

TAX COMMITTEE

The thirty-first meeting of the House Tax Committee was called to order at 8:14 a.m. on October 14, 1987 in Room 5 of the State Office Building. The clerk recorded the attendance. The following members were present:

Voss, Chair	Nelson
Bennett	Ogren
Brown	Onnen
Dauner	Osthoff
Dempsey	Pauly
Frerichs	Peterson
Jacobs	Redalen
Jaros	Schei.
Kelly	Skoglund
Long	Sviggum
McLaughlin	Valento
Minne	Welle

The following members were excused:

Begich	Neuenschwander
Blatz	Rest
Himle	Schreiber
Marsh	Vanasek
McKasy	Wynia

Representative Dauner moved approval of the committee minutes from the Mankato Mini-Session as presented by the clerk. Motion carried.

Chairman Voss announced the format for the meeting and introduced the first person wishing to testify. Mr. Tim Flaherty, Coalition of Outstate Cities, thanked the committee for the opportunity to testify and introduced Mr. Pete Stolie, Coalition of Greater Minnesota Cities, who spoke to the members on the concerns of the organization he represented. He distributed a written copy of his remarks to the members.

Mr. Chuck Hazama, Mayor of the City of Rochester, representing the League of Minnesota Cities, outlined concerns with the changes in levy limits as defined in Omnibus Tax Bill of 1987.

Mr. Wayne Cox, representing the Citizens for Tax Justice, distributed data entitled; "Two Steps Forward One and a Half Steps Back", to the members. He described the handout and discussed the impact of Omnibus Tax Bill of 1987 on taxpayers in the lower-income tax brackets.

Mr. Morris Hammer, Minnesota Senior Federation, testified to the impact the pension exclusion elimination has had on seniors. He introduced Violet Heidor and Amy McIntyre who testified in favor of reinstating the pension exclusion and commented on their individual tax burdens.

Mr. Tom Newcome, representing the Minnesota Restaurant and Resort Association, testified on the changes in property tax classifications and sales tax on services.

Chairman Voss announced the cancellation of planned testimony from House Research in order to allow additional time on the agenda for additional testimony from the public.

Mr. Stan Mosvick, St. Paul, representing Unit 109 of the National Association of Retired and Veteran Rail Employees, testified in favor of reinstating the pension exclusion for retired railroad employees.

Mr. Bill Oemichen Sr., teacher, testified on the inequities between the retirement benefits of various pensions.

Mr. Harmon Keel, representing NARRB, testified on railroad pensions and federal government regulation of the pension benefits and taxation provisions.

Chairman Voss announced that he would call a special meeting of the Tax Committee to hear the presentation by House Research that was postponed at this meeting. Having no further time for testimony, the Chairman adjourned the meeting.


Gordon O. Voss, Chair


Eunice C. Groschen, Clerk