



**The 2006 Minnesota Legislative Session began on March 1, 2006 with a large number of bills that could potentially affect fathers and families in Minnesota. Here is a partial listing of those bills, as compiled by the Minnesota Fathers & Families Network (3/27/06).**

**Status of Men:** A bill for an act relating to state government, requiring the Legislative Coordinating Commission to study issues relating to men. House File 2698 introduced by Rep. Sondra Erickson (R, Princeton), March 1, 2006.

**Parent Volunteering:** Volunteer income tax credit provided for parents volunteering at child's school or child care., H.F. 2671, introduced March 1, 2006 by Reps. Mindy Greiling (DFL, Roseville), Debra Hilstrom (DFL, Brooklyn Center), Katie Sieben (DFL, Newport), Melissa Hortman (DFL, Brooklyn Park), Maria Ruud (DFL, Minnetonka), Bernard Lieder (DFL, Crookston).

**Mentoring Children of Incarcerated Parents:** Senators Ranum, McGinn, Berglin, Betzold and Ortman introduced S.F. No. 3353 on Mar. 20: A bill for an act relating to public safety; authorizing a grant for mentoring children of incarcerated parents. Also, H.F. 3660, introduced on Mar. 20 by Reps. Johnson, J.; Smith; Murphy; Cornish; Ellison.

**Early Education Fund:** Minnesota Early Learning Foundation money appropriated. H.F. 3129, introduced March 2, 2006 by Reps. Melissa Hortman (DFL, Brooklyn Park), Frank Moe (DFL, Bemidji), Denise Dittrich (DFL, Champlin), Sandra Peterson (DFL, New Hope), Steve Simon (DFL, St. Louis Park), Brita Sailer (DFL, Park Rapids), Maria Ruud (DFL, Minnetonka).

**Child Care:** Child care assistance income eligibility and parent fee schedule modifications, provider rate differential and license fees suspension. Senate File 2819, introduced by Sens. John Hottinger (DFL, St. Peter), Linda Berglin (DFL, Minneapolis), Linda Scheid (DFL, Brooklyn Park), Bob Kierlin (R, Winona), Dean Johnson (DFL, Willmar) on March 8, 2006.

**Teen Parent Child Care:** Ramsey County teen parents child care pilot project. H.F. 3109, introduced March 2, 2006 by Reps. Char Samuelson (R, New Brighton), Alice Hausman (DFL, St. Paul), Michael Paymar (DFL, St. Paul), Mindy Greiling (DFL, Roseville), Bev Scalze (DFL, Little Canada). Also, S.F. 2679, introduced by Sens. Sandra Pappas (DFL, St. Paul), Jane Ranum (DFL, Minneapolis), Ellen Anderson (DFL, St. Paul), Mee Moua (DFL, St. Paul) and John Marty (DFL, Roseville).

**Comprehensive Family Life and Sexuality Education:** Reps. Walker; Peterson, S.; Greiling; Dorn; Davnie; Johnson, R.; Tinglestad; Latz; Mariani; Sertich; Erhardt; Poppe; Dorman; Loeffler; Kelliher; Wagenius; Solberg; Slawik; Hilstrom; Johnson, S.; Paymar; Hornstein; Thissen and Huntley introduced H. F. 3708 on Mar. 20: A bill for an act relating to education; providing for comprehensive family life and sexuality education programs. Also, S.F. 2977 introduced by Sens. Pappas; Kelley; Marko; Kiscaden; Kierlin on Mar. 13.

**Caregiver Sick Leave:** Personal sick leave benefits use modification, caregivers support program, home care services delivery interactive telecommunications system study. S.F. 2565, introduced March 1, 2006 by Sen. Kiscaden (I, Rochester). Also, S.F. 2618, Personal sick leave benefits use modification, caregivers support program.

**Public Defense and Custodial Parents:** Reps. Debra Hilstrom (DFL, Brooklyn Center) and Steve Smith (R, Mound) introduced H.F. 3344 on Mar. 13, 2006. A bill for an act relating to public defense, modifying right to public defender representation.

**Child Custody:** Presumption in favor of joint physical custody established. House File 2902, introduced by Reps. Rob Eastlund (R, Isanti), Peter Nelson (R, Lindstrom), and Mike Charron (R, Woodbury), March 1, 2006. Also, S.F. 2763, introduced by Sen. David Hann (R, Eden Prairie) on March 8, 2006.

**Paternity Presumption:** Paternity presumption provisions modified. H.F. No. 576 introduced by Reps. Meslow and Simon on Jan. 31, 2005; second reading on Mar. 22, 2006. Also, S.F. 751, authors: Sens. Betzold; Rest; and Neville.

**Family Law:** Standard for removal of child's residence from the state modified, joint physical custody presumption created, parenting plans required, and hearing requirement timelines modified. H.F. 2860, introduced on March 1, 2006 by Rep. Rob Eastlund (R, Isanti). Also S.F. 2786 introduced March 8, by Sens. David Hann (R, Eden Prairie) and Thomas Neville (R, Northfield).

For further details on Minnesota's bills, visit [www.leg.state.mn.us](http://www.leg.state.mn.us) and search by topic, author, bill number, or date.

**Family Law:** Senator Hann introduced S.F. No. 3557 on Mar. 27: A bill for an act relating to family law; requiring evidence to show the public authority's interest in IV-D cases; requiring a waiver of income withholding.

**Child Support Services Provisions Modified:** H.F. 530, introduced in Jan. 2005; author added on Mar. 16, 2006. Authors: Wardlow; Soderstrom; Otremba; Emmer; Severson; Johnson, J.; Heidgerken; Urdahl; Powell; Beard; Peterson, A.; Samuelson; Sviggum.

**Child Support and Parenting Time:** Senator Neuville introduced on Mar. 20 S.F. No. 3386: A bill for an act relating to family law; clarifying and modifying provisions dealing with the establishment and enforcement of child support and parenting time.

**Child Support:** Rep. Smith introduced on Mar. 16 H. F. 3585: A bill for an act relating to family law; changing certain child support and maintenance provisions. Also, S.F. 3199, introduced by Sen. Neuville on Mar. 15.

**Child Support:** Senators Neuville, Marty and Dille introduced on Mar. 23 S.F. 3514: A bill for an act relating to child support; authorizing the public authority to redirect child support payments. Also, HF3826 introduced by Rep. Newman on Mar. 22.

**Child Support:** H.F. 2828, child support reduction upon emancipation of child established and support orders to specify support amounts provided. Introduced Mar. 1 by Reps. Rob Eastlund (R, Isanti), Peter Nelson (R, Lindstrom). Also S.F. 2765 introduced March 8 by Sens. David Hann (R, Eden Prairie), Thomas Neuville (R, Northfield), Warren Limmer (R, Maple Grove).

**Child Support:** A bill for an act relating to family law, changing certain child support and maintenance provisions. Senator Thomas Neuville (R, Northfield) introduced S.F. 3199 on Mar. 15, 2006.

**Family Court Appeals:** A bill for an act relating to courts, providing for appeal of Fourth Judicial District Family Court referee orders. S.F.2633 introduced by Sens. Ann Rest (DFL, New Hope), Wesley Skoglund (DFL, Minneapolis), Jane Ranum (DFL, Minneapolis), David Hann (R, Eden Prairie) on March 1, 2006.

**Supervised Visitation:** A bill for an act creating a supervised visitation advisory committee, adjusting marriage dissolution fees to fund parenting time centers. Reps. Barb Sykora (R, Excelsior), Michael Paymar (DFL, St. Paul), Jeff Johnson (R, Plymouth) introduced H. F. 3158 on March 8. Also, S.F. 2991 introduced Mar. 13 by Sens. Mike McGinn (R, Eagan), Sandra Pappas (DFL, St. Paul), Maria Ruud (DFL, Minnetonka), Wes Skoglund (DFL, Minneapolis), Charles Wiger (DFL, North St. Paul).

**Domestic Abuse:** Senator Ranum introduced S.F. No. 3349 on Mar. 20: A bill for an act relating to domestic abuse; providing for enforcement of foreign protective orders. Also H.F. 3586, introduced on Mar. 16 by Reps. Smith and Ruud.

**Domestic Abuse:** Domestic abuse no contact order violations added to list of qualified domestic violence-related offenses. H.F. 3091, introduced March 2, 2006 by Reps. Doug Meslow (R, White Bear Lake), Scott Newman (R, Hutchinson). Also, S.F. 2911, introduced Mar. 9, 2006 by Senators Jane Ranum (DFL, Minneapolis), Warren Limmer (R, Maple Grove) and Wes Skoglund (DFL, Minneapolis).

**Domestic Abuse:** A bill for an act relating to domestic abuse, providing for the equal protection of male and female victims of domestic abuse. H.F. 3306 introduced Mar. 9, 2006 by Reps. Judy Soderstrom (R, Mora), Keith Ellison (DFL, Minneapolis), Mary Ellen Otremba (DFL, Long Prairie), Sondra Erickson (R, Princeton), Rob Eastlund (R, Isanti) and Bud Nornes (R, Fergus Falls).

**Domestic Fatality Review:** A bill for an act relating to domestic abuse, authorizing extension of the domestic fatality review team pilot project. S.F. 2818, introduced March 8, 2006 by Sens. Don Betzold (DFL, Fridley) and Wes Skoglund (DFL, Minneapolis). Also, H.F. 3197 introduced by Rep. Steve Smith (R, Richfield) on March 8, 2006.

**Domestic Assault:** A bill for an act relating to crime, creating enhanced penalties for the crime of domestic assault committed in the presence of a child. H.F. No. 3009 introduced by Rep. Steve Smith (R, Mound), March 1, 2006.

**Child Protection:** A bill for an act relating to children, clarifying certain requirements in protecting or placing certain children S.F. 2545, introduced March 1, 2006 by Sen. Charles Wiger (DFL, North St. Paul).

**Adoption:** Income tax credit for adoption expenses, S.F. 2415, introduced by Sen. Vickerman (DFL, Tracy), March 1, 2006.

**Adoption:** Adoption communication or contact agreements provisions clarification. S.F. 2989 introduced Mar. 13, 2006 by Sen. Michelle Bachmann (R, Stillwater), H.F. 2964 introduced by Rep. Ray Vandevier (R, Forest Lake) on Mar. 1, 2006.

**Housing for Homeless Families:** Supportive housing funding provided, bonds issued, and money appropriated, including support for homeless families and battered women. H.F. 3098, introduced March 2, 2006 by Reps. Margaret Anderson Kelliher (DFL, Minneapolis), Karen Clark (DFL, Minneapolis), Paul Gazelka (R, Brainerd), Connie Ruth (R, Owatonna).

**Marriage Tax Relief:** Working Families Tax Relief Act of 2004 marriage penalty relief conformity provided, and tax relief made permanent. H.F. 3083 introduced March 2, 2006 by Rep. Ann Lenczewski (DFL, Bloomington).

**Marriage Solemnization:** A bill for an act relating to marriage, providing for the solemnization of Hmong marriages, imposing criminal penalties for knowingly facilitating the solemnization of a prohibited marriage, clarifying filing requirements for certain Quaker marriages. S.F. 2403, introduced by Sens. Wes Skoglund (DFL, Minneapolis), John Marty (DFL, Roseville), Tom Neuville (R, Northfield), Don Betzold (DFL, Fridley), Tarryl Clark (DFL, St. Cloud), March 1, 2006.



**The Minnesota Fathers & Families Network** is a nonpartisan professional network and educational resource. We believe that mothers and fathers contribute important elements to the healthy development of children and families. Inclusion of a bill on this page does not imply legislative support or opposition. This list is compiled for educational purposes. To learn more about MFFN, visit our website at [www.mnfathers.org](http://www.mnfathers.org).

**MFFN encourages our members to explore other legislative topics related to fatherhood in Minnesota:**

- **Early Childhood Education:** [www.ready4k.org](http://www.ready4k.org)
- **Teen Pregnancy Prevention:** [www.moapp.org](http://www.moapp.org)
- **Adoption:** [www.mnasap.org](http://www.mnasap.org)
- **Low-income Family Support:** [www.affirmativeoptions.org](http://www.affirmativeoptions.org)
- **Faith-based Advocacy for Children:** [www.ccccan.org](http://www.ccccan.org)
- **Nonprofit Advocacy:** [www.mncn.org](http://www.mncn.org)