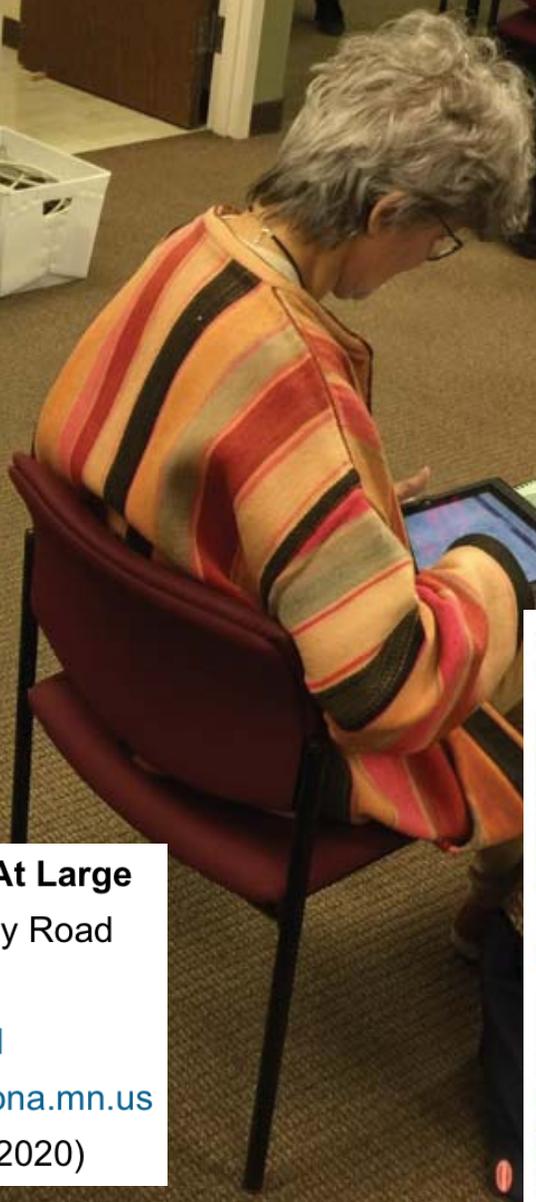
Documents	Edit	Name	First Name	Last Name	School Grade	Bill	Assigned House	House Number	Senate
Shared Documents		Allard, Katie	Katie	Allard	Winona Senior High-11	Taxation; individual income; allowing a refundable student loan credit;	Senate	HF365	SF165
Model Legislature 2017		Anderson, Nicholas	Nicholas	Anderson	Rushford-Peterson-12	Variable tuition rates based on employment outcomes established	House	HF1777	
Lists		Ansell, Benjamin	Benjamin	Ansell	Rushford-Peterson-12	College application and graduation programs for low-income students funding provided	House	HF2521	SF2278
Pages 2017		Bakke, Wyatt	Wyatt	Bakke	Austin High School-12	Community design pilot project created that addresses community assets, needs, and goals for growth.	House	HF2036	SF1809
Committee Chairs 2017		Bearbower, Josie	Josie	Bearbower	Rushford-Peterson-12	Equine Innovations veteran horsepower program grant appropriation	House	HF1563	SF1909
Election 2017		Beguin, Sarah	Sarah	Beguin	Winona Senior High-12	Environment; regulating chemicals of high concern in children's products;	Senate	HF727	SF716
Minnesota Legislative Websites		Bell, Madison	Madison	Bell	Winona Senior High-9	Creating a pilot grant program to encourage and support underrepresented and disadvantaged girls in exploring and pursuing STEM careers	House	HF577	SF2264
House		Benedict, Kasity	Kasity	Benedict	Rushford-Peterson-12	Paid benefits to benefit living organ donors	House	HF519	SF2110
Senate		Blagsvedt, Nicole	Nicole	Blagsvedt	Rushford-Peterson-12	Maltreatment reports required, and the crime of chemical endangerment of unborn children required	House	HF316	
All Site Content		Bole, Richard	Richard	Bole	WSU	Cannabis product consumption and possession allowed for individuals 21 years of age or older, cannabis regulation, rulemaking, fees, penalties, cannabis sales tax, and constitutional amendment proposed.	House	HF2714	
		Brommerich, Kaleb	Kaleb	Brommerich	Winona Senior High-9	Firearm transfer criminal background check required, and transfers excepted.	Senate	HF1669	SF1261
		Buckland, Dylan	Dylan	Buckland	Rushford-Peterson-12	Right to carry without a permit; providing optional permit to carry	Senate	HF188	SF650
		Buckland, Dylan	Dylan	Buckland	Rushford-	Buffer requirements	Senate	HF3000	

All information is now accessed on the WSU Model Legislature Web Site. Meetings were held with each participating school's advisor to ensure the 122 students from six area private and public schools grades 7-12 had the proper level of technology to use the site. Above MN Secretary of State Steve Simon is viewing legislation being presented in one of the Model Legislature's Nine Standing Committees.

Winona City Councilman Paul Schollmeier & Winona County Commissioner Marie Kovecsi visit the Model Legislature and monitor bill progress on iPads and bill books.



**Paul Schollmeier – At Large**  
480 West Burns Valley Road  
Winona MN 55987  
Home: 507-454-2691  
[pschollmeier@ci.winona.mn.us](mailto:pschollmeier@ci.winona.mn.us)  
(Term Expires 12-31-2020)



**SECOND DISTRICT**  
Marie H. Kovecsi



Second District Map

133 Whispering Lane  
Winona, MN 55987  
Phone:  
(507) 457-6350 (Government Center)  
(507) 454-4193 (Home)  
(507) 450-2292 (Cell)  
Email: [mkovecsi@co.winona.mn.us](mailto:mkovecsi@co.winona.mn.us)



Mark Mallander, Committee Administrator to the House Government Operations, Reform and Elections Committee stands beside Representative Frank Hornstein as they visit the Winona Model Legislature's House of Representatives. Representative Hornstein would address the Minnesota House stating he visited the Winona Model Legislature and called it a mock legislature; Representative Pelowski corrected me and stated we serve in the Mock Legislature this is the Model Legislature.

The similarity of dress was accidental.

# Ben Ruberg

Winona Model Legislature  
Governor



VOTE FOR MAX DERBYSHIRE AND  
TAYLOR STARDIG FOR YOUR GOVERNOR  
AND LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR!



VOTE FOR MAX DERBYSHIRE AND  
TAYLOR STARDIG FOR YOUR GOVERNOR  
AND LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR!

# A2

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Street Address: 31110 Cooperative Way, Rushford, MN 55971
Mailing Address: PO Box 626, Rushford, MN 55971
Local: 507.864.7783 | Fax: 507.864.2871

Toll-Free: 800.432.2285 | Website: www.MiEnergy.coop

January 31, 2017

Office of the Governor and Lt. Governor
130 State Capitol
75 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.
St. Paul, MN 55155

The Honorable Governor Mark Dayton & Lt. Governor Tina Flint Smith,

I am the Chair of the Board of Directors for MiEnergy Cooperative, headquartered in beautiful Rushford, Minnesota. As an elected electric cooperative director, I have the responsibility to regulate my local electric cooperative. As a regulator, I balance the interests of my fellow member-owners of the cooperative in setting policies and rates within the law. This local regulation benefits my community and Greater Minnesota by allowing electric cooperatives to quickly take action in response to member needs.

MiEnergy Cooperative, and our fellow Minnesota electric cooperatives, are innovating in response to member-owner wants and needs: including saving money and energy, investing in local solar power, and improving our state's environment. MiEnergy Cooperative developed the first non-profit community solar model, and we're working to advance community storage, EV charging, and behavioral energy efficiency. This innovation is due to member-owner wants and needs; the speed and nimbleness of this innovation is due to local regulation.

Minnesota electric cooperatives are proposing a change that preserves local democratic regulation, allowing cooperatives to continue to innovate in response to member-owner wants and needs. House File 234 and Senate File 141 only clarifies our local Board is responsible for implementing distributed generation and net metering under the law, and makes no changes to the substance or purpose of this section of the statute. Cooperatives, like all utilities in the state, will continue to encourage distributed generation through net metering and other programs. When this modest regulatory clarification reaches your desk, please sign it and support the innovation at Minnesota's forty-five distribution cooperatives.

HF234 was drafted last summer in Rushford with Representative Gene Pelowski. It was decided to run the "draft bill" in the Winona Model Legislature. Senator Andrea Larson, the daughter of a MiEnergy Cooperative employee and Rushford Peterson HS senior, sponsored the bill. The bill was HF5025 SF5025

Honorable Governor and Lt. Governor
Page 2
January 31, 2017

in the Winona Model Legislature. The Model Legislature Governor supported and signed the draft bill, and we hope you will support and sign our actual bill.

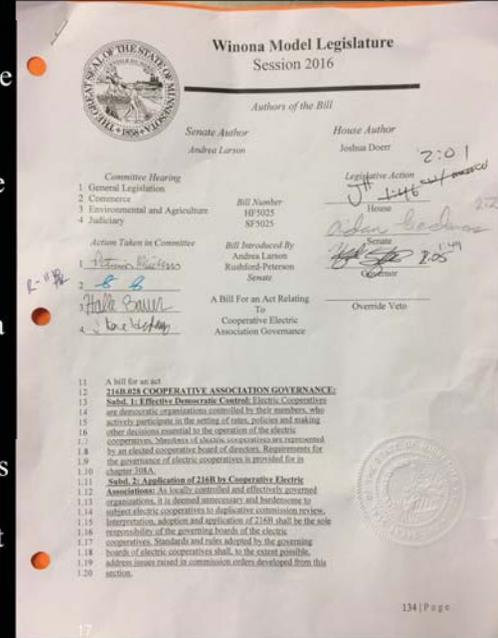
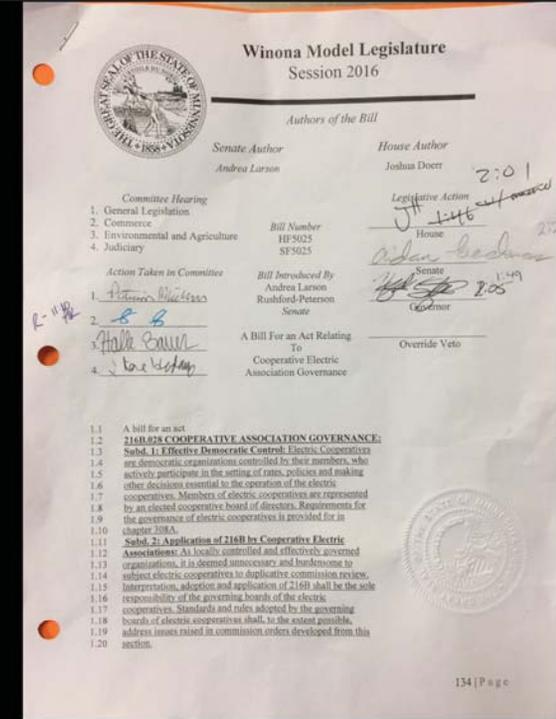
Cooperatively yours,
Dear Marking
Dean Nierling
MiEnergy Cooperative, Board Chair



Winona Model Legislature Governor Hayden Stensgard, with the assistance of Lt. Governor Logan Quimby, affixes the Great Seal of the State of Minnesota after he signed the "Rural Electric - Local Democracy Bill" into law. This piece of model legislation would become HF234 in the 2017 Minnesota Legislative Session. It will be passed by the House, vetoed by Governor Dayton and passed again in the 2017 Special Session and signed by Governor Dayton. It represents what is best in the democratic legislative process.

Senator Andrea Larson was the chief sponsor of the "Rural Electric-Local Democracy Bill" in the Winona Model Legislature Senate.

Her leadership was essential when the Winona Model Legislature House amended essential items from the bill. Senator Larson restored those items in the Senate and sent it back to the House where it was then passed to Governor Stensgard.





# Winona Model Legislature Session 2017

## Authors of the Bill

### Senate Author

Dylan Buckland

### House Author

Gabe Mierau

### Committee Hearing

1. General Legislation
2. Environmental and Agriculture
3. Taxes
4. Ways and Means

Bill Number  
HF3000  
[Senate Number]

### Legislative Action

Passed

House

Passed

Senate

Signed

Governor

[Override Veto]

Override Veto

### Action Taken in Committee

1. Passed
2. Passed
3. Passed
4. Passed

Bill Introduced By  
Dylan Buckland  
Rushford-Peterson  
Senate

A Bill For an Act Relating To  
Buffer requirements on  
public waters and drainage  
ditches clarified and  
modified, and authority to  
issue administrative penalty  
order modified.

### Bill text

- 1.1 A bill for an act
- 1.2 relating to natural resources; clarifying and modifying certain buffer requirements
- 1.3 on public waters and drainage ditches; modifying certain authority to issue
- 1.4 administrative penalty orders; amending Minnesota Statutes 2014, sections
- 1.5 103B.101, subdivision 12; 103E.315, subdivision 8; Minnesota Statutes 2015
- 1.6 Supplement, sections 103B.101, subdivision 12a; 103F.48, subdivisions 1, 3, 4,
- 1.7 7, 8, 10.
- 1.8 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:
- 1.9 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2014, section 103B.101, subdivision 12, is amended to
- 1.10 read:
- 1.11 Subd. 12. Authority to issue penalty orders; generally. (a) Except as provided
- 1.12 under subdivision 12a, the board may issue an order requiring violations to be corrected and
- 1.13 administratively assessing monetary penalties of up to \$10,000 per violation for violations
- 1.14 of this chapter and chapters 103C, 103D, 103E, 103F, and 103G, any rules adopted under
- 1.15 those chapters, and any standards, limitations, or conditions established by the board.
- 1.16 (b) Administrative penalties issued by the board under paragraph (a) or subdivision
- 1.17 12a, may be appealed according to section 116.072, if the recipient of the penalty requests
- 1.18 a hearing by notifying the commissioner in writing within 30 days after receipt of the
- 1.19 order. For the purposes of this section, the terms "commissioner" and "agency" as used in
- 1.20 section 116.072 mean the board. If a hearing is not requested within the 30-day period, the
- 1.21 order becomes a final order not subject to further review.
- 1.22 (c) Administrative penalty orders issued under paragraph (a) or subdivision 12a,
- 1.23 may be enforced under section 116.072, subdivision 9. Penalty amounts must be remitted



## Minnesota's Buffer Legislation

### Issue

Present buffer legislation in Minnesota requires a minimum of 16.5 feet perennial vegetative strips next to public drainage ditches, and a 50 feet average buffer, with a minimum 30 feet buffer, next to public waters. While this approach is currently recognized as the approach to follow, provisions of the law passed during the 2015 special session could be interpreted as something else. Correcting the law to fit this approach is important in order to keep the law consistent with the intent of the legislature and to protect from lawsuits by those who believe that buffer areas should be put into buffers.

### Background

Issues that should be accomplished in the 2016 session include:

Basing public waters classification as agreed upon to the Public Waters Inventory list with designated shore land protection waterways for the 50 feet average, 30 feet minimum buffers.

- Basing public ditches for the 16.5 feet buffer to only those waters established under 103E of Minnesota statutes in the Public Waters Inventory.
- Removal of the extremely confusing language "within benefited areas" from the law passed in 2015.
- Limiting the role of state agencies in implementation and placing the authority for implementation on local government units.

Proposed legislation, HF 3000 and SF 2503 address Farm Bureau's concerns and establish important clarification matters as well as general improvements. Farm Bureau strongly supports passage of these bills.

It is important that, in order to respond to the intention of improving water quality with buffers, the attention needs to be put on implementation. We support using the identified waterways, public waters and public ditches, which were identified and had their designations established through public processes. The prior announced system for the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) proposing to identify buffer requirements within benefited areas concerned and confused landowners as to what might be invented to require loss of their property to the buffer mandate.

Farmers care about water quality but disagree that application of a mandated single conservation practice will achieve problem solving for all areas of the state. Beyond the changes necessary to correct the law, implementation of buffer requirements need to give full consideration for alternative conservation practices, provided for by the present law.

**The Winona Model Legislature now deals with issues that impact the entire state by having local groups initiate legislation.**

# COUNTERPOINT [!]

December 25<sup>th</sup>, 2001

## Making Bills in Model Legislature

By Maggie Bambenek

On December 6th and 7th, several students left their everyday classrooms to be part of a mock legislature. This activity has been a Winona Senior High School tradition for several years, with over one hundred students participating. Mr. Pelowski is the advisor and primary organizer of the activity, and thanks to all his work, it was a complete success.

The purpose of Model Legislature is to give students an opportunity to see how government works from the inside. In Model Legislature, the students elect officers, meet and debate in committees, and convene in their respective body of Legislature. By meeting and debating bills that they and others involved have written, the students get a true feeling of how a bill becomes a law, and they gain experience they wouldn't gain just by watching.

All students participating are expected to know and follow proper protocol. Senators are not allowed on the floor of the House, Representatives are not allowed on the floor of the Senate, and the Governor or Lieutenant Governor is not allowed on either without calling a suspension of the rules.

Matthew Martin Collie was elected Governor and Sarah Merchlewitz was elected Lieutenant Governor.

In past years, Model Legislature was held on a Friday and for half a day on a Saturday. This year it was decided to hold it for two whole days, a Thursday and Friday. This extra time proved to be extremely valuable, especially for committees.

Committees are groups of people that address a particular category of bills, and they are broken down as follows (chairs are written in parentheses):

**Redistricting:**  
(Rep. Otto Dingfelder)

This committee meets once every ten years. Because people vote bases on what district they live in, it is necessary to redraw district line when the census is taken.

**Education:**

(Sen. Lindsey Blank)

This committee deals with anything and everything regarding education, including everything from lunch programs and after school activities to graduation standards and funding.

**Environment & Agriculture:**

(Rep. Dusty Darst)

This committee deals with environmental safety hazards, hunting, fishing, and farming.

**Health & Human Services:**

(Rep. Mary La Valla)

This committee deals with all public health issues like smoking, medicinal marijuana, childcare, genetic research, and abortion.

**Ways & Means:**

(Sen. Matt Parker)

This committee deals with money. Any bill that even mentions funding must go through this committee.

**Judiciary:**

(Rep. Lech Literski)

This committee deals with punishment, and any bill that changes the punishment for breaking the law must go through this committee.

**Transportation:**

(Rep. Kass Klinger)

This committee deals with seat belts, driver's licenses, highways, and traffic regulations such as yield signs.

**General Legislation:**

(Sen. Maggie Bambenek)

This committee deals with voting age, blood donation age, equal rights, and several other miscellaneous bills. Lots of bills in this committee don't fit neatly into any one category, so they start here.

One day before Model Legislature began, it was announced that there was to be a 1.95 billion-dollar deficit. Be-

cause this is supposed to be a model of actual government, it was the chair of Ways and Means' job to make up for that lost money.

This is where the protocol begins. A chair heads the committee, and the chair is referred to as "Madam or Mr. Chair." To avoid confrontation, all conversation is directed through the chair. The author of the bill is called over to explain and answer questions about their bill. When they are finished, they are excused, and discussion begins within the committee. They can pass or fail based on its current merits, or it can be amended. An amendment allows the committee members to change the few things that it has a problem with.

If it passes it can go to another committee to the floor of the House or Senate or to the Consent Calendar. The Consent Calendar consists of bills that shouldn't require much debate in the House or Senate before being passed and sent to the Governor. Rep. Amy Kaufman was elected Speaker of the House,

and Sen. Elizabeth Frosch was elected President of the Senate. They are the leaders of discussion in their prospective bodies, and, like the committee chairs, all discussion and debate must be directed through them.

Once a bill reaches the Governor, it can be signed into law, vetoed, or line/item veto. A veto means it was rejected, but it is possible to override the veto if there is a two-thirds majority vote in both the House and the Senate. In a comical struggle between the legislative and executive branches, a bill about genetic testing was vetoed by an angry governor after his bill failed. The Senate retaliated by overriding the veto, and was followed by the Senate.

There were one hundred and four bills submitted this year.

Of those one hundred and four, fifteen were signed into law. Had this been real government, the following would be laws:

**Bill #79 (Trans.)** This bill would require all people to get their fingerprints taken and stored in a police data base when they get their driver's license. If you refused to have your fingerprints taken, you will be denied a driver's license.

**Bill #66 (Trans.)** This bill required all vehicles to have proper restraint systems for children.

**Bill #45 (Hth. & Hum. Ser.)** This bill ensures that in the case of organ donation, whatever is designated on your driver's license or Minnesota State I.D. is conclusive evidence of your intent to donate your organs. This means your next of kin could not override your decision to donate your organs if you died.

**Bill #1 (Redist.)** This bill redrew the district lines based on population.

**Bill #104 (W&M)** This bill repealed the tax exemption on clothing, meaning now you get taxed on your clothes.

**Bill #6 (Edu.)** Change the prerequisite for the Inters Scholastic conference.

**Bill #102 (Gen. Leg.)** Providing equality of rights for men and women in the Minnesota Constitution.

**Bill #54 (Jud.)** Increasing the punishment for minors who buy, attempt to buy, or consume alcohol to \$250 fine and suspension of driver's license for 6 months.

**Bill #58 (Jud.)** Repealing the prohibiting of ticket scalping, meaning as long as the ticket is certified it can be scalped 750 feet away from the event.

**Bill #38 (Hth. & Hum. Ser.)** Prohibit smoking in all places around the state.

**Bill #42 (Hth. & Hum. Ser.)** Regulating the use of protected genetic information in employment.

**Bill #83 (Gen. Leg.)** Relating to and creating civil unions, meaning two people of the same gender can enter a civil union and it acts as a same sex marriage.

**Bill #22 (Env. & Ag.)** Requiring reduction of air contaminants.

**Bill #97 (Gen. Leg.)** Returning to the original intent of the bill: liquor cannot be sold with in 1500 feet of the administration building of a college campus.

**Bill #94 (Gen. Leg.)** Increasing the requirement for daycare providers training from 6 to 28 hours.

Model Legislature is an opportunity to experience the thrill of government and to change the law to your liking. Contact Mr. Pelowski to join next year's Model Legislature.



Saturday, December 4, 2004  
Winona Daily News

WINONA/REGION

5A

## Students show lawmakers how it's done

By Shannon Fiecke  
Winona Daily News

Winona students hope the Legislature takes a cue from them when it convenes in January.

The youths managed to balance the state budget and pass a number of significant bills in two days.

Almost 120 students from Winona's two high schools and Winona Middle School and Bluffview Montessori assembled at Winona State University on Thursday and Friday to try their hand at running the state government. Mirroring the structure of the state Legislature, they considered more than 100 bills, including 12 signed into law by their governor.

Dealing with state budget projections, showing a \$700 million two-year deficit, a tax bill was the first thing on mock governor Max Fletcher's agenda.

By passing it off the bat, social studies teacher and state representative Gene Pelowski, DFL-Winona, said students accomplished what real legislators prolong.

The bill raised state income taxes to pre-Jesse Ventura levels, Fletcher said, enough to cover the deficit and a few areas of new spending.

Fletcher started his political climb in middle school as a page. Mock legislators keep their younger peers busy relaying notes, not always business in nature. But in the process, students like Fletcher get an education, and, attuned to procedural rules, use them to their advantage when they return the next year.

Pelowski took over running the Legislature from the Jaycees in his first year of teaching at Winona Senior High School. Besides preparing for the session since August, his advanced place-

### THE LEGISLATION

**HF 37** — Opt out of federal No Child Left Behind Act

**HF 7** — Keep record of stillborn births

**HF 11** — Explore statewide grading scale

**SF 9** — Allow middle school students to take high school classes

**SF 43** — Increase state income tax

**SF 1** — Repeal Women's Right to Know law

**HF 30** — Build metropolitan casino in conjunction with American Indian reservations

**HF 33** — Offer free college tuition for veterans of Iraqi conflicts

**HF 105** — Insurance companies should cover mental health/substance abuse treatment

**SF 25** — Ban semi-automatic assault rifles

**SF 15** — Reform medical malpractice liability suits and claims

**HF 17** — Change curfew law from age 18 to 16

ment government class raised \$2,000 to cover program costs.

Cotter social studies teacher Michael Meurer said he's seen participants become

more active in their community, and received a note from a graduate last year who went on to intern at the White House.

Winona Senior High School - Counterpoint[!] - October 31<sup>st</sup>, 2001 -

Model Legislature rules for a day (12/09/2007)

By Cynthia Porter

Photo by Cynthia Porter

Winona Senior High student legislator Matt Papenfuss presented his House bill, co-authored with Senator Nick Moe, that would create a renewable hydrogen initiative for Minnesota. The students were participating in Model Legislature, an annual session held by Rep. Gene Pelowski that teaches politics from the inside out to area students.

In makeshift chambers at the Tau Center, hundreds of young legislators hunched over thick stacks of bills while the Speaker navigated them from one vote to another.

The halls were filled with pages running up and down stairs from one chamber to the next, trying their best to help these legislators accomplish their lofty task by the end of the day deadline.

The task: Pass bills and balance the budget for the great state of Minnesota, all in two days between 9 a.m. and 3:30 p.m.

Called Model Legislature, it is perhaps the only program of its kind in the country. Students turn into senators and representatives and a governor, and the political process leaps from the textbook into the bills these students research, author and present.

Run by Rep. Gene Pelowski, who is also a Winona Senior High teacher, the 32-year-old program brings in students from Winona, Cotter, St. Charles and Houston high schools and turns them into a functioning legislature. Pages are supplied by the Winona Middle School and Bluffview Montessori, and advisors for the young policymakers come from Pelowski's Teaching Social Studies classes at Winona State University.

Students Thursday and Friday were fielding more than 120 bills, many echoing bills actually on the legislative agenda for the upcoming session.

While some of the bills, such as the one to lower the voting age to 16, were unlikely to pass in the real world, most of the bills offered plausible and well thought out arguments for why measures should be considered.

In defending lowering the voting age, authors Mary Ann Mehrkens and Megan Loeffler of St. Charles noted that in a recent study, 96% of students tested could name the vice president, while only 74% of adults could.

Likewise, 96% of students could define the term "judicial review" while only 66% of their adult counterparts could.

And, authors wrote, lowering the voting age could better engage people in the political process at a younger age.

Justin Jackson and Johann VanDeinse of WSHS presented a compelling argument for creating space in the Minneapolis/St. Paul airport for a casino, saying it would generate needed revenue and give travelers something to do while in the airport.

Cancer screening for uninsured, firearms limitations, stem cell research, deforestation, suicide prevention, global warming, the bill book contained a litany of important subjects.

If students could run Minnesota, there would be more flood money for the region, ACT and SAT tests would be at least partially funded by the state, teacher contracts would be revamped, pregnant women could not get drunk, there would be universal health care and we would be taking better care of the planet.

Of course, by the end of the day Friday, the suits, ties and skirts were put away and these teens were hanging out with friends somewhere, their plans for a better Minnesota unrealized in the real world.

But even so, as seriously as they tackled solving Minnesota's problems there's no saying what these young people can do someday when they are wearing a suit and tie for real.

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# Kids rule! Model Legislature

Photo by Cynthia Porter

Students from high schools across the region convened Wednesday and Thursday for Model Legislature, a government immersion program led by state representative and WSHS teacher Gene Pelowski.



by CYNTHIA PORTER

If 120 high school students from South-eastern Minnesota were running the state, things might look a bit different, some might even say better.

Students from seven regional high schools took on the task of balancing the state's budget and enacting laws that run the gamut from casinos to recycling. The program is called Model Legislature, and though they are merely teenagers, students tackle their tasks very seriously.

Armed with a 387-page bill book, they lobbied, they campaigned and they ar-

gued. Working in a format that replicates the state's government, the process was formal, the stakes high for students who had in some cases spent months drafting legislation they wanted to see passed during their legislative session. The legislators even had pages to run errands — thanks to the Winona Middle School — and committee advisors — thanks to government students at of Winona State University.

But unlike the state's legislative session that stretches on for months, these bright minds completed their job in two days, with time for cookies before the buses

picked them up to go home.

From his seat as the governor, Ethan Castello said he was pleased at how his platform was faring in committees of the Senate and House.

Kastello, a senior at Winona Senior High School, participated in Model Legislature last year through his government classes with WSHS teacher and state Representative Gene Pelowski.

Last year Castello didn't envision being the governor, but he set his sights on the position after learning that another

See **MODEL LEGISLATURE** page 5A

# Model Legislature

Continued from page 1A

team was running unopposed. "That didn't seem right," he said. "That's not how politics should work." Castello said he didn't have some burning desire to run, he just thought that someone should.

But then something happened. "I got interested in it and started going hard, and I ended up really wanting to be governor," Castello said. "It was a good ride."

Coming in as the underdog to a team that had been campaigning for the job since last year, Castello and his running mate, August Judisch, had their work cut out for them.

They prepared a platform for the session and sent copies of it to all the schools that would be participating in the Model Legislature. They even made campaign buttons and mailed those to all the schools too.

By the end of the gubernatorial election Wednesday, the pair narrowly defeated the other team and took their seats at the helm of the makeshift government.

As state officials grapple with a projected \$5 billion budget deficit, they might find a solution or two in the bill book prepared by the high school students from WSHS, Cotter, St. Charles, Cannon Falls, Houston, Lewiston and Dover-Eyota.

With the help of student computer gurus from Winona State University, each bill prepared by a student was cataloged on a web site accessible by other participants. Over the months leading up to Model Legislature, students could review work being done by others, and Pelowski could keep tabs on the

process electronically for the first time in the program's 30-year history.

At the event, bill authors lobbied and gave presentations hoping to sway their colleagues into support.

A few of the bills carry youthful ideals that are unlikely to find support in a broader audience, such as the bill that would require every Minnesotan to have a power nap every day.

The penalty for not participating in the power nap as scheduled by the government would be jail time equal to the amount of sleep lost by not napping.

Another bill argues that the rear occupant of a tandem bicycle should be legally able to have an open alcoholic container just as they could in a limousine or bus.

Students argued for lowering the drinking age to 18, lowering the voting age to 16 and raising the car seat age to 8. Some wanted antiabortion legislation, some wanted to preserve choice.

Many took issue with cell phones, wanting to limit their use while driving and compel companies to disclose realistic maps of service coverage.

Adoption information rights for adopted children would get a boost under bills that would open adoption records to adoptees once they reach adulthood.

Some of the bills very seriously tackled issues like ethanol studies, renewable energy taxes, while some addressed in great detail topics like hunting, seat belt use and education.

For students, it was a chance to shape the world a little, even if just in their imaginations. But it was also an opportunity to learn through hands-on experience,

and gain an understanding of government that few adults have mastered.

For Kristina Veerkamp, a senior at WSHS, her first year at Model Legislature was an enlightening one. "I didn't know how the government actually works, all the committees and processes," she said. "I'm learning more than I could in a classroom."

Her favorite part, Veerkamp said, was arguing for her bill to lower the cost of textbooks in college, and listening to others argue their bills too. "I like hearing everyone's point of view," she said.

Students said that while they may never go into politics, they feel more engaged in it after being part of Model Legislature. "It creates an interest and a knowledge," Governor Castello said. "I follow politics more now and I understand the process. When I read something that talks about the speaker of the house, I know who that is and what that person is trying to do."

According to Pelowski, Model Legislature is the only program of its kind in Minnesota and likely across the United States. "I've never heard of another program that spans grades six through 16," he said. "This is the only one that I'm aware of anywhere." Pelowski said he is only able to continue building Model Legislature from one year to the next because of financial and in-kind support he receives from Winona State, local businesses and private individuals in the community.

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# The Houston Banner

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"The Best of Bluff Country"

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75¢

## Nine HHS students take part in model legislature at Winona State

WINONA – On Thursday and Friday, Dec. 6th and 7th, 130 students from Winona Senior High, Cotter Senior High, Houston High School, St. Charles High School, Winona Middle School, Bluffview Montessori School and Winona State University participated in a Model Legislature at the Tau Center on Winona State University's West Campus. Grades 9-12 were Representatives, Senators, the Governor and Lt. Governor. Students from Winona Middle School and Bluffview Montessori School served as pages. Winona State University students were advisors. Minnesota Secretary of State Mark Ritchie swore in the student legislators and delivered the opening address at this year's event. The public was welcome to attend as spectators.

"This may be the only activity in the nation where grades 6-16 participate in a hands-on educational activity," said Rep. Gene Pelowski (DFL-Winona), who has taught the "Teaching Social Studies in the Secondary" course for WSU for the past 18 years and has been advisor to the Model Legislature for 32 years.

In preparation for becoming Social Studies teachers, Winona

State University students in Pelowski's 'Teaching Social Studies in the Secondary' course participated as committee administrators to each of the 10 legislative committees, staff to the Speaker of the House, President of the Senate and Governor's Office. They journaled on this experience in a power-point format that was presented to the class as their final, explaining how the teachers and students learned the legislative process from each other.

"Rather than reading about it in books, this gives students the chance to actively learn the intricacies of the legislative process. They present their bill in committee. If it passes committee, they will have to debate it in the House and Senate. If it passes both houses, it will be up to the Governor to sign or veto it," said Rep. Pelowski.

By using the Legislature's website at [www.house.mn](http://www.house.mn), participants were able to research actual bills that will appear before the Minnesota Legislature in St. Paul during the upcoming legislative session. Students in this year's Model Legislature have researched and drafted over 120 bills.

After researching the bill, according to Houston High School teacher, Kelsey Glebke, students changed the bill in some way and typed an essay stating what they changed and why. Their bills and essays were published in a book that they were able to keep. Five students from Houston wrote a bill. They were Brenna Gustafson, Hope Stremcha, Allison Zwarycz, William Lundberg and April Ledebuhr.

"It was great," said Ms. Glebke. "The students worked hard to participate. We stayed after school several times and had many meetings to prepare them. I was very proud of them."

Four Houston 8th graders – Josh Vix, Danielle Schroeder, Jesse Moe and Erin Chapel – were pages during the Model Legislature Program.

Because Rep. Pelowski doesn't allow "any free riders," each student worked on his or her own bill. While Brenna's bill dealt with whether or not it is your constitutional right to give away free sales of alcohol (for marketing and promotional purposes), Will's was pertinent to our area. Will wanted all Minnesota residents to receive Minnesota TV stations, not Wisconsin stations. He also asked for an ala cart cable station. Instead of paying for a package deal with the cable company, he asked, why can't we just pay for the stations that we want? Hope wrote about making the flu vaccination mandatory for schools and day care providers. Allison wrote about the transportation of the deceased. Without this bill, she discovered, anyone can transport a deceased person. April's bill was about child support and raising the average amount of child support.

"The changes that the students made were changes that they wanted," said Ms. Glebke. "They researched previous bills and newspaper articles in order to write their bill/essay. They are now very knowledgeable."

A6 | THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2016

## OPINION

### Winona Daily News

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### OUR VIEW

## Students work together for the public good

Our political system is broken and partisan, filled with backbiting and infighting, led by lawmakers worried more about their own future and fame than their constituents' needs, and who are increasingly prone to exhibiting the kind of poor morals and character we wouldn't expect out of the blackest sheep in our families.

Congress? Nah. We're talking about the Minnesota Legislature. Okay. We're over-exaggerating a bit. But to be fair these days, even in state politics, it's hard to figure out what the new normal looks like.

We were discouraged this fall by too many things. The large number of qualified, thoughtful incumbents on every side of the aisle who chose not to run again, many of them citing the increasing partisanship at the Capitol and the fact that being a lawmaker is not exactly a part-time job if you want to do it well. The new faces in races attached to everything from financial indiscretions to outright racial slurs. The outside money that poured in, with DFLers and Republicans alike each independently attempting to buy themselves a Legislature.

Not to say we weren't discouraged already, given the Legislature's inability this spring to do practically anything of consequence, leaving so many major bills on the table that the campaign-season rhetoric focused more on what they would have liked to do, rather than what they actually accomplished.

So let's talk about what a new model looks like. Actually, there's no need: We have one built already, right here in town.

Today and Friday, Rep. Gene Pelowski will again be leading the Model Legislature in Winona, where more than 100 high-school students gather to elect leaders, write bills, convene committees, negotiate the fine art of compromise, and likely accomplish more in two days than what the Minnesota Legislature has accomplished

in the last two years. He's been leading the effort for nearly 40 years; the program has been around for a half-century.

This work has never been more important, the education of Minnesota's future political leaders never more crucial.

Character counts. More so than ever. There's no better place to learn than by practicing among peers, far away from the eventual bright lights that tend to blind so many promising public servants.

And we've pointed out many times before how the problem in politics – with the Minnesota Legislature, at least – isn't always with the people, but with the process.

So who better to lead the way for Minnesota's newest crop of bright, thoughtful political minds than Pelowski? Winona's longtime representative, while consistently leading with the decorum and respect of the state's most celebrated politicians, has taken on the often lonely cause at the Capitol of striving for basic and necessary reforms to how the Legislature does business.

Given the bitter words immediately lobbed back and forth after the dust settled on Election Day and Minnesota found itself with a newly minted Republican Senate, a stronger Republican House, and a DFL governor who's already announced he's run the last political race of his career, we're not terribly optimistic about what 2017 will bring.

But we're optimistic when it comes to Minnesota's political future, and that's in large part due to the Model Legislature program. Spend just a bit of time with the program, as we have every year, and it's impossible not to be hopeful, watching high-school students tentatively navigate adult systems they haven't yet been jaded by, forging new relationships, discovering unexpected communion, learning how to work together for the public good.

Pelowski and the Model Legislature are building that future together, and that's something to celebrate.

A8 THURSDAY, November 28, 2013

### NEIGHBORS



CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

Model Legislature students recite an oath.

## Model Legislature celebrates 51st year

The 51st session of Model Legislature began Nov. 21 with the swearing-in of student participants at the Winona State University Tau Center. Model Legislature, where students from Winona-area schools learn the process of drafting state legislation, was held from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Nov. 21-22.

To see the bills students wrote, visit [tinyurl.com/kngfo2x](http://tinyurl.com/kngfo2x).



Model Legislature elected officials for 2013, pictured left to right: Christian Deranek, WSHS, Speaker of the House; Hudson Echelard, Cotter, President of the Senate; Minnesota Secretary of State Mark Ritchie; Jeremy Graves, WSHS Model Legislature adviser; Minnesota Senator Jeremy Miller; Kaitlyn Lindaman, WSHS, Lieutenant Governor; Roni Lafky, WSHS, Governor; Minnesota Rep. Gene Pelowski.

# Modeling the best in state politics

Some people talk a good game when it comes to civic discourse and ethical leadership as part of the political process.

On rare occasions, there are those who actually model the right behavior.

That word model is important, because for 49 years, Winona has hosted a Model Legislature program designed to give students in high school and middle school the experience of serving as leaders of state government.

For most of those 49 years, Rep. Gene Pelowski has been the inspiration.

Last week, the DFL representative from Winona led his 36th Model Legislature.

If only the folks in St. Paul ran so efficiently.

With help from host Winona State University, Pelowski brought together nearly 130 area

students for two days worth of collaborative discussions. Winona State not only hosts the event, but some of the WSU students in Pelowski's class also assist.

Secretary of State Mark Ritchie — wearing his tie that bears the words of the U.S. Constitution — did the formal duties, including swearing in the legislators and leadership.

"Students meet and get to know people from other schools, so their window on the world gets much bigger," Ritchie said. "It's less a learning thing and more of a fire being lit and their lives being shaped by that fire."

That fire is crucial when it burns brightly.

Winona Senior High School senior Dani Langowski, who worked for three months on the handbook for her fellow student legislators, said: "I'm really pas-

sionate about politics. It's fascinating. Even though it's not the real Legislature, it feels real."

Pelowski's influence has everything to do with that. Students work without party affiliation, and senators and representatives work together on committees.

Unlike Congress' supercommittee on budget reform, failure is not an option.

The students are forced to balance the budget and deal with real-life issues — the Vikings stadium, tax reform, education and health care.

All of that requires vision and compromise — traits often lacking in the real world.

Anyone who has gone to Pelowski seeking his support of crafting legislation knows that he's a passionate advocate — as long as things are done the right way.

He has fought for fiscal sanity at the same time pushing the Legislature to reform its activities to cut down on late-night debates with little opportunity for public hearings.

He doesn't just preach transparency, he practices it.

His lessons resonate in the Capitol, where Model Legislature alumni such as Sen. Jeremy Miller of Winona still remember the lessons from going through the high school program a dozen years ago.

"This is a different type of learning," Pelowski said. "Whether your bill passes or not, it's about what you learn."

In large measure, the students learn respect — dressing the part as well as acting it.

For all of those lessons, our community owes a great deal of thanks to the lessons that Rep. Pelowski continues to provide.

# Opinion

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## OUR VIEW

# Model Legislature's name fits

The Winona Model Legislature celebrated its 50th anniversary of inspiring young people last week.

It is, indeed, a model of collaboration, dedication and leadership that our community should be very proud of.

Minnesota Secretary of State Mark Ritchie provided the opening remarks once again — making the drive to Winona despite a funeral to attend.

Winona State University President Scott Olson greeted the young legislators to campus, and Mayor Jerry Miller read a proclamation declaring it Model Legislature Day in Winona.

What started with the inspiration of a Winona mayor and a service club 50 years ago has now provided inspiration to more than 5,000 area students to participate

in public service.

A number of community members have contributed to sustain the program, which is the oldest of its kind in the nation.

State Rep. Gene Pelowski has led the program — and Winona State University has been the host — for nearly four decades.

In fact, Pelowski's experience leading the program helped inspire him to run for the Legislature — and the 26-year state representative recently was re-elected.

His passion for education and public service was quite evident during last week's sessions.

Model Legislature brings together students from area middle and high schools, along with helpers from Winona State and Saint Mary's, to provide a real-

**Model Legislature brings together students from area middle and high schools, along with helpers from Winona State and Saint Mary's, to provide a real-world experience in legislating.**

world experience in legislating.

The young legislators — all wearing business attire — learned quickly that the chairman won't call on you if you don't rise to be recognized.

They also learned about taking stands, negotiating with others and advancing legislation.

In the process, the students

learn about working with others in order to serve others.

"That's where the reward is right there — inspiring students to do something they probably never would have done without it," Pelowski said.

Our state senator, Jeremy Miller, told the students how he was inspired by the program — and now serves in St. Paul with Pelowski.

The secretary of state would love to see other communities follow Winona's model.

"It helps reinforce a lifelong appreciation of the opportunities and challenges and necessities of being involved," Ritchie said. "It also does trigger something inside of young people that then becomes part of their life goals and their path in which they

choose to follow their dreams and passions."

Whether the students go on to serve in the Legislature or the city council or a volunteer board position, Ritchie's description of following dreams and passions is really the key.

"It feeds the minds and hearts and souls of the young people and the older people who keep it going," Ritchie said. "I think that's part of the secret why this is long-lived and so successful."

It's all about inspiration — and why so many of our local and state leaders continue to share their passion with our emerging leaders.

Thanks to Gene Pelowski and all the people who make this inspiring program a model to follow.

# MODEL

From A1

Real events inspired several bills. Model Sen. John Scheevel, a WSHS senior, authored a bill requiring the governor to get legislative approval before cutting the budget when there's a revenue shortfall. Scheevel got the idea after Minnesota Gov. Tim Pawlenty cut the budget unilaterally in June when he couldn't agree with lawmakers on how to do it.

**R and D "stand for respect and diplomacy," WSHS senior Ryan Residence said.**

"It's a separation-of-powers issue," Scheevel said. "This basically puts a check on the governor."

Pelowski has taught Model Legislature to local high school students for 34 years. He brings in other state leaders, including Secretary of State Mark Ritchie and Rep. Frank Hornstein, DFL-Minneapolis, who attended Thursday's session. Half-jokingly, Pelowski told students Thursday morning that Ritchie and Hornstein were on hand "to learn from you" before the real legislative session starts in February.

Moments later, candidates for Model Legislature leadership posts began their stump speeches. Model gubernatorial candidate and WSHS senior Ryan Residence told colleagues that the letters "R" and "D" don't stand for Republicans and Democrats.

"They stand for respect and diplomacy," Residence said.

It's too soon to tell if the real state leaders were taking notes.

## A MODEL FOR CIVILITY?



PHOTOS BY MELISSA CARLO/WINONA DAILY NEWS

Members of the Model Legislature House of Representatives are sworn in Thursday during Model Legislature at the Tau Center on Winona State University's West Campus.

## Model Legislature teaches local high school students the Art of compromise

By **MARK SOMMERHAUSER**  
msommerhauser@winonadailynews.com

The governor and House and Senate leaders worked together Thursday to balance Minnesota's \$1.2 billion budget shortfall.

**Wishful fantasy?**

Not exactly — it was Model Legislature, an annual exercise where 150 students from Winona-area high schools and Winona State University spend two days crafting mock state law. Nearly everything about Model Legislature mirrors the real thing, as students form legislative committees, author bills and vote on them under direction from a real lawmaker: Rep. Gene Pelowski, DFL-Winona, a social studies teacher at Winona Senior High School.

But there's at least one big difference. There are no political parties in Model Legislature. Model Gov. Naeh Klages-Mundt, a WSHS senior, said some students identify as liberals or conservatives, but most are willing to



Minnesota Secretary of State Mark Ritchie looks on as Model Legislature Speaker of the House Sylvia Thomas, 17, calls the House to order Thursday during Model Legislature.

consider others' ideas.

"We're really looking for compromise where it's needed," Klages-Mundt said.

The budget shortfall is the big problem for legislators — real and model — this year, and Klages-Mundt wants to balance it by increasing sales

and alcohol taxes and cutting spending. The model governor's other legislative priorities include repealing No Child Left Behind, cracking down on cyber-bullying and legalizing marijuana.

See **MODEL** 23



CHUCK MILLER PHOTOS, WINONA DAILY NEWS

Minnesota Secretary of State Steve Simon, middle, leads an oath as the Model Legislature at Winona State University's Tau Center began on Thursday morning.

## 'This is how we form a more perfect union'

Winona Model Legislature turns students into lawmakers

BY **KYLE FARRIS**  
Winona Daily News

Dawson Dahl wants to grant veterans free hunting and fishing licenses.

Sophie Tekautz wants to ban protests of reproductive health services like those offered by Planned Parenthood.

And Wyatt Bakke wants \$500,000 to fund arts and recreation projects across Minnesota.

Dahl, Tekautz, Bakke and more than 100 other area high school students are working this week to make their bills the law of the land at this year's Winona Model Legislature.

The annual two-day event offers students a crash course in state politics and lawmaking by giving them roles as representatives, senators and executives, and giving them mock versions of real bills to consider.

"We live, as you know, in a divided time," Scott Olson, president of Winona State University, told the students before they were sworn into office in the Tau Center rotunda. "Republican or Democrat, libertarian or progressive, this is what brings us together. This is how we form a more perfect union."

After the young legislators voted their peers into key positions — governor, lieutenant governor, secretary of state and



Local high school students listen as the 2017 Winona Model Legislature at Winona State University's Tau Center begins on Thursday morning.

president pro tempore of the senate — they broke into committees and began presenting and contemplating bills.

Rep. Bakke, a senior at Austin High School, was assigned to the Commerce Committee during this, his first and only trip to the Model Legislature. His favorite part, he said, is challenging the merits of his colleagues' bills.

"Barraging them with questions and stuff," said Bakke, who added that he possesses the skills of persuasion needed to champion his own bill.

"I love this place," he said. "It's so fun."

Students over the past few weeks had a chance to scour through dozens of bills and pick one of particular interest.

Sen. Megan Mattheis, who's in her junior year at Winona Senior High School and hopes

to become a veterinarian, chose a bill that would make food companies clearly label products that contain xylitol, an artificial sweetener than can be harmful to dogs.

Rep. Ben Maynard, a senior at Rushford-Peterson High School who works at a car dealership, chose a bill that would prevent vehicle manufacturers and distributors from engaging in a slew of unfair practices.

"It's cool learning the different ways that government works," he said.

At least one legislator, however, was not a fervent advocate for her own bill.

Rep. Grace Luhmann, a senior at Rushford-Peterson, was tasked with presenting a bill that would legalize spearfishing from sundown to sunup.

know if it should be legal," she said. "Giving people spears in the night ... that kind of scares me."

Before the Legislature went to work, they heard from a former member of the Model Legislature who has moved onto the real thing.

Jeremy Miller, a state senator representing Winona, spoke to the students Thursday after being awarded an engraved gavel from Rep. Gene Pelowski, the longtime adviser of the Model Legislature.

"It was a great learning experience 17 years ago," said Miller, who encouraged students to trust in themselves, get involved in their communities and surround themselves with good people. "I used to sit in your chair. I had a desire to run for public office, but didn't know when or where."

Some students had their own sources of inspiration. As representatives and senators buzzed and bustled in their giant room, Michael Ekern and Matthew Strapp, both seniors at Rushford-Peterson, made themselves at home in the governor's office just down the hall.

Ekern and Strapp, who had never participated in Model Legislature before this week, said they were inspired by their former classmate Logan Quimby, who served as governor at last year's Model Legislature. Quimby even used his executive power to order pizza.

"We heard about that," Lt. Gov. Strapp said. "Power seems pretty neat," Gov. Ekern added.

Dec. 4, 2009

# Policy, process and personality: Annual Model Legislature kicks off in Winona

© Nov 19, 2015 at 4:40 PM  
Glen Olson Daily News



Kean Benson was king for a day.

Or as close as one can get in a democracy.

At least within the context of Winona's Model Legislature, where the Rushford-Peterson High School senior made it to the highest-ranking elected official's chair as the governor Thursday morning at Winona State University's Tau Center.

This was Rushford's first year participating, and the 53rd year of the Model Legislature, which gathered over 100 middle school, high school and college students from the surrounding area to write, sell and vote for bills for their state. The event, long led by state Rep. Gene Pelowski, DFL-Winona, is a key chance for students to learn the state government process — by running a mock government.

As governor, Benson had a simple but ambitious goal as leader.

"Our goal is to spread out the budget evenly," Benson said. "Get what needs to be done."

Benson and his lieutenant governor Kate Klungvedt, also a Rushford-Peterson senior, said that once they got their information from committee meetings going on down the hall, that wouldn't be a problem.

The Model Legislature covered the workings of both the Minnesota House and Senate, with students filling roles on committees as they lobbied and debated each other to get their bills passed. The bills, some of which the students wrote themselves prior to the event, covered a range of topics, from limiting cellphone use while driving to expanding life insurance for non-career firefighters who die in the line of duty.

Pelowski said the event inspires further involvement in students, many of whom are there year after year — and some of whom have gone into state government in the real world.

"We have students at every level of governments, including the White House, who were in Model Legislature," Pelowski said, including state Sen. Jeremy Miller, R-Winona, who was in attendance Thursday.

Pelowski said the event covers more than just the official procedures as students work together.

"They deal with policy, process and personality," Pelowski said. "The three P's."

Scott Olson, WSU president, said the event is a good example of teaching students to use power collaboratively.

"This is how government ought to work," Olson said.

Olson also noted that the event was one of the things that inspired the university's Education Village project, which in part seeks to give students more exposure to experiential learning opportunities — like running a model state government.

Pelowski said any expanded WSU partnership would allow Model Legislature to include more area schools and also help with funding, as the event is almost all privately funded or by donations, including from WSU.

"We'll broaden this," Pelowski said. "It is what we've always wanted."

Thursday, the students experienced the grind of lawmaking. That included the pages running messages to and fro between the committees and the governor's office, collecting ballots, and other work.

One page, Mikaela Mohr, an eighth-grade Cotter student, said she had come for the first time after being asked by one of her teachers, but she had been interested since going to Washington D.C.

She said it was interesting to observe government in action, especially the level of involvement. Mohr said she'd like to participate next year, and be more than a page.

"I think it's cool how people get into this," Mohr said, adding a note on the dapper dress of many of the student attendees: "They really get into costume."

Benson and Klungvedt, meanwhile, said that despite their experience Thursday, they weren't interested in working in real-world government.

However, Benson appreciated "getting an insight into how government works," he said.



## R-P Model Legislature students help push bill to the Capitol

By MATTHEW RODENBURG, Tri-County Record Staff Writer

Wednesday, June 21, 2017 11:49 AM

Rushford-Peterson students participating in Model Legislature recently had a firsthand look into the group effort needed to pass legislation. R-P students played a significant role in drafting a bill-one affecting their local energy cooperative- passed by the Minnesota legislature last month.

In recent years, Tri-County Electric Cooperative (which is now a part of the MiEnergy Cooperative) had a complaint filed against them on a qualification of a wind turbine installation. Tri-County was one of four electric cooperatives who faced the brunt of this complaint.

The result was costly, but after a year of investigating and resolving the issue, Tri-County, with the help of Attorney General Lori Swanson, found that the blame came from Renewable Energy, the company responsible for providing the poor equipment.

"We felt that clarification was needed in statute," said MiEnergy in a prepared statement. The statement went on to state that MiEnergy felt that the responsibility on local regulators should be to balance interest of customers (referred to as "members") in energy cooperatives with the profits of the company.

MiEnergy, Minnesota Rural Electric Association, Representative Gene Pelowski, and other influential voices worked to draft a bill for introduction. The bill was drafted by the fall of 2016 under the designation HF 234.

### Model Legislature

Meanwhile, Winona's Model Legislature, a program instituted by Pelowski, is preparing for their sessions on Nov. 17 and 18. The Model Legislature featured students from Austin High School, Winona Cotter, Winona High and Middle schools, Winona State University, and R-P.

The Model Legislature looked over HF 234 and in their sessions discussed and passed the bill.

"The goal was to run the bill and see what would happen," said Pelowski. "I wanted feedback. I knew we would get a cross section of comments from this."

Andrea Larson took the charge as Senate Author of the bill. As the daughter of Heather, a MiEnergy employee, Larson was in the prime position to get actual working feedback by those in the industry, feedback that she brought to the model legislature.

"When I had a question, I could ask them and vice versa," shared Larson, who also worked with MiEnergy's CEO Brian Krambeer in discussing the bill.

Larson explained that all members of the Model Legislature were split into the House and the Senate with R-P students Hayden Stensgard and Logan Quimby being elected Governor and Lieutenant Governor, respectively.



Hayden Stensgard, Governor



Andrea Larson, Senate Author



Logan Quimby, Lieutenant Governor

As the Senate finished their work on the bill, they passed it to the House, where the House amended one big issue; who would set prices for members. The House amended the bill to suggest that the Public Utilities Commission would set the prices instead of the Cooperatives. If this happened, the prices would be static across the State of Minnesota and smaller Cooperatives would pay the same pricing as larger Cooperatives.

"(This situation) is the whole thing we didn't want," said Larson. "The (Board) are all members so it's not like they are going to jack the (prices) up."

When the bill bounced back to the Senate, Larson explained to the House Representative why it was beneficial to leave it as is.

"I felt like once it was explained and the other people at model legislature knew what it meant, it went over really well," said Larson. The bill went to Stensgard who signed it as the last bill of the day.

### Back to the State Legislature

After the trial run of the bill in the Model Legislature, the actual Minnesota House and Senate began their push of the bill. Pelowski, Representative Greg Davids and Senator Jeremy Miller all sponsored the bill.

The bill achieved bipartisan support, but Governor Mark Dayton vetoed the bill due to some concerns with the politics of the policy.

"The discussion from the Model Legislature was almost identical to the discussion that occurred with the governor," said Pelowski.

Pelowski noted that environmental proponents pushed for the Dayton veto, fearing that the power given to municipal cooperatives would not have the same environmental standards.

Instead, Pelowski noted, these cooperatives have had a strong push towards solar and wind, such as MiEnergy's Renewable Rays Solar Initiative.

The bill underwent several rounds of renegotiation, but Pelowski believed that the biggest push came from a dinner with Lieutenant Governor Tina Smith, as well as with Cooperative representatives. The meeting functioned to "explain the positive parts of the bill," said Pelowski. "That it wasn't as Draconian as the other side was saying."

With Smith's support and understanding, she was able to help push the bill before Dayton finally approved it.

### Leaders in the making

Thanks to the exposure in the Model Legislature, Pelowski and other sponsors of the bill were able to get a valuable preview of some of the conversation regarding the bill. Pelowski intends on continuing to provide these experiences for students.

"When the students are there they are dealing with real legislation. It's hands-on learning but hands-on learning with something that may become a law," he said. "It trains students to want to do public service and government."

Pelowski noted current legislators are "graduates" of the Model Legislature and he wouldn't be surprised to see Stensgard, or another one of the many students, running for office in the near future. "It's been fantastic that Rushford has taken a very strong position that students are going to take an interest in Model Legislature," he said.

His role as governor of Model Legislature has been positive for Stensgard. "I had some support from the Rushford kids (to run)," he says. "I figured, I'd just try and see what happens. It's interesting to know that something we passed as high school students ended up being passed in real life."

# Winona-area students propose bills, compromise on pizza in annual Model Legislature

© Nov 18, 2016 at 6:37 AM  
Kyle Farris  
Daily News



With great power comes great responsibility — and pizza.

High-schoolers and middle-schoolers packed the Tau Center at Winona State University on Thursday for the 54th annual Model Legislature, a two-day event where young people from area schools create and run their own version of Minnesota's state government.

Shrugging off their backpacks and tossing them into the corner, students got to work Thursday morning by first electing their peers to the state's most coveted offices.

"A vote for Stensgard and Quimby is a vote for experience, leadership ... and a greater Minnesota," said Logan Quimby, a senior from Rushford-Peterson Senior High School, who ran alongside one of his classmates and ultimately won after a refreshingly short election.

Promising the power would not go to their heads, Gov. Hayden Stensgard and Lt. Gov. Quimby took their seats in a private office as the 100 or so senators and representatives broke into their respective committees.

"I may or may not be chair of the Commerce Committee," said one young man trying to find his table.

Students carried around hulking books of real bills that have been introduced before the state Legislature. Each had picked a particular bill to research and to pitch to their fellow legislators.

Rep. Noah Lund, who goes to Austin High School, introduced a bill that would automatically allocate disaster relief funds to counties in southeast Minnesota — "because it's inevitable those areas will flood ... and this allows us to react faster and not hold a long meeting."

Rep. Sarah Mensing, who goes to Rushford-Peterson, introduced a bill that would lengthen prison sentences for people who conceal or tamper with evidence relating to a homicide — "so families will get a sense of justice."

And Sen. Zoey Aune, who goes to Cotter High School, introduced a bill that would increase state funding for organizations working to prevent human trafficking.

"It's a big problem," she said. "They need our support."

In the governor's office, Stensgard and Quimby were enjoying the perks of power.

"We just ordered a pizza," Stensgard said.

"Sausage and pepperoni," said Quimby, ever a man of the details.

From their office, they could hear a hum of activity coming from the giant room down the hall, where senators and representatives debated which bills should pass and which ones should die — which ones would make up the mountain of papers that would soon hit the governor's desk.

"It feels like the calm before the storm," Quimby said.

Gene Pelowski, an actual state representative whose district includes Winona County, even loaned Stensgard a stamp with the official seal of Minnesota, so he would look the part when approving the bills.

Pelowski has been an adviser at Model Legislatures for 41 years, and said it is impressive to see how students come together for the common good.

"It takes them two days to balance a budget," he said. "We can't do it in two sessions."

By the time they graduate, some students will have attended four or five Model Legislatures.

They begin in middle school as humble pages, running documents back and forth between different committees, and finish their careers in high school as legislators or governors.

Rep. Precious Pritchett, who goes to Winona Senior High School, waited until this year, her senior year, to attend her first Model Legislature.

She was having a good time, she said, fighting for a bill that would put those convicted of cruelty to animals on an online registry.

"I wanted to go before, but other things were stressing me out," Pritchett said. "This year, I told myself to forget about the stress."

Bryce Tienter, a seventh-grader at Cotter, is a page this year — "the best one here," according to members of his committee.

They do not mind that he sometimes gets distracted by his friends, who are also pages, or that he sometimes sneaks away to sit in the windowsill.

There might even come a day when Bryce joins them on one of these committees. He says he would like to make this an annual stop of his.

"You get two days off school," he said.

# Our view: Winona's Model Legislature is building the future

© Nov 17, 2016 at 7:09 AM  
Daily News editorial board



Our political system is broken and partisan, filled with backbiting and infighting, led by lawmakers worried more about their own future and fame than their constituents' needs, and who are increasingly prone to exhibiting the kind of poor morals and character we wouldn't expect out of the blackest sheep in our families.

Congress? Nah.

We're talking about the Minnesota Legislature.

Okay. We're over-exaggerating a bit. But to be fair these days, even in state politics, it's hard to figure out what the new normal looks like.

We were discouraged this fall by too many things. The large number of qualified, thoughtful incumbents on every side of the aisle who chose not to run again, many of them citing the increasing partisanship at the Capitol and the fact that being a lawmaker is not exactly a part-time job if you want to do it well. The new faces in races attached to everything from financial indiscretions to outright racial slurs. The outside money that poured in, with DFLers and Republicans alike each independently attempting to buy themselves a Legislature.

Not to say we weren't discouraged already, given the Legislature's inability this spring to do practically anything of consequence, leaving so many major bills on the table that the campaign-season rhetoric focused more on what they would have liked to do, rather than what they actually accomplished.

So let's talk about what a new model looks like.

Actually, there's no need: We have one built already, right here in town.

Today and Friday, Rep. Gene Pelowski will again be leading the Model Legislature in Winona, where more than 100 high-school students gather to elect leaders, write bills, convene committees, negotiate the fine art of compromise, and likely accomplish more in two days than what the Minnesota Legislature has accomplished in the last two years. He's been leading the effort for nearly 40 years; the program has been around for a half-century.

This work has never been more important, the education of Minnesota's future political leaders never more crucial.

Character counts. More so than ever. There's no better place to learn than by practicing among peers, far away from the eventual bright lights that tend to blind so many promising public servants.

And we've pointed out many times before how the problem in politics — with the Minnesota Legislature, at least — isn't always with the people, but with the process.

So who better to lead the way for Minnesota's newest crop of bright, thoughtful political minds than Pelowski? Winona's longtime representative, while consistently leading with the decorum and respect of the state's most celebrated politicians, has taken on the often lonely cause at the Capitol of striving for basic and necessary reforms to how the Legislature does business.

Given the bitter words immediately lobbed back and forth after the dust settled on Election Day and Minnesota found itself with a newly minted Republican Senate, a stronger Republican House, and a DFL governor who's already announced he's run the last political race of his career, we're not terribly optimistic about what 2017 will bring.

But we're optimistic when it comes to Minnesota's political future, and that's in large part due to the Model Legislature program. Spend just a bit of time with the program, as we have every year, and it's impossible not to be hopeful, watching high-school students tentatively navigate adult systems they haven't yet been jaded by, forging new relationships, discovering unexpected communion, learning how to work together for the public good.

Pelowski and the Model Legislature are building that future together, and that's something to celebrate.

# 'I love this place': Winona Model Legislature turns students into lawmakers

Kyle Farris Winona Daily News Nov 17, 2017



Minnesota Secretary of State Steve Simon, middle, leads an oath as the Model Legislature at Winona State University's Tau Center began on Thursday morning.

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f t e p b

Dawson Dahl wants to grant veterans free hunting and fishing licenses.

Sophie Tekautz wants to ban protests of reproductive

[http://www.winonadailynews.com/news/local/i-love-this-place-winona-model-legislature-turns-students-into/article\\_8c138c3a-90bf-5819-a28b-ec7a0e6edcf8.html](http://www.winonadailynews.com/news/local/i-love-this-place-winona-model-legislature-turns-students-into/article_8c138c3a-90bf-5819-a28b-ec7a0e6edcf8.html)



Clockwise from left, Elizabeth Johannes and Cassidy Tabor challenged Jordan McNamer and Noah Schultz on their argument for a bill that would legalize a variety of fireworks in Minnesota. Students from across Southeast Minnesota participated in the Winona Model Legislature last week.

## Students practice leading in Winona Model Legislature

(11/20/2017)

by CHRIS ROGERS

In pant suits, ties, and slip-on sneakers, scores of high school students from across Southeast Minnesota put their hands over their hearts on Thursday morning and swore to uphold the U.S. Constitution, the Minnesota Constitution, and to faithfully discharge the duties of their office to the best of their ability.

For the following two days, their office was a seat in the Winona Model Legislature. Their duty was to propose, debate, and decide what laws to pass, reject, or amend — and to figure how to reason, persuade, entreat, and bluster their way to getting their own bills passed. Students from Austin High School, Cotter Schools, Rushford-Peterson High School, Winona Senior High School (WSHS), Winona Middle School, and Winona State University (WSU) participated. The Model Legislature's organizers — led by real-world Representative Gene Pelowski (DFL-Winona) — said it is the only model legislature of its kind. It is a very detailed model of the actual legislature. Students and their bills have to make it through a gambit of committee hearings, get approval from both chambers, and have any differing amendments reconciled before they can head to the governor's office in hopes that the student-governor will sign their legislation and not ignore or veto it.

It was Austin, Minn., student Miguel Herrera's first year at the model legislature, and he had just been grilled. He pitched a bill to the Transportation Committee that would have tightened rules on when heavy vehicles must stop to be weighed. He said the bill would have helped protect the safety of drivers going over bridges with weight limits. The Transportation Committee rejected it. The committee members had lots of questions about how Herrera's bill would effect drivers' constitutional rights to be free from unreasonable searches, and they saw the kind of weigh-ins he was proposing as unreasonable. "I tried to see from their point of view and agree, but then explain, 'Well, this is why we're doing it,'" Herrera said. "I kind of like it — how much I was asked a lot of questions about my bill. I kind of had to look at both sides of my bill," he added.



## 55th annual Winona Model Legislature a success

(12/11/2017)

On November 16 and 17, 47 Winona Senior High School and Winona Middle School students came together with students from Austin, Rushford, Cotter and Winona State for the 55th annual Winona Model Legislature. During the event, students participated in a mock version of the Minnesota State Legislature. Students were joined by Secretary of State Steve Simon for the opening ceremonies and were sworn in by Secretary Simon and then elected a governor, lieutenant governor, speaker of the House, and president pro tempore of the Senate.

WSHS student's Noah Schultz and Stephen Shaw were elected speaker of the House and president pro tempore of the Senate for 2017. Students learned firsthand how a bill becomes a law in the state of Minnesota. Over the course of the two-day event, students participated in committees, debated over bills, had house and senate floor debates and presented their own bills to committees just like legislators do in St. Paul. Their goal was to get their bills through the committees, then go through approval of both the House and Senate floors, just to make it to the governor's desk for approval.

<http://www.winonapost.com/Article/ArticleID/57034/Students-practice-leading-in-Winona-Model-Legislature>

<http://www.winonapost.com/Archives/ArticleID/57324/55th-annual-Winona-Model-Legislature-a-success>

> > -----Original Message-----

> > From: Bob Kierlin

> > Sent: Tuesday, December 11, 2001 9:44 AM

> > To: 'Gene Pelowski'

> > Subject: winona model legislature

> >

> > Gene:

> >

> > Thanks for sending along the book with the bills considered at this year's  
> > model legislature. I was awestruck reading through it last night at the  
> > quality of the work the students did. The bills replicate what the actual  
> > legislature considers with near perfect accuracy. Have you ever considered  
> > inviting newly-elected state legislators to sit in as a learning  
> > experience for the real thing?

> >

> > Some day you can explain to me how the bills get into such accurate form,  
> > including the modification of existing laws. Does somebody at the capital  
> > give you some help?

> >

> > Thanks to the students for preparing the billbook, but a huge thank you to  
> > you for what you do to enrich each of their lives.

> >

> > Bob K.

To: <gene.pelowski@winona.k12.mn.us>  
From: "Patrick Marek" <pmarek@hbc.com>  
Date: 11/23/2011 08:39AM  
Subject: Compliment

Hi Gene:

I've been meaning to tell you this for quite some time, and wanted to talk to you in person at conferences (but you were way too popular), but I want you to know that you are doing an excellent job and are inspiring not only your students, but everyone you touch with your Model Legislature Project.

Two years ago, my son James was getting ready to go into the Navy in December, and he and a couple of his buddies (all spectacular non-achievers) were all sitting around the dining room table on Thanksgiving. This question came up: "Who was the best teacher you ever had?" It was unanimous...Mr. Pelowski.

We all have had teachers in grade school and high school who stood out, and changed our lives. You are definitely one of those teachers!

All the Marek's thoroughly enjoyed their Model Legislature experiences, and I want to take the opportunity to thank you for providing this wonderful learning experience to our youth.

Anyway, I know that you teachers hear a lot more critiques than compliments. I hope you have a great day, and a wonderful Thanksgiving. WSHS is lucky to have you.

-Patrick Marek

Gene,

Thank you for the invitation to attend Model Legislature. To keep Model Legislature going for 55 years is a huge accomplishment. You are to be congratulated for all the work you have done for these students. Also, thank you for the pin.

Ben

Bernard & Sharon Baratto  
Paterson Edge Bullmastiffs  
779 Bluffview Circle  
Winona, MN 55987

PAUL MN 551

20 NOV 2017 PM 5 L



Gene Pelowski  
257 Wilson  
Winona, MN  
55987

**Richard Dahman**

11:58 AM

RD

To: Gene Pelowski

[Details](#)

Thanks, Gene. I want to also mention the Model Legislature. This was my first time getting to see it in action, and I was impressed!

Rich

Rich Dahman

Superintendent, Winona Area  
Public Schools

[richard.dahman@winona.k12.mn.u](mailto:richard.dahman@winona.k12.mn.us)

[s](mailto:richard.dahman@winona.k12.mn.us)

[507-494-0861](tel:507-494-0861)

DEAR \_\_\_\_\_,

On behalf of the Model Legislature of 2009, we would like to sincerely thank

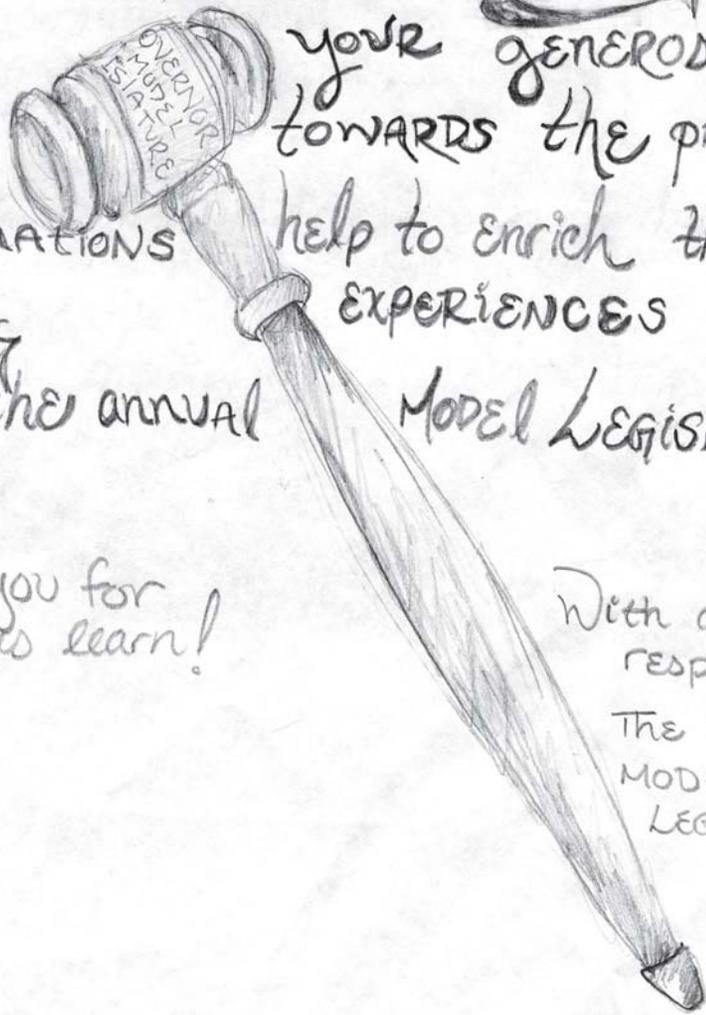
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learning through the annual program!

Thank you for helping us learn!



your generosity towards the program!

help to enrich the experiences offered

MODEL LEGISLATURE

With all due respect,  
The Winona  
MODEL  
LEGISLATURES

-Carve Mr. Pelowski's face along w/ Phillis Khan wearing a hemp necklace on Sugar loaf. Mr. P's face is ~~at~~ Stern, Ms. Phillis Khan is smiling.

- Request the Westfield Golf course changes its name to Pelowski Golf Course. Clean gene CADIF COURSE

HF ~~4269~~ @ ~~4269~~ 6911  
Author: Rules

"Big Brother is watching you"  
Under

Jeham In Dei 3:07



Chuck Miller, Daily News

Buy Now

Winona Rep. Gene Pelowski addresses students in the Model Legislature on Thursday morning at the Winona State Tau Center as the program gets underway. Pelowski has led the program, which mimics the state Legislature's work to teach students the process, for more than 40 years



With great power comes great responsibility — and pizza.

Gene Pelowski

- Legislator at Minnesota House of Representative
- Studied at Winona State University
- Lives in Winona, Minnesota

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Gene Pelowski  
 STATE REPRESENTATIVE

Gene Pelowski  
 @GenePelowski

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