



Admin MINNESOTA

Department of Administration

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January 31, 2005

To: GIS Community

From: David Arbeit, Director, LMIC

Subject: Communicating with legislators about Administration/LMIC budget

At the January 29 meeting of the MN Governor's Council on Geographic Information, I informed members about the Governor's recommendation to reduce LMIC's budget to 25 percent of its current level. This recommendation would reduce LMIC's supported staff from about 8.5 FTEs to about 2 FTEs. For comparison, LMIC's budget supported 13 positions in 1994. Coming at a time when the MN Governor's Council on Geographic Information has recommended a stronger commitment to statewide coordination in its recently adopted strategic plan, *Foundations for Coordinated GIS*, the reduction will make pursuing that plan close to impossible. Many of you expressed concern about the effects of this budget reduction and asked me to clarify the legislative process and identify legislative contacts so that you may express your concerns.

During early stages of the legislative process, finance committees in the Senate and the House of Representatives will review the Department of Administration budget. Each house also has a "policy" committee that deals with non-financial aspects of Administration's budget. Members of these four committees, especially the finance committees, are the most important legislative contacts regarding LMIC's budget. In addition, the majority and minority leaders in each house are important as they control the process that sets the budget for all agencies. Regardless of committee assignments, you may wish to contact legislators that represent you or your organization and ask them to convey your concerns to the appropriate committees.

I expect that committees will begin discussing the Governor's budget at any time now, but they are more likely to hold hearings about Administration's budget in mid-February. I have described the key committees with oversight over the Department of Administration and its budget on the following pages along with key contacts for the Governor's office.

KEY CONTACTS FOR LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEES OVERSEEING ADMINISTRATION/LMIC AND THE GOVERNOR'S OFFICE

SENATE

Leadership

[Senator Dean E. Johnson](#), Majority Leader (DFL, Willmar)

Democratic Leadership web site (<http://www.senate.leg.state.mn.us/caucus/dem/leadership/>)

[Senator Dick Day](#), Minority Leader (Republican, Bloomington)

Republican Leadership Web site(<http://www.senate.leg.state.mn.us/caucus/rep/leadership/>)

State and Local Government Operations Committee [policy issues]

Chair: [Linda Higgins](#) (DFL, Minneapolis) Also DFL Majority Whip

Vice Chair: [Charles W. "Chuck" Wiger](#) (DFL, North St. Paul)

Ranking Minority member: [Claire A. Robling](#) (R, Jordon) Also Assistant Minority Leader

Finance Committee, State Government Operations Division [budget]

Chair: [Sheila M. Kiscaden](#) (Independent, Rochester)

Ranking Minority member: [Geoff Michel](#) (R, Edina)

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Leadership

[Steve Sviggum](#), Speaker (R, Kenyon)

[Erik Paulsen](#), Majority Leader (R, Eden Prairie)

[Matt Entenza](#), Minority Leader (DFL, St. Paul)

House Leadership web site (<http://www.house.leg.state.mn.us/members/houseleaders.asp>).

Governmental Operations and Veterans Affairs Committee (policy issues)

Chair: [Kathy Tingelstad](#) (R, Andover)

Vice Chair: [Dan Severson](#) (R, Sauk Rapids)

Lead-DFL: [Phyllis Kahn](#) (DFL, Minneapolis)

State Government Finance Committee

Chair: [Marty Seifert](#) (R, Marshall)

Vice Chair: [Joyce Peppin](#) (R, Rogers)

Lead-DFL: [Bill Hilty](#) (DFL, Finlayson)

Details about committee membership and staff are attached. Email addresses and phone numbers are at the legislative web site – www.leg.state.mn.us.

For communications sent to the Governor's office, it would be a good idea to copy Dan McElroy (Chief of Staff) and Dana Badgerow (Commissioner of Administration).

Senate

State and Local Government Operations Committee

This committee would hear any bill involving a policy change, such as creating a state GIS Office or moving LMIC functions to another agency. It may decide to discuss the proposed budget reduction if a member is concerned about the reduction's effects upon the state's commitment to coordination. If this committee recommends adjusting the budget to fund a policy objective, it will send a recommendation to the Senate Finance Committee, State Government Budget Division.

Chair: [Linda Higgins](#)

Vice Chair: [Charles W. "Chuck" Wiger](#)

Ranking Minority member: [Claire A. Robling](#)

Office: 328 Capitol

Phone: (651) 296-4150

Meets: Mon., Wed., 12 noon - 2:30 p.m. 123 Capitol

Members:

- [Dick Day](#)
- [D. Scott Dibble](#)
- [Michelle L. Fischbach](#)
- [Debbie J. Johnson](#)
- [Gary W. Kubly](#)
- [Sharon Marko](#)
- [David H. Senjem](#)
- [Yvonne Prettner Solon](#)
- [David J. Tomassoni](#)
- [Jim Vickerman](#)
- [Betsy Wergin](#)

Staff:

- *Committee Administrator:* Julie Perrus, (651) 296-4150
- *Legislative Assistant:* Trayshana Thomas, (651) 296-9246
- *Legislative Assistant:* Mary Olson, (651) 296-6820
- *Counsel:* Daniel McGowan, (651) 296-4397
- *Counsel:* Tom Bottern, (651) 296-3810
- *Fiscal Analyst:* Kevin Lundeen, (651) 296-2727
- *Committee Page:* Karl Haddeland, (651) 296-8614

Senate

Finance Committee, State Government Budget Division

This committee will hold hearings on the Department of Administration budget. It is the best venue for discussing the effects of the LMIC budget reduction during the Department of Administration's budget hearing. Any member is free to question the recommendation during the hearing. For the Senate budget to change the Governor's budget recommendation, strong support from this committee is essential.

Chair: [Sheila M. Kiscaden](#)

Ranking Minority member: [Geoff Michel](#)

Office: 325 Capitol

Phone: (651) 296-5307

Meets: Mon., Tues., Wed., Thurs., Fri., 9 - 11:30 a.m. 107 Capitol

Size: 10

Members:

- [Satveer Chaudhary](#)
- [Richard J. Cohen](#)
- [Cal Larson](#)
- [James P. Metzen](#)
- [Jane B. Ranum](#)
- [Mady Reiter](#)
- [David H. Senjem](#)
- [Jim Vickerman](#)

Division Staff

- *Division Administrator:* Christine Kiel, (651) 296-5307
- *Legislative Assistant:* Patricia Rooney, (651) 296-2519
- *Counsel:* Tom Bottern, (651) 296-3810
- *Fiscal Analyst:* Kevin Lundeen, (651) 296-2727
- *Division Page:* Christina Gosack, (651) 296-5460

House of Representatives

Governmental Operations and Veterans Affairs Committee

This committee would hear any bill involving a policy change, such as creating a state GIS Office or moving LMIC functions to another agency. It may decide to discuss the proposed budget if a member is concerned about the reduction's effects upon the state's commitment to coordination. If this committee recommends adjusting the budget to fund a policy objective, it will send a recommendation to the House State Government Finance Committee.

Meets: Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays, 10:15 a.m. in Room 5 of the State Office Bldg.

	Phone Number (651) area code	E-mail Address
Chair: Kathy Tingelstad (R)	296-5369	rep.kathy.tingelstad@house.mn
Vice Chair: Dan Severson (R)	296-7808	rep.dan.severson@house.mn
Lead-DFL: Phyllis Kahn (DFL)	296-4257	rep.phyllis.kahn@house.mn
Michael Beard (R)	296-8872	rep.mike.beard@house.mn
Lloyd Cybart (R)	296-5506	rep.lloyd.cybart@house.mn
Randy Demmer (R)	296-9236	rep.randy.demmer@house.mn
Jerry Dempsey (R)	296-8635	rep.jerry.dempsey@house.mn
Joe Hoppe (R)	296-5066	rep.joe.hoppe@house.mn
Larry Hosch (DFL)	296-4373	rep.larry.hosch@house.mn
Ruth Johnson (DFL)	296-8634	rep.ruth.johnson@house.mn
Sheldon Johnson (DFL)	296-4201	rep.sheldon.johnson@house.mn
Tina Liebling (DFL)	296-0573	rep.tina.liebling@house.mn
Leon Lillie (DFL)	296-1188	rep.leon.lillie@house.mn
Diane Loeffler (DFL)	296-4219	rep.diane.loeffler@house.mn
Tim Mahoney (DFL)	296-4277	rep.tim.mahoney@house.mn
Denny McNamara (R)	296-3135	rep.denny.mcnamara@house.mn
Mark Olson (R)	296-4237	rep.mark.olson@house.mn
Aaron Peterson (DFL)	296-4228	rep.aaron.peterson@house.mn
Neil W. Peterson (R)	296-7803	rep.neil.peterson@house.mn
Marty Seifert (R)	296-5374	rep.marty.seifert@house.mn
Lynn Wardlow (R)	296-4128	rep.lynn.wardlow@house.mn
Andy Welti (DFL)	296-4378	rep.andy.welti@house.mn

Committee Staff

Committee Administrator: Scott Neske 296-4283

Committee Legislative Assistant: Alicia Davis 296-1544

(A) Alternates

House of Representatives

State Government Finance Committee

This committee will hold hearings on the Department of Administration budget. It is the best venue for discussing the effects of the LMIC budget reduction during the Department of Administration's budget hearing. Any member is free to question the recommendation during the hearing.

Meets: Tuesdays and Wednesdays, 8:15 a.m. in the Basement Hearing Room of the State Office Building.

	Phone Number (651) area code	E-mail Address
Chair: Marty Seifert (R)	296-5374	rep.marty.seifert@house.mn
Vice Chair: Joyce Peppin (R)	296-7806	rep.joyce.peppin@house.mn
Lead-DFL: Bill Hilty (DFL)	296-4308	rep.bill.hilty@house.mn
Greg Blaine (R)	296-4247	rep.greg.blaine@house.mn
Chris DeLaForest (R)	296-4231	rep.chris.delaforest@house.mn
Brad Finstad (R)	296-9303	rep.brad.finstad@house.mn
Phyllis Kahn (DFL)	296-4257	rep.phyllis.kahn@house.mn
Philip Krinkie (R)	296-2907	rep.phil.krinkie@house.mn
Joe Mullery (DFL)	296-4262	rep.joe.mullery@house.mn
Loren Solberg (DFL)	296-2365	rep.loren.solberg@house.mn
ex-officio Jim Knoblach (R)	296-6316	rep.jim.knoblach@house.mn

Committee Staff

Committee Administrator: Jared Jordal 296-5318

Committee Legislative Assistant: Dan Miller 296-5336

(A) Alternates