

2011 Senate Votes

S.F. 103 / H.F. 201: Taxpayer Funding of Abortion

Senate votes 1-3 detail the process of a bill to ban taxpayer funded abortion in Minnesota. Authored by Sen. Dave Thompson, R-Lakeville, and Rep. Peggy Scott, R-Andover, the legislation sought to return Minnesota to its pre-1995 policy of only using taxpayer funds to pay for abortions when her life was in danger or if she was a victim of rape or incest. Though the legislation was passed by wide margins in both the House and Senate it was ultimately vetoed by Gov. Mark Dayton.

Senate Vote 1

Taxpayer Funding of Abortion

Committee: Judiciary & Public Safety

This ban on taxpayer funded abortions was given its first hearings in the Health and Human Services (HHS) committee where it passed on a voice vote. Next, the bill was heard in the Judiciary & Public Safety committee where it passed 8-5 (pro-life win).

Senate Vote 2

Taxpayer Funding of Abortion

Floor: Passage

Following approval in the HHS committee, the bill was sent to the floor. Following floor debate, the bill was passed by a strong majority of 40-26 (pro-life win).

Senate Vote 3

Taxpayer Funding of Abortion

Floor: Repassage

Because the House and Senate passed different versions of the legislation, the bill was sent to conference committee. Upon returning to the Senate, the conference committee report was passed (voice vote) and the final version of the bill repassed 40-26 (pro-life win).

The ban on taxpayer funded abortions was vetoed by Gov. Mark Dayton.

H.F. 936 / S.F. 649: Pain Capable Unborn Child Protection Act

Authored by Rep. Mary Liz Holberg, R-Lakeville, and Sen. Gretchen Hoffman, R-Vergas, the Pain Capable Unborn Child Protection Act would prohibit abortion at the point that the unborn child can feel pain, specified as occurring at 20 weeks after conception. Though ultimately vetoed by Gov. Dayton, Senate votes 4-6 follow the stand-alone bill.

Senate Vote 4
Pain Capable Unborn Child
Committee: Judiciary & Public Safety

The Pain Capable Unborn Child Protection Act received its first hearing in the Health and Human Services committee where it passed on a voice vote. The bill next went to the Judiciary and Public Safety committee, where it passed 8-4 (pro-life win).

Senate Vote 5
Pain Capable Unborn Child
Floor: Passage

After debate, the Senate passed the Pain Capable Unborn Child Protection Act by the overwhelming margin of 42-24 (pro-life win).

Senate Vote 6
Pain Capable Unborn Child
Floor: Repassage

The bill was sent to a conference committee to work out the minor differences between the House and Senate versions. After adopting the conference committee report (voice vote), the bill was repassed 41-20 (pro-life win).

Following repassage, the bill was vetoed by Gov. Mark Dayton.

S.F. 695 / H.F. 998, H.F. 1101 / S.F. 924: Human Cloning Ban, Cloning Funding Ban

In 2009, the Minnesota Legislature passed a two-year prohibition on using state funds for human cloning and human cloning research. The ban was effective from July 1, 2009 until June 30, 2011. In anticipation of the ban's expiration, MCCL urged lawmakers to do everything possible to ensure that the state would not go backwards and start providing taxpayer dollars for human cloning research after the initial prohibition was set to expire.

One means of doing this was S.F. 695 / H.F. 998, a bill which would have completely banned human cloning and human cloning research. Authored by Sen. Michelle Fischbach, R-Paynesville, S.F. 695 was passed out of three committees (votes 7-8). Although it faced strong opposition by Mayo Clinic and especially the University of Minnesota, the language of the bill was also included in the regular session Health and Human Services omnibus finance bill (votes 17-21). The HHS bill was ultimately vetoed by Gov. Mark Dayton.

Alternative language which sought to codify the 2009 language prohibiting state funds from being used to pay for human cloning and human cloning research was also

moving through the legislative process as part of the regular session Higher Education omnibus bill (H.F. 1101). Senate votes 9-16 detail this process.

Senate Vote 7

Human Cloning Ban

Committee: Judiciary & Public Safety

S.F. 695 received its first hearing in the Health and Human Services committee, where it passed on a voice vote. It was then referred to the Judiciary & Public Safety committee where it passed 8-5 (pro-life win).

Senate Vote 8

Human Cloning Ban

Committee: Higher Education

The ban on human cloning and human cloning research was then heard in the Higher Education committee, where it passed 8-4 (pro-life win).

Senate Vote 9

Human Cloning Funding Ban

Committee: Higher Education

When the Senate Higher Education committee crafted its omnibus bill in committee, Sen. Fischbach offered an amendment that would codify the current policy, passed in 2009, of prohibiting taxpayer funding for human cloning and human cloning research. This prohibition was set to expire with the end of the fiscal year. The Fischbach amendment passed 7-6 (pro-life win).

Senate Vote 10

Human Cloning Funding Ban

Committee: Higher Education

Because the Higher Education committee successfully added the Fischbach amendment to prohibit taxpayer funding of human cloning and human cloning research, MCCL supported the Higher Education bill, which passed out of committee 7-6 (pro-life win).

Senate Vote 11

Human Cloning Funding Ban

Committee: Finance

Following passage through the Higher Education committee, the next stop for the omnibus bill was the Finance committee. The bill, with the cloning language intact, passed 9-5 (pro-life win).

Senate Vote 12

Human Cloning Funding Ban

Floor: Amendment to amendment

Prior to the Higher Education omnibus bill reaching the floor, Sen. Carla Nelson, R-Rochester, had worked on an amendment to further clarify that the cloning language only related to cloning and not various stem cell research. Though the language in the Fischbach amendment was clear on that issue, those not intimately familiar with the issues could have been confused by the existing language. Thus MCCL supported adding the Nelson clarifying amendment. After Sen. Nelson offered her amendment, Sen. Sandy Pappas, DFL-St. Paul, offered an amendment to the Nelson amendment which gutted the existing cloning language and replaced it with a ban only on cloning done for reproductive purposes. MCCL opposed the Pappas amendment to the Nelson amendment, and it failed 26-38 (pro-life win).

Senate Vote 13

Human Cloning Funding Ban

Floor: Amendment to amendment

Following the defeat of the Pappas language, Sen. John Marty, DFL-Roseville, offered another amendment to the Nelson amendment. His amendment would exclude from the prohibition any cloning done to find cures for specified diseases or conditions. Because MCCL opposes destroying human life at any stage of development for research purposes, MCCL opposed the Marty amendment to the amendment. The Marty amendment failed 26-38 (pro-life win).

Senate Vote 14

Human Cloning Funding Ban

Floor: Amendment

After the various attempts to gut the cloning language, a vote was taken on Sen. Nelson's clarifying amendment, which passed 41-23 (pro-life win).

Senate Vote 15

Human Cloning Funding Ban

Floor: Passage

Continuing with the efforts to re-authorize the existing ban on taxpayer funding of human cloning, MCCL supported passage of the Higher Education omnibus bill, which passed the Senate 37-27 (pro-life win).

Senate Vote 16

Human Cloning Funding Ban

Floor: Repassage

Because the House and Senate passed different versions of the bill, the Higher Education omnibus bill was sent to conference committee. Upon returning to the Senate, the conference committee report was passed on a voice vote and the bill, as amended by the conference committee, was repassed 35-31 (pro-life win).

Unfortunately, the Higher Education omnibus bill was vetoed by Gov. Mark Dayton.

S.F. 760: Health and Human Services omnibus finance bill

As presented in committee in the Senate, the Health and Human Services omnibus finance bill contained a number of new pro-life provisions. Among these provisions was a ban on all human cloning. Though MCCL supported this bill, it was vetoed by Gov. Mark Dayton.

Senate Vote 17

Various (HHS omnibus)

Committee: HHS

The Health and Human Services (HHS) omnibus finance bill was first presented in the HHS committee. Because of the various pro-life provisions included in it, MCCL supported the bill, which passed 8-3 (pro-life win).

Senate Vote 18

Various (HHS omnibus)

Floor: Amendment

Following passage in the HHS committee, the omnibus bill was sent to the Senate Finance committee where it passed on a voice vote. When it reached the floor of the House, Sen. John Marty offered an amendment to gut the existing cloning ban that was in the HHS bill. His amendment combined the Pappas and Marty amendments from the Higher Education bill (votes 12-13), and essentially prohibited only reproductive cloning that was not done to find a cure for specified diseases and conditions. MCCL opposed the gutting Marty amendment, which failed 25-39 (pro-life win).

Senate Vote 19

Various (HHS omnibus)

Floor: Passage

No other amendments were offered to the HHS bill that affected pro-life provisions. MCCL supported the bill, which passed 37-26 (pro-life win).

Senate Vote 20

Various (HHS omnibus)

Floor: Conference committee report

Because the House and Senate passed different HHS omnibus bills, the bill went to conference committee. When the conference committee report came to the floor, Sen. David Hann, R-Eden Prairie, moved to adopt it. Then Sen. Linda Berglin, DFL-Minneapolis, offered a higher motion, a motion to reject the conference committee report. The Berglin motion failed 28-37 (pro-life win).

Senate Vote 21

Various (HHS omnibus)

Floor: Repassage

After Sen. Berglin's failed effort to send the report back to conference committee, the report passed the Senate on a voice vote. Then the bill, as amended, was repassed 36-28 (pro-life win).

Once again, Gov. Mark Dayton vetoed the bill.

H.F. 4: Special Session

With brand new Republican majorities in the House and Senate, a new DFL governor and a multi-billion dollar deficit, the regular legislative session ended without an agreement between the legislature and Gov. Dayton. Minnesota's government went into a shutdown on July 1, which lasted 20 days. Near the end of that time, an agreement was reached between Gov. Dayton, Speaker Kurt Zellers and Senate Majority Leader Amy Koch.

Part of the deal was to exclude any pro-life legislation from the final bills. This encompassed not only the ban on taxpayer funded abortion and the Pain Capable Unborn Child Protection Act, but also any efforts to continue the existing prohibition on taxpayer funding of human cloning and human cloning research. With the expiration of that policy on June 30, 2011, Minnesotans saw the first rollback of a pro-life provision (not due to court order) ever.

Senate Vote 22

Human Cloning Funding Ban

Floor: Passage

Because Minnesotans would be losing a pro-life law under the agreement between Dayton and legislative leadership, MCCL urged legislators to vote against the Higher Education omnibus bill to force leadership to make a new agreement that would include a continuation of the prohibition on using taxpayer funds for human cloning and human cloning research. Against the objection of MCCL, the Higher Education omnibus bill passed 35-30 (pro-life loss).

Senator	Dist #	% #1	% #2	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Bakk, Thomas	6	7%	7%	-	o	o	-	o	o	-	-	-	-	-
Benson, Michelle	49	93%	93%	-	x	x	-	x	x	-	-	-	-	-
Berglin, Linda	61	6%	7%	-	o	o	-	o	o	-	-	-	-	o
Bonoff, Terri	43	7%	7%	-	o	o	-	o	o	-	-	-	-	o
Brown, David	16	94%	94%	-	x	x	-	x	x	-	x	x	x	-
Carlson, John	4	94%	94%	-	x	x	-	x	x	-	x	x	x	-
Chamberlain, Roger	53	93%	93%	-	x	x	-	x	x	-	-	-	-	-
Cohen, Richard	64	7%	7%	-	o	o	-	o	o	-	-	-	-	n
Dahms, Gary	21	93%	93%	-	x	x	-	x	x	-	-	-	-	-
Daley, Theodore "Ted"	38	93%	93%	-	x	x	-	x	x	-	-	-	-	-
DeKruif, Al	25	93%	93%	-	x	x	-	x	x	-	-	-	-	-
Dibble, Scott	60	7%	8%	-	o	o	-	o	o	-	-	-	-	-
Fischbach, Michelle	14	100%	100%	-	x	x	-	x	x	-	x	x	x	x
Gazelka, Paul	12	93%	93%	-	x	x	-	x	x	-	-	-	-	-
Gerlach, Chris	37	93%	93%	-	x	x	-	x	x	-	-	-	-	-
Gimse, Joe	13	94%	94%	-	x	x	-	x	x	-	x	x	x	-
Goodwin, Barb	50	6%	6%	o	o	o	o	o	o	o	-	-	-	o
Hall, Dan	40	94%	94%	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	-	-	-	-
Hann, David	42	94%	94%	-	x	x	-	x	x	-	-	-	-	x
Harrington, John	67	6%	6%	o	o	o	n	o	o	o	-	-	-	-
Higgins, Linda	58	6%	6%	-	o	o	-	o	o	-	-	-	-	o
Hoffman, Gretchen	10	94%	94%	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	-	-	-	-
Howe, John Sterling	28	93%	93%	-	x	x	-	x	x	-	-	-	-	-
Ingebrigtsen, Bill	11	94%	94%	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	-	-	-	x
Jungbauer, Michael	48	94%	94%	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	-	-	-	-
Kelash, Kenneth	63	7%	7%	-	o	o	-	o	o	-	-	-	-	-
Koch, Amy	19	93%	93%	-	x	x	-	x	x	-	-	-	-	-
Kruse, Benjamin	47	93%	93%	-	x	x	-	x	x	-	-	-	-	-
Kubly, Gary	20	43%	67%	-	x	x	-	x	x	-	-	-	-	-
Langseth, Keith	9	33%	36%	-	x	x	-	x	e	-	-	-	-	o
Latz, Ron	44	5%	5%	o	o	o	o	o	o	o	o	o	o	-
Lillie, Ted	56	93%	93%	-	x	x	-	x	x	-	-	-	-	-
Limmer, Warren	32	94%	94%	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	-	-	-	-
Lourey, Tony	8	6%	6%	-	o	o	-	o	o	-	n	o	o	-
Magnus, Doug	22	93%	93%	-	x	x	-	x	x	-	-	-	-	x
Marty, John	54	6%	6%	o	o	o	o	o	o	o	-	-	-	-
McGuire, Mary Jo*	66	10%	10%	o	o	o	o	o	o	-	-	-	-	-
Metzen, James	39	7%	8%	-	o	o	-	o	e	-	-	-	-	-
Michel, Geoff	41	93%	93%	-	x	x	-	x	x	-	-	-	-	-
Miller, Jeremy	31	88%	88%	-	x	x	-	x	x	-	x	x	x	-
Nelson, Carla	30	86%	86%	-	x	x	-	x	x	-	-	-	-	-
Newman, Scott	18	95%	95%	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	-	-	-	x
Nienow, Sean	17	94%	94%	-	x	x	-	x	x	-	-	-	-	x
Olson, Gen	33	93%	93%	-	x	x	-	x	x	-	-	-	-	x

* Sen. McGuire was elected in a special election and began serving her term on April 18th, 2011.

Senator	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
Bakk, Thomas	0	0	0	0	0	-	0	0	0	0	X
Benson, Michelle	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	0
Berglin, Linda	0	0	0	0	0	n	0	0	0	0	X
Bonoff, Terri	0	0	0	0	0	-	0	0	0	0	X
Brown, David	X	X	X	X	X	-	X	X	X	X	0
Carlson, John	X	X	X	X	X	-	X	X	X	X	0
Chamberlain, Roger	X	X	X	X	X	-	X	X	X	X	0
Cohen, Richard	0	0	0	0	0	-	0	0	0	0	X
Dahms, Gary	X	X	X	X	X	-	X	X	X	X	0
Daley, Theodore "Ted"	X	X	X	X	X	-	X	X	X	X	0
DeKruif, Al	X	X	X	X	X	-	X	X	X	X	0
Dibble, Scott	0	0	0	0	0	-	0	0	0	e	X
Fischbach, Michelle	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Gazelka, Paul	X	X	X	X	X	-	X	X	X	X	0
Gerlach, Chris	X	X	X	X	X	-	X	X	X	X	0
Gimse, Joe	X	X	X	X	X	-	X	X	X	X	0
Goodwin, Barb	0	0	0	0	0	-	0	0	0	0	X
Hall, Dan	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	0
Hann, David	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	0
Harrington, John	0	0	0	0	0	-	0	0	0	0	X
Higgins, Linda	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	X
Hoffman, Gretchen	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	0
Howe, John Sterling	X	X	X	X	X	-	X	X	X	X	0
Ingebrigtsen, Bill	X	X	X	X	X	-	X	X	X	X	0
Jungbauer, Michael	X	X	X	X	X	-	X	X	X	X	0
Kelash, Kenneth	0	0	0	0	0	-	0	0	0	0	X
Koch, Amy	X	X	X	X	X	-	X	X	X	X	0
Kruse, Benjamin	X	X	X	X	X	-	X	X	X	X	0
Kubly, Gary	e	e	e	e	0	-	X	0	0	e	X
Langseth, Keith	0	0	X	0	0	-	0	0	0	0	X
Latz, Ron	0	0	0	0	0	-	0	0	0	0	X
Lillie, Ted	X	X	X	X	X	-	X	X	X	X	0
Limmer, Warren	X	X	X	X	X	-	X	X	X	X	0
Lourey, Tony	0	0	0	0	0	n	0	0	0	0	X
Magnus, Doug	X	X	X	X	X	-	X	X	X	X	0
Marty, John	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	e	0	0	X
McGuire, Mary Jo*	-	-	-	-	0	-	-	-	0	0	X
Metzen, James	0	0	0	0	0	-	0	0	0	0	X
Michel, Geoff	X	X	X	X	X	-	X	X	X	X	0
Miller, Jeremy	X	X	X	X	0	-	X	X	X	X	0
Nelson, Carla	X	X	X	X	X	-	X	X	X	0	0
Newman, Scott	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	0
Nienow, Sean	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	0
Olson, Gen	X	X	X	X	X	-	X	X	X	X	0

* Sen. McGuire was elected in a special election and began serving her term on April 18th, 2011.

Senator	Dist #	% #1	% #2	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Ortman, Julianne	34	94%	94%	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	-	-	-	-
Pappas, Sandra	65	6%	6%	-	o	o	-	o	o	-	o	o	o	-
Parry, Mike	26	93%	93%	-	x	x	-	x	x	-	-	-	-	x
Pederson, John	15	88%	88%	-	x	x	-	x	x	-	x	x	x	-
Pogemiller, Lawrence	59	7%	7%	-	o	o	-	o	o	-	-	-	-	-
Reinert, Roger	7	7%	11%	-	o	e	-	o	e	-	-	-	-	-
Rest, Ann	45	7%	7%	-	o	o	-	o	o	-	-	-	-	-
Robling, Claire	35	94%	94%	-	x	x	-	x	x	-	x	x	x	x
Senator	Dist #	% #1	% #2	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Rosen, Julie	24	93%	93%	-	x	x	-	x	x	-	-	-	-	-
Saxhaug, Tom	3	18%	19%	-	o	o	-	x	x	-	e	o	o	-
Scheid, Linda*	46	0%	0%	-	e	o	-	e	e	o	-	-	-	-
Senjem, David	29	82%	93%	-	x	x	-	x	x	-	x	n	n	-
Sheran, Kathy	23	6%	6%	-	o	o	-	o	o	-	o	o	o	-
Sieben, Katie	57	0%	0%	en. Scheid passed away between regular and special session.										
Skoe, Rod	2	14%	15%	-	o	o	-	o	e	-	-	-	-	-
Sparks, Dan	27	29%	29%	-	o	o	-	x	x	-	-	-	-	-
Stumpf, LeRoy	1	64%	64%	-	x	x	-	x	x	-	-	-	-	-
Thompson, Dave	36	94%	94%	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	-	-	-	-
Tomassoni, David	5	6%	6%	-	o	o	-	o	e	-	o	o	o	-
Torres Ray, Patricia	62	7%	7%	-	o	o	-	o	o	-	-	-	-	-
Vandever, Ray	52	100%	100%	-	x	x	-	x	x	-	-	-	-	-
Wiger, Charles	55	7%	7%	-	o	o	-	o	o	-	-	-	-	-
Wolf, Pam	51	93%	93%	-	x	x	-	x	x	-	-	-	-	-

Senator	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
Ortman, Julianne	x	x	x	x	x	-	x	x	x	x	o
Pappas, Sandra	o	o	o	o	o	-	o	o	o	o	x
Parry, Mike	x	x	x	x	x	-	x	x	x	x	o
Pederson, John	x	x	x	x	o	-	x	x	x	x	o
Pogemiller, Lawrence	o	o	o	o	o	-	o	o	o	o	x
Reinert, Roger	o	o	o	o	o	-	e	e	e	e	o
Rest, Ann	o	o	o	o	o	-	o	o	o	o	x
Robling, Claire	x	x	x	x	x	-	x	x	x	x	o
Senator	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
Rosen, Julie	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	o
Saxhaug, Tom	o	o	o	o	o	-	o	o	o	o	x
Scheid, Linda*	e	e	e	e	e	-	e	e	e	e	-
Senjem, David	x	x	x	x	x	-	x	x	x	x	o
Sheran, Kathy	o	o	o	o	o	o	o	o	o	o	x
Sieben, Katie	o	o	o	o	o	-	o	o	o	o	e
Skoe, Rod	o	o	x	o	o	-	o	o	o	o	x
Sparks, Dan	o	o	x	o	o	-	o	o	o	o	x
Stumpf, LeRoy	x	x	x	o	o	-	x	o	o	o	x
Thompson, Dave	x	x	x	x	x	-	x	x	x	x	o
Tomassoni, David	o	o	o	o	o	-	o	o	o	o	x
Torres Ray, Patricia	o	o	o	o	o	-	o	o	o	o	x
Vandever, Ray	x	x	x	x	x	-	x	x	x	x	x
Wiger, Charles	o	o	o	o	o	-	o	o	o	o	x
Wolf, Pam	x	x	x	x	x	-	x	x	x	x	o

*Sen. Scheid passed away between regular and special session.