



AFSCME COUNCIL 5
2013 and 2014
LEGISLATIVE
REPORT CARD

For further information, contact Julie Bleyhl, AFSCME Council 5 Legislative Director

2014 Minnesota Legislative Session

Women's Economic Security Act

- **HF 2536 (Rep. Carly Melin/Sen. Sandy Pappas) – Women's Economic Security Act**
 - The bill attacks the private sector pay gap by going after specific types of discrimination and barriers that make it harder for women to succeed on the job. The bill expands family leave and sick leave provisions, requires employers to provide reasonable accommodations to workers who are pregnant or nursing, requires state contractors to comply with "comparable worth" pay equity rules, and provides incentives to minimize gender-based job clustering and attract more women to higher paying "non-traditional" jobs.

House: A "YES" vote is scored as supporting the AFSCME position. Passed 104-24.

Senate: A "YES" vote is scored as supporting the AFSCME position. Passed 43-24.

Outcome: Governor Dayton signed into law.

Raising the Minimum Wage

- **HF 2091 (Rep. Ryan Winkler/Sen. Jeff Hayden) – Raising the Minimum Wage**
 - The bill provides nearly 360,000 low-wage workers pay raises and a better chance to support themselves and their families now that Minnesota's minimum wage will be \$9.50. The minimum wage rose to \$8 this past August and will go to \$8.50 in August 2015 and \$9.50 in August 2016. Beginning in 2018, the minimum wage will rise automatically based on inflation.

House: A "YES" vote is scored as supporting the AFSCME position. Passed 71-60.

Senate: A "YES" vote is scored as supporting the AFSCME position. Passed 35-31.

Outcome: Governor Dayton signed into law.

Confidential Employee Definition

- **HF 2313 (Rep. Ryan Winkler/Sen. John Hoffman) – Confidential Employee**
 - The bill modifies the definition of confidential employee to assure that eligible public employees are not excluded from bargaining units.

House: A "YES" vote is scored as supporting the AFSCME position. Passed 70-46.

Senate: A "YES" vote is scored as supporting the AFSCME position. Passed 36-23.

Outcome: Governor Dayton signed into law.

Pensions and Retirement

- **HF 1951 (Rep. Mary Murphy/Sen. Sandy Pappas) – Pensions and Retirement**
 - In the House, Rep. O’Driscoll offered an amendment to his defined contribution study amendment to obtain the cost to phase out state employees from their defined benefit pension to a defined contribution plan. In the Senate, the Omnibus Pensions and Retirement Bill passed without amendments to remove public employee retirement security.

House: A “NO” vote is scored as supporting the AFSCME position. Failed 58-73.

Senate: A “YES” vote is scored as supporting the AFSCME position. Passed 38-24.

Outcome: The House defeated the O’Driscoll defined contribution proposal and the bill was passed by both the House Senate and Governor Dayton signed the bill into law.

Public Employee Relations Board

- **HF 3014 (Rep. Lyndon Carlson/Sen. Sandy Pappas) – Public Employee Relations Board Created**
 - The bill creates the Public Employee Relations Board with jurisdiction over unfair labor practices involving public-sector employers and charitable hospitals. The PERB will save workers and taxpayers time and money because it will handle cases that previously had to go to court. The PERB is expected to be up and running by July 1, 2015.

House: A “YES” vote is scored as supporting AFSCME position. Passed 74-59.

Senate: A “YES” note is scored as supporting the AFSCME position. Passed 35-26.

Outcome: Amendment was defeated on the house floor and did not become law.

Key for Scorecard

“R” = voted to support AFSCME’s position

“W” = voted to oppose AFSCME’s position

“NV” = did not vote