

HIGHER EDUCATION FINANCE AND POLICY COMMITTEE

MINUTES

Representative Novotny, member of the Higher Education Finance and Policy Committee, called the meeting to order at 1:00 PM, on March 10th, 2026, in Room G23 of the State Capitol Building.

The Committee Legislative Assistant noted the roll.

**Members present:**

ROBBINS, Kristin, Co-Chair, GOP  
SCHWARTZ, Erica, Co-Vice Chair, GOP  
WOLGAMOTT, Dan, Co-Chair, DFL  
COULTER, Nathan, Co-Vice Chair, DFL  
ALLEN, Keith  
DURAN, Bidal  
HANSON, Jessica  
HICKS, Kim  
KLEVORN, Ginny  
LIEBLING, Tina  
NOOR, Mohamud  
NOVOTNY, Paul  
SCOTT, Peggy

**Members excused:**

RARICK, Marion,

A quorum was present.

**Representative Klevorn moved the minutes of March 5th, 2026 be approved. THE MOTION PREVAILED.**

**Representative Klevorn moved to reconsider the minutes of March 5th, 2026. THE MOTION PREVAILED.**

**Representative Klevorn moved to move the minutes of March 5th, 2026, as corrected. THE MOTION PREVAILED.**

**HF1323 (Schultz) Undocumented noncitizens made ineligible for state financial aid programs**

Representative Novotny moved that HF1323 be placed on the General Register.

Testifiers

Aaron Sepulveda, Legislative and Policy Director, Minnesota Council on Latino Affairs  
Elliot Lindsey, Student and Treasurer, UMN College Republicans  
Jenny Liang, Graduate Student, University of Northwestern Saint Paul  
Ashley Davis, Student, University of Minnesota  
Molly Leutz, Policy Director, LeadMN  
Nekey Oliver, Director of Government Relations and Community Engagement, Office of Higher Education  
Meghan Flores, Director of State Financial Aid Programs, Office of Higher Education

Representative Novotny laid over HF1323.

**HF3500 (Duran) Bemidji State University storm damage relief funding provided, and money appropriated**

Testifiers

Dr. John L. Hoffman, President, Bemidji State University  
Dr. Jim Harding, Associate Professor of Forestry, Bemidji State University  
Bernie Oman, Special Assistant to the Chancellor, Minnesota State Colleges and Universities

Representative Novotny laid over HF3500.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:48PM.



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Representative Paul Novotny, Acting Chair



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Ellie Wasserman, Committee Legislative Assistant