

STATE OF MINNESOTA  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

TWENTY-FIRST MEETING  
NINETY-FOURTH SESSION

WORKFORCE, LABOR, AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FINANCE AND POLICY  
COMMITTEE

MINUTES

Representative Baker, Chair of the Workforce, Labor and Economic Development Finance and Policy Committee, called the meeting to order at 8:18 AM on Thursday, March 27th, 2025, in the G3 Room of the Capitol.

Vice Chair Mekeland moved the minutes for Wednesday March 26th, 2025, to be approved.

**THE MOTION PREVAILED.**

A quorum was present.

Members present:

BAKER, Dave Co-Chair  
PINTO, Dave Co-Chair  
MEKELAND, Shane Vice-Chair  
GREENMAN, EMMA Vice-Chair  
BAKBERG, Ben  
BERG, Kaela  
FRAZIER, Cedrick  
HUSSEIN, Samakab  
JOHNSON, Pete  
JOHNSON, Wayne  
KOZLOWSKI, Lish  
MUELLER, Patricia  
SCHULTZ, Isaac  
ZELZNIKAR, Natalie

**H.F. 1965 (Johnson, W.) – Small business assistance partnerships program appropriation**

Testifier:

Michelle Marotzke, Kandiyohi County Economic Development, via zoom  
Mary Ssegirinya, Found and Owner, Patience N Bubbles Child Care, via zoom  
Lee Hall, CEO, Nextstage

H.F. 1965 was laid over for future consideration.

**H.F. 2251 (Baker) Department of Employment and Economic development policy modifications.**

Presentation by Deven Bowdry, Director of Government Relations, Department of Employment and Economic Development.

H.F. 2251 was laid over for future consideration.

**Department of Employment and Economic Development updates on vocational rehabilitative services.**

Presentation by Evan Rowe, Commissioner, Department of Employment and Economic Development.

**H.F. 2838 (Hicks) Vocational rehabilitation services program funding provided.**

Testifiers:

Renaee Schultz, Vocational Rehabilitation Services Counselor, Minnesota  
Department of Employment and Economic Development, via zoom  
Chandra Peterson, Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor, Minnesota Department  
Of Employment and Economic Development, via zoom  
Sheenah Jewison MS, CRC, Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor, Minnesota  
Department of Employment and Economic Development, via zoom

H.F. 2838 was laid over for future consideration.

**H.F. 1538 (Mueller) Teacher apprenticeship funding provided.**

Representative Mueller moved that the DE3 amendment to H.F. 1538 be adopted. **THE MOTION PREVAILED.**

Testifiers:

Kate Lynne Snyder, Lobbyist, Education MN  
Kelly Krick Oborn, University of St. Thomas School of Education, via zoom  
Gina Boots, Brightworks  
Erin Larsen, Director, Apprenticeship Minnesota  
Sara Paul, Superintendent, North Branch Public Schools  
Teri Priesler, Minnesota State University, Mankato  
Danaya Franke, College of Education and Human Development, University of

Minnesota

H.F. 1538, as amended, was laid over for future consideration.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:04 AM.



---

Representative Dave Baker, Chair



Ann C. Teppoorten, Committee Legislative Assistant