



2026 REPORT on the MINNESOTA LEGISLATURE

by
LEGISLATIVE EVALUATION ASSEMBLY
of MINNESOTA, INC.
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CREDO--*The Legislative Evaluation Assembly of Minnesota (LEA) is a non-partisan and non-profit organization, established to inform the citizens of Minnesota of both important legislation and the voting performance of each Minnesota state legislator. LEA bases its evaluation on our declared American founding principles of self-evident truths and inalienable rights. These principles provide a basis for a constitutionally limited government established to sustain life, liberty, justice, property rights, and free enterprise. LEA encourages the use of the material in its Reports, in whole or in part, with attribution, by any group or individual.*

2026 LEA HONOREES

					
Senator Cal Bahr 88%	Senator Steve Green 81%	Senator Michael Holmstrom 88%	Senator Bill Lieske 81%	Senator Eric Lucero 88%	Senator Nathan Wesenberg 81%

	
Representative Marj Fogelman 82%	Representative Drew Roach 87%

Honorable Mention House:

Ben Davis, Jimmy Gordon, Tom Murphy, Mike Wiener

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LEA report!***



The Legislative Evaluation Assembly (LEA) produces an annual report evaluating the legislature's performance and highlighting key principles and priorities. Our standard is spelled out in our CREDO (above)

LEA is a non-partisan non-profit organization made up entirely of volunteers dedicated to upholding American founding principles.

*During the 2026 legislative session, LEA scored 17 key votes. We recommended a “NO” vote on 14 **X** votes and a ‘YES’ vote on 3 **✓** votes.*

X 1. Capital Investment Bonding, Shelter Grants, and Temporary Tab Fee Cut

Authorizes \$1.25 billion in bonding after a sizable bonding package passed just last year. Creates an emergency shelter grant program in the Dept. of Human Services, which is having trouble overseeing existing programs. License tab fees will be cut for 2027 only by shifting money from the general fund. Tab fee cuts had nothing to do with bonding and belonged in a separate bill.

X 2. Housing Finance and Policy Bill

Creates another dedicated pool of funds from proceeds of reinvested housing development funds that must be used to fund more housing projects when the state is not performing proper oversight on current programs. Also authorizes another \$100 million of housing infrastructure bonds beyond what had been authorized in previous bonding packages.

X 3. Omnibus Taxation Bill

This bill included closed-door leadership compromises made without hearings, long after committee deadlines. Has some good content but also plenty of special-interest favoritism.

X 4. Omnibus State Government Finance and Policy Bill

Includes language related to creating a Hortman Memorial State Park, grants to public radio and TV stations, and funding for technology upgrades. The worst part of the bill could be the many changes to occupational licensing requirements for barbers, cosmetologists, and the schools that train them. Most sections of the bill were added after the hearings.

X 5. HHS Supplemental Appropriations

Spends money beyond the two-year budget approved last year rather than reprioritizing existing funds and programs. Creates a \$500 million hospital stabilization fund and uses \$205 million for bailing out the Hennepin County Medical Center. Raises regulatory burden on home daycare providers under the guise of modernization.

X 6. Omnibus Public Safety Policy Bill

Though this bill includes policies that deserved passage as single-subject bills, it creates a massive new regulatory framework for inmate labor. The section that includes a dubious ban on prediction markets is not being implemented while it is being legally challenged.

X 7. Gun Control Disguised as Public Safety

Senate proposed the most significant firearm restrictions in the state’s history. It would also expand “red flag” laws. Gun-control advocates in the House tried to force a vote to ban “assault weapons.”

X 8. Insurance Policies Should Remain Private Contracts

Bill inspired by Hortman home cleanup issues would require homeowners’ insurance to cover chemical irritant cleanup costs, interfering with private contracts where homeowners can decide what they want covered in their policies.

X 9. “Suicide-Free” Bridges

This overly-ambitious bill goes beyond collecting suicide data related to various bridges. Requires MNDOT and the Commissioner of Health to create a methodology to determine which bridges need suicide-preventive measures.

X 10. Ban Virtual-Currency Kiosks

Would ban something with no environmental harm because some legislators think it's unwise to let people make such transactions.

X 11. Require Reports and Regulation of Social Media

This bill requires social media platforms to collect enough data to estimate users’ ages with 90% confidence and to terminate accounts it determines belong to users under 16 without parental consent. Such actions will expand platforms’ intrusive behavioral profiling. This law also enables opportunistic litigation, while opportunities for companies that integrate with or depend on these large platforms will be negatively impacted.

X 12. Punishing “Nudification” Tech Providers

The Attorney General can investigate providers of “nudification” technology and levy massive fines for each use. Those who misuse it would face no sanctions, or would use other photo-manipulation techniques that have long existed. The penalties collected must be earmarked from the general fund for grants to nonprofits offering broadly defined “crime victim” services. This law is also under legal challenge but did go into effect.

✓ 13. Prohibit Males from Playing on Female Sports Teams

A common-sense bill to preserve fairness and some safety on female sports teams failed to win majority quorum support in the House. It got no Senate floor vote.

X 14. ICE Restrictions and “Relief”

The Senate passed a bill imposing state restrictions on the federal immigration enforcement agency, along with funds for people, businesses, and local governments negatively affected by ICE. The bill would likely have been ruled unconstitutional and as fraud-riddled as local programs issuing grants to ICE “victims” had it been voted on and advanced by the House.

X 15. Allowing Children on Senate Floor

An internal rule change quickly overturned a 168-year-old policy. Was done for political posturing about the Senate being friendly to young parents. The legislature approves special work privileges not available to most of its constituents.

✓ 16. Allowing Tow Trucks to Display Variable Message Signs

A small expansion of business liberty.

✓ 17. Enabling Suspension or Termination of Payments to Recipients Credibly Accused or Convicted of Fraud.

Provides statutory backing for officials using proper oversight to counteract fraud but still imposes no consequences on officials who fail to do proper oversight before issuing payments.