

## 2017 Legislative Session Summary from Capitol Hill Associates

### Session Closure

While the Governor's line-item veto of the legislature's operating budget means the people's business isn't quite finished, it is for our practical purposes.

The final Bonding bill, signed into law, appropriates \$2 million for library construction and renovation projects.

The final Legacy bill, signed into law, appropriates \$2.5 million for library legacy programming for the next two years.

The final E-12 bill, signed into law, doesn't appropriate new funding for regional library programs.

If the courts decide against the legislature's forthcoming lawsuit over the line-item veto, it's the Governor's desire to revisit several items in the Tax bill. Those items are related to commercial-industrial property taxes paid to the state, tobacco taxes and changes to the estate tax. He's also indicated a desire to revisit the teacher licensure reform package passed in the E-12 bill.

The 2018 session begins at noon on Tuesday, February 20<sup>th</sup>.

### Special Session adjourns Sine Die

Early this morning the Minnesota Legislature adjourned their Special Session 'Sine Die' having passed the seven bills in the global agreement with Gov. Mark Dayton. The bills detailed a \$46 million budget including \$650 million reduction in taxes, \$483 million for education, \$300 million for transportation and nearly \$1 billion in bonding for public works.

All of the bills now will go to the governor for his signature or veto. While the governor signed the global agreement that kicked off the special session, there were few details in that original document. As a result, activists, union leaders and some high-ranking DFLers are urging him to veto all or some of the agreement.

While general expectations are that Gov. Dayton will sign or veto the bills by the middle to end of next week, he has 14 days to consider the bills passed in the special session after they're presented to him. The legislature has three days to present the special session bills to the Governor.

### Bonding Bill

The bonding bill contains \$2 million for library construction and renovation grants. There are no earmarks for these funds so an open grant process will ensue at the MN Department of Education.