

Education Finance Committee

**MINUTES**

Representative Kresha, Chair of the Education Finance Committee, began the meeting at 1:00PM, on March 25, 2025, in Room 120 of the Capitol Building. A quorum was present.

The Committee Legislative Assistant noted the roll.

Members present:

KRESHA, Ron, GOP Chair  
YOUAKIM, Cheryl, DFL Chair  
BAKEBERG, Ben, GOP Vice Chair  
CLARDY, Mary Frances, DFL Vice Chair  
ALTENDORF, Pam  
BAHNER, Kristin  
BENNETT, Peggy  
DIPPEL, Tom  
ENGEN, Elliot  
GREENE, Julie  
HILL, Josiah  
HUDSON, Walter  
JOHNSON, Pete  
LEE, Liz  
KNUDSEN, Krista  
LAWRENCE, Bryan  
MUELLER, Patricia  
PEREZ-VEGA, Maria Isa  
QUAM, Duane  
REHM, Lucy  
REHRAUER, Kari  
RYMER, Max  
SENCER-MURA, Samantha  
VIRNIG, Bianca

Representative Johnson moved the minutes of March 23, 2025, be approved. **THE MOTION PREVAILED.**

**HF827 (DOTSETH) - CONSOLIDATION TRANSITION AID INCREASED FOR SCHOOL DISTRICTS.**

Representative Dotseth moved the bill before the committee.

Representative Dotseth presented on HF827.

Testifiers:

Mary Carlson, Wrenshall Board of Education Chairperson  
Laura Nilsen, Carlton Board of Education Chairperson

Chair Kresha laid over HF827 for possible inclusion in an omnibus bill or further consideration at a later date.

**HF1258 (DOTSETH) - SCHOOL DISTRICTS AUTHORIZED TO COOPERATE AND SHARE EXPENSES TO OPERATE AND MAINTAIN AN ICE ARENA.**

Representative Dotseth moved the bill before the committee.

Representative Dotseth presented on HF1258.

Testifiers:

Dr. Michael Cary, Superintendent, Cloquet Public Schools (Remote)

Chair Kresha laid over HF1258 for possible inclusion in an omnibus bill or further consideration at a later date.

**HF2387 (ALLEN) - SCHOOL FOOD WASTE REDUCED, FREE SCHOOL MILK PROVIDED WITHOUT THE NEED TO TAKE FULL SCHOOL LUNCH, AND MONEY APPROPRIATED.**

Representative Allen moved the bill before the committee.

Representative Allen presented on HF2387.

Representative Hicks presented on HF2387.

Testifiers:

Beth Giese, Superintendent, Kenyon-Wanamingo Schools

Sami Rajab, Assistant Director of Government Relations, Minnesota Department of Education

Chair Kresha laid over HF2387 for possible inclusion in an omnibus bill or further consideration at a later date.

**HF2016 (GREENE) - GENERAL EDUCATION REVENUE MODIFIED TO INCLUDE SAFE SCHOOLS AID FOR CHARTER SCHOOLS.**

Representative Greene moved the bill before the committee.

Representative Greene presented on HF2016.

Testifiers:

Joey Cienian, Executive Director, Minnesota Association of Charter Schools

Tony Simmons, Executive Director, High School for the Recording Arts

Leah Jones, Executive Director, LIFE Prep (Remote)

Carrie Bakken, Program Coordinator, Avalon (Remote)

Chair Kresha laid over HF2016 for possible inclusion in an omnibus bill or further consideration at a later date.

**HF2534 (BENNETT) - MINIMUM SHARE OF GENERAL EDUCATION FUNDING TRANSFERRED TO AN AREA LEARNING CENTER INCREASED.**

Representative Bennett moved the bill before the committee.

Representative Bennett presented on HF2534.

Testifiers:

Dan Armagost, Executive Director, Southern Minnesota Education Consortium

Chair Kresha laid over HF2534 for possible inclusion in an omnibus bill or further consideration at a later date.

**HF2388 (BAKEBERG) - LOCAL OPTIONAL AID AND LEVY REPLACED WITH BASIC SUPPLEMENTAL REVENUE, BASIC SUPPLEMENTAL AID AMOUNT INCREASED, AND MONEY APPROPRIATED.**

Representative Bakeberg moved the bill before the committee.

Representative Bakeberg presented on HF2388.

Testifiers:

Joey Cienian, Executive Director, Minnesota Association of Charter Schools

Chair Kresha laid over HF2388 for possible inclusion in an omnibus bill or further consideration at a later date.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:29PM.

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Representative Ron Kresha, Chair

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Jynell Boulka, Committee Legislative Assistant