

6-9-72

## Woman political leader plans bid in District 57A

Dr. Phyllis L. Kahn, an organizer of the Minnesota Women's Political Caucus, is seeking DFL endorsement for the Minnesota House of Representatives in District 57A, on the east side of Minneapolis.

She is a faculty member in the department of genetics and cell biology at the University of Minnesota and is directing a research project funded through the American Cancer Society.

She holds a B.A. degree in physics from Cornell University, and a Ph.D. in biophysics from Yale University. Prof. Kahn is a past board member of Twin Cities National Organization for Women and was appointed to the Women's Advisory Committee of the State Department of Human Rights by Gov. Wendell Anderson.

She and her husband and two children have lived in southeast Minneapolis seven years.

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# Research associate runs for legislature

By RUSSELL CARROLL

One University area candidate for the state legislature is counting on the lack of a strong authority image to insure her election.

Phyllis Kahn, a University research associate, last week said that young voters will probably elect her to the Minnesota House of Representatives.

"New voters are tired of strong authority figures," Kahn, who is seeking the District 57A seat in the House of Representatives, said during an interview.

District 57A includes the east bank of the University, Dinkytown and Prospect Park.

"I am one of the better candidates around and I have worked for change as a student, faculty

member and parent," Kahn said. "Authority is unresponsive to demands and I can actively effect change from the top."

At the district convention, Kahn was three votes short of the 60 percent required for the DFL endorsement and is one of at least four candidates who will run in the Sept. 12 primary.

Kahn attributed her lack of endorsement to the fact that the district has a history of not endorsing candidates.

No one in her group had had any previous political endorsement experience, she added.

Kahn said she felt real empathy for the problems of the people, adding that "state government is

Kahn to 12

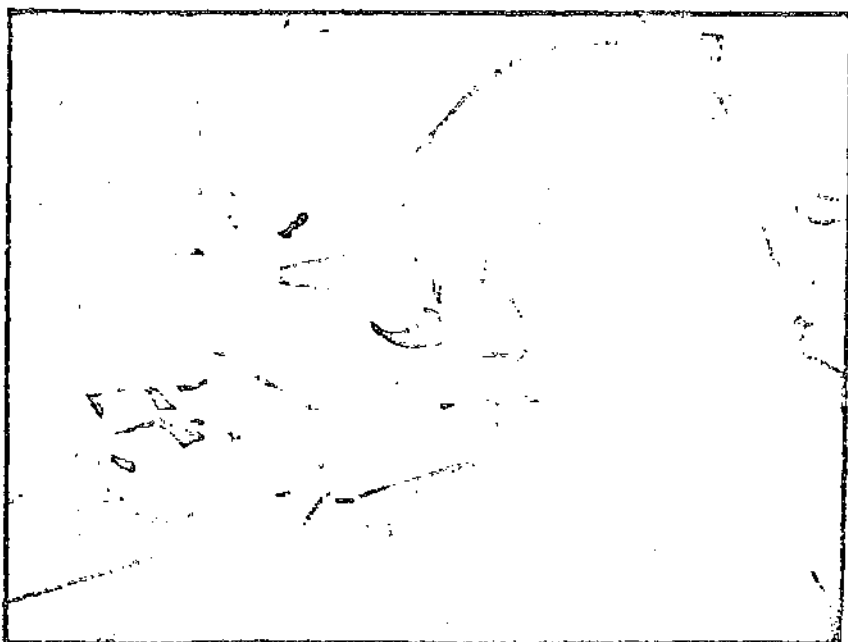


Photo by David Brewster

## PHYLLIS KAHN

'New voters are tired of strong authority figures'

*Phyllis Kahn July 1972*

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# CONTINUED

## Kahn from 7

very fascinating and touches our lives in all areas."

Asked whether she supported the local DFL platform, Kahn replied, "I don't disagree with any of the issues in the platform, but I am disappointed that the rest of the platform was not passed, since it would have a broader appeal and would be more representative of the DFL party."

Kahn said she would have liked to see the planks on tax reform, penal reform, environmental issues and human rights passed along with the rest of the platform.

It is most important to end the war in Southeast Asia, because of moral, philosophical and economic reasons, as well as the self-interest of the country, Kahn said, referring to the platform.

Kahn said she agrees with Sen. George McGovern (D-S.D.) and his new politics.

The 1972 National Democratic Convention illustrated the new blood and fresh spirit in politics, she said, emphasizing her hope that the nation is ready for this new type of attitude and atmosphere.

"Our goal should be to have the state legislature and every section of government look like the National Democratic Convention, with an incredible mixture of people and ideas," she said. "I know that District 57A is ready for it since it is one of the most progressive districts in the state."

Kahn, who is a faculty member in the Dept. of Genetics and Cell Biology, said she favors repeal of the state abortion law.

Kahn also emphasized the need to develop a more constructive relationship between the legislature, the Regents, the University and the community.

The legislature, by means of its funding powers and the appointment of Regents, can encourage the University to develop progressive solutions to the problems of mass transit, housing, education and human rights for the benefit of the entire state, she said.

Kahn cited her other principle concerns as environmental problems, educational opportunities and alternatives, woman's rights, penal reform and legislative reorganization.

*Minnesota Daily 8/25/72*

We believe that **PHYLLIS KAHN** is the best choice to represent the community and the university in district 57a. She is:

- The strongest candidate from the DFL district endorsing convention, missing the 60 percent required for endorsement by 3 votes, leading the next candidates by over 30 votes.
- Endorsed by Americans for Democratic Action, who unanimously endorsed McGovern in April.
- One of few candidates anywhere (excepting incumbents) who pushed a bill through the legislature last session (Child Care Facilities Act). She also worked for woman's rights and progressive labor legislation.
- A believer in responsiveness of the government and listening to people. Phyllis Kahn does not change her views, while moving from one end of the district to another.
- Trained as a scientist, she will bring a new outlook to solve problems such as urbanization and environmental deterioration. She does not mouth pat answers to old problems.
- The mother of two school age children, she was worked actively with the Southeast school system, and understands neighborhood problems.

**Choose Action Rather Than Rhetoric,  
Open Participation Rather Than Political Manipulation.  
Choose the Strong Liberal Candidate for 57a Representative.**

*57A*

**ELECT PHYLLIS KAHN**

Vote by absentee ballot, if you will be gone Sept. 12. Call 340-3792 for info.

Prepared and paid at regular rates by Volunteers for P. Kahn, F. Littman, Treas., 76 Clarence, Mpls. 55414. To help, call Students for Phyllis Kahn, 331-4534.

Choose Open Participation rather than  
Political Manipulation. Choose a Strong New  
Voice for the Legislature. Elect

*Mpls Trib. 9/8/72*

# PHYLLIS KAHN

State Representative ☆ ☆ <sup>#</sup> 57a

DFL ☆ ☆ ☆ LABOR ENDORSED

PRIMARY Sept. 12

Paid Adv. — Prepared & paid at reg. rates by Vols. For P. Kahn, F. Littman, Treasurer, Mpls.

## MOST BY BIG MARGINS

# Record 6 women win seats in Legislature

Women, competing in force in the first major election since their collective liberation became a household debate, were elected to the Minnesota Legislature in unprecedented numbers.

The victories of four DFL and two Conservative representatives indicated that voters agreed with one loser's campaign slogan, that a woman's place is in the House.

The winners, based on unofficial returns:

Linda Berglin, a young freelance graphic designer, in District 59A, the Model Cities sector of south Minneapolis. She is a DFLer.

Mary Forsythe, a Conservative following the political trail of her husband, a former GOP state

party chairman, in District 39A.

Joan Grove, a Minnetonka housewife from District 40A, who says she'll caucus with the DFLers.

Phyllis Kahn, a diminutive biophysicist at the University of Minnesota, who defeated another DFLer in District 57A.

Ernee McArthur, executive secretary of the Brooklyn Center Chamber of Commerce and a Conservative in District 45B.

Helen McMillan, the lone female incumbent, a DFLer from Austin returning to the Legislature for the sixth time.

When women won, they generally did it big. Mrs. Forsythe compiled a whopping 81.5-percent victory over her opponent, the Rev. John Cummins,

in Edina. Ms. Berglin (at 27 believed the youngest of the 17 women legislators in the state's history) got 64.8 percent of the vote. Ms. Kahn and Ms. McArthur captured 59 and 58 percent of their district totals, respectively.

Mrs. McMillan was the only successful outstate woman candidate. In a preelection interview, she cited the Minnesota Women's Political Caucus' work for the record number of women seeking state office. In all, 43 women campaigned for legislative seats. Twelve lost in the primary.

With women's lib on the public's mind, was being a female politician an asset? Replied Ms. Kahn, over the noise of a victory celebration last night, "I don't think it hurt at all."



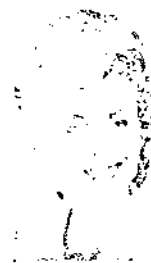
McMillan



Berglin



McArthur



Grove



Forsythe

Phyllis Kahn

11-8-72



Minneapolis Star Photo by Charles Bjorgen

**LEGISLATIVE VICTOR PHYLLIS KAHN HOISTED BY FANS**

*'Being a woman in this campaign didn't hurt at all'*

57H

# Kahn's newcomer status no indication of standing



PHYLLIS KAHN

Photo by Bob Hain

*Minnesota Daily*

"Nobody has asked me to type anything yet"

1-26-73

By SUZANNE PERRY  
Women and minorities editor

Rep. Phyllis Kahn (DFL-Minneapolis) shares an office at the State Capitol with about 50 other junior legislators in a room she says resembles those provided to University teaching assistants.

However, her cramped office quarters and newcomer status are no indication of Kahn's legislative standing. She is a member of a major house committee (the Appropriations Committee), she helped engineer house passage of two controversial antiwar resolutions and has already co-sponsored at least half a dozen other bills.

Kahn is one of only six women in the state legislature. Noting that "nobody has asked me to type anything yet," she said Thursday that women have been treated without discrimination.

"There's a basic sense of equality; we've all been elected from a district," Kahn, who is on leave from her job as a University research associate, said.

Before Kahn was elected last fall to represent the southeast Minneapolis-University area, she was known for her work in the area of women's rights.

She said she thinks her assignment to "hard-edged" committees will dispel the image of a "one-issue candidate" that was applied to her during the campaign. Besides belonging to the Appropriations Committee, Kahn is a member of the Environment, Preservation and Natural Resources Committee, the Transportation Committee and the City Government Committee.

"I showed a list of my committees to a supporter and he said, 'What happened to all the motherhood issues?'"

Kahn said she has co-sponsored many of the bills she would be expected to sponsor, such as the Equal Rights Amendment bill and a bill designed to lower the age of majority to 18.

But she also has co-sponsored or authored bills, now at various stages of development, dealing with interest rates for small loans, liquor on campuses, party designation and political canvassing in multiple-housing units.

Kahn said her ability to engineer passage of the two antiwar resolutions so early in her legislative career did much to establish her credibility as an effective legislator.

"People came up to me and said,

"There are people who have been here 10 years and haven't pushed through a controversial bill.'"

Kahn's priorities in her committee work range from pushing for more community participation in city land-development projects to promoting further development of public transportation throughout the state.

Kahn said it is exciting to be a member of the Appropriations Committee because "the major part of state government is appropriations."

That committee is considering University legislative budget requests.

Kahn said she would reserve judgment on the requests until after further study, although she said she worries about "putting money into buildings as opposed to people and programs."

She said the University's request for a health sciences complex may be "obsolete and inappropriate."

"I'm pleased the University is taking an interest in health care in rural areas but I'm not sure it's going about it in the most efficient way."

She said she would favor the promotion of community health care programs.



# Kahn: 'Inept,' building-oriented U lobbying failed to represent student, faculty interests

By DAVID A. PETERSON  
Political affairs editor

The "inept" lobbying effort of University administrators during the recent legislative session failed to represent the interests of students and faculty, a legislator claimed Monday.

"The principle concern of the administration is more and larger buildings," Rep. Phyllis Kahn, DFL-Minneapolis, said. Spokesmen for the University showed little concern for the interests of either students or faculty despite enrollment declines and cutbacks in federal funding for research, she said.

Administrative officials in academic affairs were "conspicuous" in their absence, she

*Minn. Daily*  
6-5-73  
said, and the few representatives of students and faculty who appeared before committees were not sponsored by the administration.

Kahn, a University research assistant who has said she will seek reelection next year, said it is "time for students and faculty to reassert their traditional leadership roles."

Chief University lobbyist Stanley Wenberg, vice president for state and federal relations, said administrators "are employed to represent the Regents' request to the legislature.

"Faculty and student input is gotten during the six months when the budget is designed," he said. "My responsibility is then to

represent that request."

He pointed to the lobbyist working for students during the session and to the fact that faculty and student groups were free to appear before any committee at any time they wished, provided the committee's chairman agreed.

"We spent relatively little time on buildings, and quite a bit of time on faculty workloads and that kind of thing," Wenberg contended.

Kahn also charged that the use of a portion of the faculty salary increase funds for the equalization of outstate faculty salaries did not follow "legislative intent," as administrators have said.

Wenberg said it was his understanding of the conference committee notes that equalization was in full legislative intent.

SEX BIAS CHARGED *Maple State 11/1/73*

## Rep. Kahn to quit 'U'

State Rep. Phyllis Kahn, Minneapolis DFLer, said today that she will resign in June from her cancer research post at the University of Minnesota because she wants to devote full time to legislative work.

Ms. Kahn said a second reason for leaving the uni-

versity, where she is a research associate in the college of biological sciences, is sex discrimination.

"My experiences lead me to believe that the university does not have a real commitment to affirmative action for women," Ms. Kahn said in a prepared statement.

She cited the following faculty appointments in the past year:

Of 19 full professors appointed, one was a woman.

Of 16 associate professors appointed, one was a woman.

Of 32 other appointments, three were women.

Ms. Kahn said her position at the university, which pays \$15,000 a year, is equivalent to associate professor and that her research work is financed by the American Cancer Society.

In her research work, which concerns bacteria that may be related to cancer, Ms. Kahn said she has been prevented from receiving research support under her own name.

Applications for grants to finance her work list a "figurehead" principal in-

vestigator, even though she writes the application, Ms. Kahn contended.

She called this a "degrading arrangement, depriving me of just professional recognition."

Mrs. Kahn also said she has found it difficult to represent the district adequately while pursuing her research.



PHYLLIS KAHN

## Kahn to quit U post, devote time to House

State Rep. Phyllis Kahn, denouncing the University for discriminating against women, announced Thursday she will leave her University position to devote full time to legislative work.

The Minneapolis DFLer said she will not seek renewal of the American Cancer Society research grant which has supported her work as a research associate in the Department of Genetics and Cell Biology.

The grant and her position in that department expire June 30, 1974.

Her first term in the Minnesota House will also expire next year, and she told a reporter as early as last winter that she intends to seek reelection. She confirmed that intention Thursday night.

Kahn said she feels "the University has not been a particularly pleasant place for temporary faculty, and specifically women.

"I have better things to do with my time than knock my head against University administrators," she said Thursday night.

A research associate since 1965, Kahn filed a grievance against the genetics department and the

College of Biological Sciences two years ago charging sex discrimination.

She alleged the University refused to allow her to receive the research grant in her own name, insisting instead on a "figurehead" name on her grant applications.

Kahn accused the University of attempting retaliation or punishment when such grievances are raised.

"My experiences lead me to believe that the University does not have a real commitment to affirmative action for women," she said in a statement released Thursday.

She recently has found herself involved in a problem many legislators have encountered as a result of the increased legislative workload—an inability to combine what is an increasingly time-consuming job as lawmaker with her outside tasks.

At least one veteran legislator has already taken an opposite route to Kahn's by leaving the legislature. Others are rumored to be seriously considering the same action. Coupled with that have been calls from some lawmakers for increased salaries.

*Min Daily*

*11-2-73*

## 1ST STATEWIDE APPLICATION

# Bill Would Require Bicycle Registration

St. Paul Dispatch 1-25-74

By Gene LaHammer  
Associated Press

Minnesota would be the first state to adopt a mandatory statewide bicycle registration law, under a bill which may come up for House action this week.

The companion bill passed the Senate late in the 1973 legislative session.

Rep. P. V. Kahn, DFL-Minneapolis, chief house author, says the bill is needed to curb rising bicycle thefts, as bike riding becomes increasingly popular. If stolen bicycles can be traced through registration numbers, she thinks it will discourage professional thieves.

MRS. KAHN says no other state has adopted

mandatory registration, but it is under consideration in California, Massachusetts and Arizona.

"We need this bill because currently bicycle registration is covered by a hodgepodge of local ordinances with no interconnections," says Mrs. Kahn.

Opponents say the registration is not needed in sparsely populated areas.

See Bicycles, Page 21

# Bicycles

Continued from Page 10

and represents an unneeded expense.

Her bill, which would take effect next Jan. 1, calls for a onetime registration fee of \$3 when new bikes are sold by a dealer. The fee for small children's bicycles would be \$2, while sidewalk models for toddlers would not be registered.

**ONCE REGISTERED.** the bike's identification number would be stored in the state Crime Bureau's computer information center. When a stolen bike is recovered, its owner can easily be determined, she says.

Mrs. Kahn said in an interview that many stolen bikes are found by police, but it is difficult and time-consuming to determine its owner. It also takes "an enormous amount of space" to store the stolen bikes, if their owners cannot be found, she said. Such bikes are eventually sold at public auctions.

MRS. KAHN says 5,044 stolen bikes were reported in Minneapolis in 1972. About one-third, or 1,773,

were recovered, but only one of three owners could be determined.

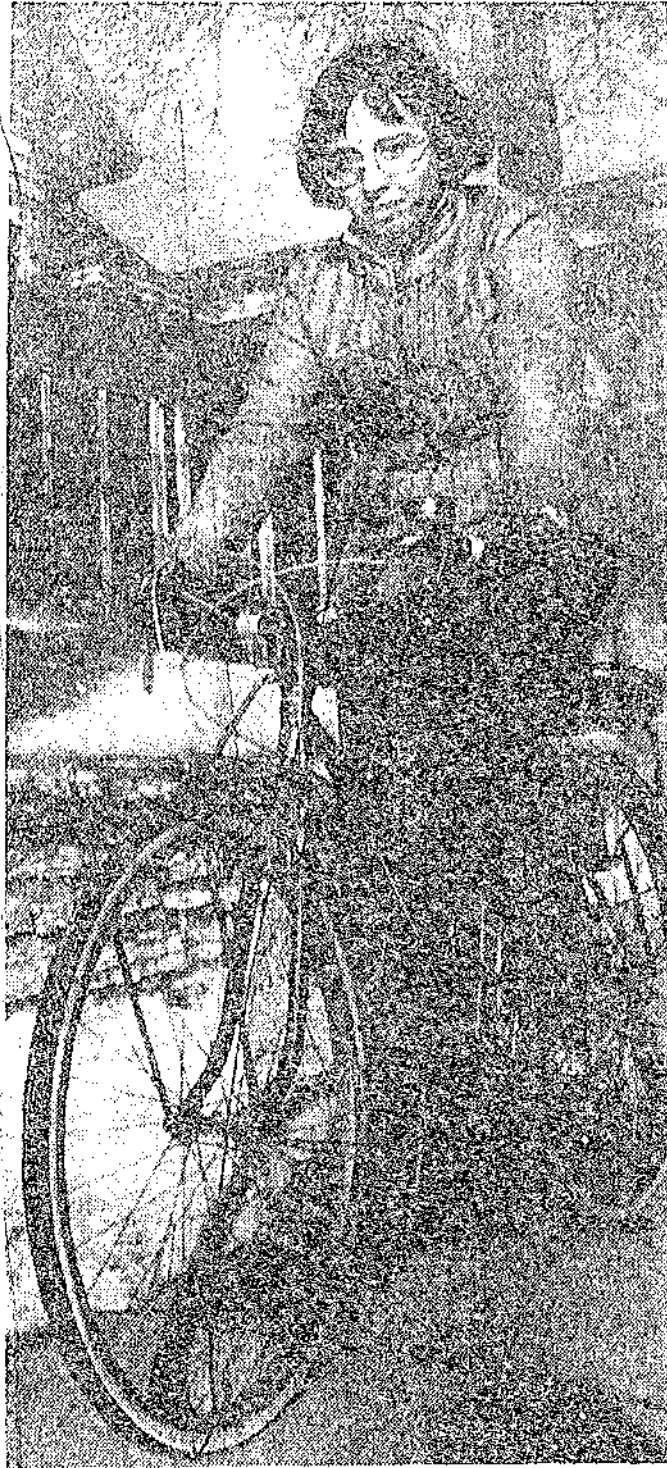
Some rural lawmakers oppose the bill. An amendment is expected to be offered on the House floor to make the bill apply only to the Twin Cities metropolitan area.

Mrs. Kahn thinks bicycle thefts are a statewide problem and says the bill should apply to the entire state. She is soliciting support from outstate police officials.

"I'm getting some support from rural lawmakers," she said. "I'm hopeful the exemption for outstate Minnesotans won't prevail."

**SHE EMPHASIZED** that the mandatory registration would not apply to the estimated 1.26 million bicycles owned by Minnesotans. According to industry figures, about 300,000 bikes are sold annually in the state.

Bicycle sales have mushroomed in the past decade, especially the more expensive racing models, and so have bicycle thefts.



—AP Wirephoto.

REP. PHYLLIS KAHN  
*Lawmaker Calls Cycle Registration a Must*

# Phyllis Kahn unopposed for second term

PHYLLIS L. KAHN, 37, 100 Malcolm Av. SE, married, two children, full-time

legislator, seeking second term, endorsed by DFL, Americans for Democratic Action, Minneapolis Building Trades, and political



Kahn

arms of AFL-CIO Teamsters, United Auto Workers, unopposed.

Phyllis Kahn is primarily interested in consolidation of the administrative branch of the state government, and in transportation alternatives to the automobile.

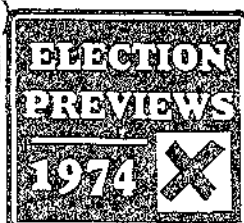
She favors a proposal to merge the departments of health, welfare and corrections into a department of human services,

which would deal with questions of human rights and also early childhood development. She favors further legislative monitoring of the administration.

She favors subways and bicycles for transportation and favors raising gasoline taxes by changing them to percentage of cost. She feels the legislators should get an increase in pay and says the

amount depends on the quality of state government the public wants.

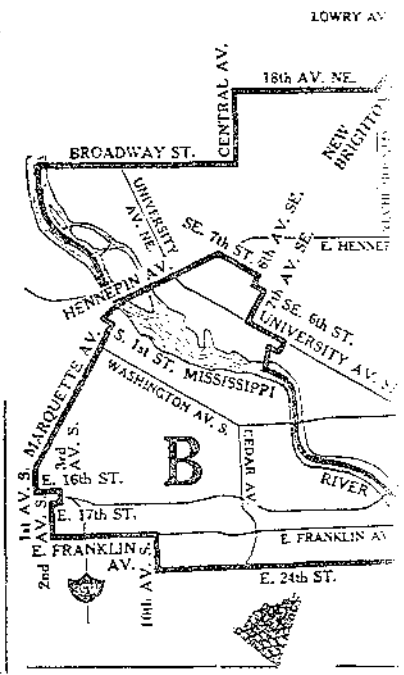
Ms. Kahn says the estimated \$200-million state budget surplus should go to such areas as tax relief for the working poor and extended tax exemptions for those with fixed incomes. She feels the Metropolitan Council members should be elected and would favor legislation compensating workers who



lose jobs because of environmental regulations.

District 57 includes most of southeast Minneapolis, and northeast Minneapolis up to Broadway west of Central Av. The biggest single element is

the University of Minnesota and the community around it. The six precincts in northeast Minneapolis include several ethnic groups and large union membership.



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# THE MINNEAPOLIS

# STAR

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Saturday, January 4, 1975

## Legislative smoking: She huffs, he puffs

By BETTY WILSON

Minneapolis Star Staff Writer

Minnesota House Speaker Martin Sabo normally uses a gavel to handle troublesome matters, but yesterday he did it with a cigarette.

When Rep. Phyllis Kahn, Minneapolis DFLer, a nonsmoker, asked a House rules subcommittee to recommend that smoking be banned in the 1975 Legislature, Sabo pointedly lighted a cigarette and began smoking.

Ms. Kahn battled unsuccessfully in the last legislative session to stop smoking in legislative halls.

Sabo, who some say is one of the most powerful persons in the Legislature, reportedly had some-

thing to do with her lack of success.

Sabo is a chain smoker, and, as one observer put it, "We can always tell how he feels about a bill by the way he's puffing on his cigarette."

Yesterday Ms. Kahn proposed a House rule prohibiting smoking in the House chamber, in the visitors' galleries and in legislative offices and hallways.

Under her proposal, smoking would be allowed only in private, enclosed offices occupied exclusively by smokers. Smoking also would be allowed in a designated part of a committee room with committee approval, because, she said, "People seem to have nicotine fits at the thought of committee meetings without smoking."

Looking at Sabo, who was

exhaling cigarette smoke with a broad grin on his face, Ms. Kahn said she would go along with allowing smoking at the speaker's podium "if that should be necessary."

Ms. Kahn said a U.S. surgeon general's report states that "smoking is not only harmful to the smoker but also can be quite

harmful to the nonsmoker. We're not talking just about people's private health, but talking about the health of the public," she said.

The subcommittee took no action, but Chairman Irvin Anderson, International Falls DFLer, said the proposal probably will come up for a vote Monday.

A similar proposal, introduced as a bill in the last session by Rep. William Kelly, East Grand Forks DFLer, failed on a tie vote in the House Results Committee.

Another bill to ban smoking in public places sponsored by Ms. Kahn in the last session was passed out of the Health and Welfare Committee but did not reach the floor in time for consideration before adjournment.



SABO

KAHN





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## Kahn proposal calls for high-risk insurance for future nuclear power plants in Minnesota

By ED FINKLEA

Companies planning future nuclear power plants may need high-risk insurance policies if a bill proposed by Rep. Phyllis Kahn (DFL-Minneapolis) is successful in the legislature.

Federal law presently limits damage payments by companies operating nuclear power plants to \$500 million in case of an accident. Under Kahn's proposal, government limitations on the amount of damage payments the public could collect would be removed for all plants constructed in Minnesota after the bill is enacted.

The bill would also require the governor to direct the preparation and publication of evacuation plans, in case of an accident, for the area surrounding all nuclear plants.

A six-year moratorium bill on the construction of nuclear power plants in Minnesota will also be introduced by Kahn. She and Senate majority leader Nicholas Coleman coauthored a moratorium bill last session, but it was defeated. The bill was first introduced in 1971, and was defeated by one vote in the Senate. Both bills are expected to be introduced in the House soon. Monday Coleman introduced a nuclear moratorium bill in the Senate.

The insurance limitations bill may offer the legislature an acceptable alternative to a moratorium. The new bill could still halt all new nuclear power plant construction.

If the plants are as safe as the industry claims, removal of insurance limitations should be no deterrent to future construction, Kahn said last week. But if insurance companies refuse to issue policies for nuclear plants when the limitations are removed, "we will finally hear what the real safety problems are with nuclear power," Kahn said.

No satisfactory system of safeguarding nuclear waste materials exists today, Kahn said. Plutonium, the primary nuclear waste product, is lethal to humans in minute dosages and remains toxic for 24,000 years.

Until the waste storage question is resolved, Kahn supports a moratorium on building new nuclear plants.

Unlike the federal law, Kahn's proposal would make the companies responsible for any damage caused by diversion of nuclear materials or accidental releases into the biosphere.

A major accident at a nuclear plant alone could cause \$7 billion to \$200 billion worth of damage, according to Atomic Energy

Commission studies. Hundreds of thousands of people could be killed or injured, and farmland could be sterilized for miles, Kahn said.

Current legal limits leave no redress for the public if an accident's resulting damage exceeds the payment limitations.

The present \$500 million limitation is set by a 1957 federal law known as the Price-Anderson Act. The act requires private operators to purchase \$110 million worth of insurance, with the federal government guaranteeing the remaining \$450 million.

Congress attempted to raise the insurance limits last session, but the bill was vetoed by President Gerald Ford.

The question of the constitutionality of Minnesota attempting to void the Price-Anderson provisions is expected to be raised in the legislature. Kahn said she is confident that, if challenged, the courts would uphold the law's constitutionality.

Minnesota failed in an earlier attempt to set radioactive emission standards more stringent than the federal Atomic Energy Commission's standards. But Kahn said that case (ruled on by the United States Supreme Court) does not apply to insurance limitations.

Kahn does not expect the majority of her legislative colleagues to enact the nuclear plant construction moratorium. Most legislators are more concerned that their constituents will be warm next winter than safe from nuclear power risks decades from now, Kahn said.

57A

# House panel approves bill regulating smoking

By Bob Goligoski  
Staff Writer

With unexpected ease, a bill regulating smoking was approved overwhelmingly Tuesday by the House Health and Welfare Committee.

Endorsement came on a voice vote over objections from the Minnesota Association of Commerce and Industry (MACI) and the Radisson Hotels.

A Radisson representative argued unsuccessfully that "places of work" should be excluded from the bill while MACI president Oliver Perry maintained that inside working environments are more properly under the jurisdiction of the Occupational Safety and Health Administration.

Termed a "moderate bill" by chief author Rep. Phyllis Kahn, DFL-Minneapolis, the legislation would require that:

When public meetings (those required by law to be open) are held, at least one-half of the meeting room space be designated a nonsmoking area.

Smoking in public

places such as stores, restaurants, bars, hospitals and nursing homes would be permitted only in designated areas.

If a restaurant or bar is designated (by its owner) as a smoking area in its entirety, "this designation should be posted conspicuously on all entrances normally used by the public."

The law would exclude private, enclosed offices occupied "exclusively by smokers even though such offices may be visited by nonsmokers."

Doctors and others testifying for the measure earlier told of the health hazards to nonsmokers from the toxic smoke of others puffing nearby. They include increasing the risk of heart attack, elevating blood pressure, adversely affecting the lungs and eyes and triggering allergic reactions.

Beverly Schwartz, director of the Association for Non-Smokers Rights, said after the session she hadn't expected that the controversial bill would be approved so easily. It won on a strong voice vote.

A companion bill has been introduced in the Senate where she expects it will be passed.

Several letters in support of the so-called "Minnesota Clean Indoor Air Act" were distributed to committee members.

An engineer for a large Twin Cities computer firm complained that he has to sit in on several smoke-filled conferences with his superiors each week. He asked for legislation to protect himself from their smoke and wrote that "if one wishes to obtain advancement and/or wage increases and/or keep his job in today's uncertain labor market, one does not go around antagonizing persons above himself in the pecking order, especially not about something as 'petty' as not wanting to reuse the bosses' tobacco smoke."

The state Health Department would be charged with enforcing the law. Violation would be a petty misdemeanor.

Regulations implementing the law would be drafted by the agency.

Fri., Feb. 20, 1975

## Editorial Page



## The Dispatch

*We shall strive to report the news accurately and fairly  
and will express opinion leaving no doubt as to our position.*

BERNARD H. RIDDER, Chairman  
BERNARD H. RIDDER JR., President  
THOMAS L. CARLIN, Publisher

WILLIAM G. SUMNER, Editor  
JOHN R. FINNEGAN, Executive Editor  
H. G. BURNHAM JR., Managing Editor

# Promoting girls' sports

The biggest expansion program in Minnesota secondary education in the last couple of years has taken place in the area of girls' athletics.

Athletic department budgets have been revised and girls' teams have sprung up in many sports—basketball, volleyball, skiing, swimming and gymnastics, to name examples. State tournaments have been held for several girls' sports this year.

This healthy growth would be encouraged by a bill sponsored by Rep. Phyllis Kahn, DFL-Minneapolis. The bill would set up conditions under which schools and other public bodies, such as park departments, may provide separate programs and teams for girls and boys and require "equal opportunity for both sexes to pursue physical development without regard to limits imposed by sexual stereotyping."

Mrs. Kahn has run afoul of the Minnesota Department of Human Rights, some black civil rights spokesmen and the Minnesota State High School League.

The Human Rights Department is upset because the bill would supersede one of its pending regulations which would permit separate teams based only on skill. As Mrs. Kahn noted, the regulation, which would prohibit separate boys and girls teams, actually would deny girls an "equal opportunity to compete." We agree with her when she

says, "Just because you say girls can try out for the football team does not mean you have provided equal opportunity. There's no way I can compete with Allan Page."

Mrs. Kahn is facing the situation realistically. While it may be fine liberal doctrine to say that teams should not be separated by sex, the fact is that they are being separated that way so girls can get equal playing time, no matter what the Human Rights Department says. There is no sense in telling a group of girls they can go out for the varsity basketball team, forcing them to try out for the team against taller, faster male candidates. If girls can't have their own teams and leagues, they might as well be back in the stands, and that is probably where they would go eventually.

The blacks' objection to the Kahn bill seems to center on the argument that it would establish a precedent for the "separate but equal" concept which could spread to other areas. This seems specious at best. And as for the High School League's statement that decisions about teams should be left to local boards, there is nothing, as we understand the bill, to prevent girls with sufficient talent from competing on boys' teams if the local board desires.

The Kahn bill seems to be a reasonable solution to the problem of generating budget support for and interest in girls' athletics.



Minnesota Daily  
Mpls Mn. (circ  
38,000)

## Pending legislation 201 supports women in keeping own names

By LISA FORTNER

Janet Eike, a University graduate student in public health, had to change her name from her married name, Janet Johnson, back to her maiden name a year ago.

Her application was rejected by Judge Harold Schultz, Ramsey County District Court. Schultz stated the reason for the denial in a letter to Eike Jan. 23, 1974. "It is my considered judgment," he wrote, "that the common-law rule adopted and usually sustained in Minnesota is that a woman adopts and uses her husband's last name. Until that rule is in some way abrogated by either the Supreme Court or by statute I feel it is my duty to uphold that rule."

Eike testified Monday before the House subcommittee on family law to support a bill that would eliminate difficulties encountered by women who wish to keep their maiden names. The bill, introduced by Rep. Phyllis Kahn (D/F, Mpls) passed the subcommittee.

"A person may wish to keep her family name for either personal or professional reasons," Eike said. "I am fighting to maintain my own name because I feel I am my own person and that my name is just as beautiful as my husband's." She also said she wants to retain her name for professional reasons.

Other women who testified before the committee said the

legal procedure to change their names cost them filing fees, lawyers fees and time away from their jobs.

Minnesota's present law does not prevent women from retaining their own names, but it is subject to interpretation by individual judges. Women have encountered more problems in Ramsey County courts than in Hennepin County, Kahn said.

The bill is almost identical to a bill introduced by Kahn during the last legislative session. It passed in the House by a vote of 61-43, but passed too late in the session to be heard before a Senate committee.

The bill would not substantially change existing statutes, but would clarify regular court procedure for women who know they do not want to assume their husbands' names before they get married. They would simply sign a legal document stating that they intend to keep their maiden names according to Kahn.

For women who have assumed their husbands' names but wish to resume use of their maiden names, the bill would "remove the discretion of the court to refuse a requested name change," Kahn said.

Children would continue to take the father's name unless the husband took the wife's family name.

A similar bill is being introduced in the Senate by Sen. John Hilton (D/F, White Bear Lake).

## Women take seats on House Agriculture panel for first time

By GENE LAHAMMER  
Associated Press Writer  
ST. PAUL, Minn. (AP) The House Agriculture Committee, long a solid farm bloc, has a new look in the 1975 Minnesota Legislature with the addition of five urban legislators.

Two of the newcomers are women — a former school-teacher and a scientist with a ph.D. degree. A third woman from a rural area, a nurse, has also been added to the 27-member panel.

There are only seven women in the House and for many years prior to the 1973 session, there was only one woman in the House.

Chairman George Mann says the three are the first women to ever sit on the Agriculture Committee. "To my knowledge, they're the first, I'm sure of that," says the Winona DFLer who is serving his eighth House term. "I think it's great myself. They're asking very intelligent questions. They're eager to find

out what are the problem in agriculture."

He was thinking about Reps. Phyllis Kahn and Junif Clark, both Minneapolis DFLers, and Claudia Meier, DFL-Rice, who grew up in Minneapolis but moved to a rural area. All are enthusiastic about their committee assignment.

Three other new members represent suburban areas. They are Reps. William Luther, DFL-Brooklyn Center; B.J. Philbrook, DFL-Roseville, and Gary Laidig, R-Bayport.

"I feel it's a real opportunity," Mann says of the urban-rural makeup of his committee. "The farm community, too many times talks to each other. I think it's time we talk about our problems with all the people of the state."

When the subject of farm life and agricultural problems comes up, Miss Meier says, "I could talk all day because it's really close to my heart."

She was born in Strasburg,

N.D., which is also the hometown of bandleader Lawrence Welk. She calls Welk a "good friend" of her family. "He was engaged to my mother's cousin for several years."

The first-term lawmaker added: "He's a Republican so he wouldn't do a fundraiser for me."

The Meier family left North Dakota for Minneapolis when she was five years old. After obtaining her nursing degree in 1970, she headed for rural Minnesota because "that's the only place to live."

"People are tremendous, they're very warm and open," she says. "People care about their neighbors out there."

Miss Meier says she has been active in Democratic politics since the 1968 presidential campaign of John F. Kennedy when she was in the ninth grade.

She served as Benton County DFL chairperson and ran for public office for the first time last fall. She was elected the day before her 27th birthday. "It's the best birthday I ever had," she said.

Mrs. Clark, 33, grew up in a small community in southern Idaho and has some prior farm experience. "Every October school was dismissed for two weeks and we all went out in the potato fields and picked potatoes. We called it a 'harvest vacation.'"

She graduated from Westminster College, Salt Lake City, Utah and the Clarks moved to Minneapolis in 1963. She taught in the Minneapolis school system for eight years before deciding to start a day-care center which proved to be a "financial disaster."

She ran against Rep. James Adams, a 10-term veteran from the south Minneapolis District, in the DFL primary last fall and unseated him in her first try for public office.

Mrs. Clark requested a seat on the farm committee because, "I feel food will be the No. 1 problem this planet faces within a very short time."

She added: "I have enjoyed it immensely. It's a whole new field for me, having never lived on a farm. I'm really understanding some of the problems the farmer has. That was one of the reasons I asked for it."

"I think it's just imperative that the people in the urban areas understand the problems of the farmer. I think it's very important to bridge that gap."

Ms. Kuhn, 37, grew up in New York City and says her agrarian pursuits have been confined to growing cherry tomatoes in hanging baskets in her small backyard. "When I was a little kid growing up in New York City there were farms on Staten Island," she recalls.

She has a doctorate in limnology from Yale and spent 10 years in research at the St. Paul farm campus of the University of Minnesota before deciding to run for the legislature.

She was first elected in 1972 and was unopposed for a second term last November.

"The major problem of interest to me in agriculture is the problem of land use," says Ms. Kahn. "Good agricultural land is being overruled by urban sprawl."

One of the major bills being considered by the committee this session is a proposal by Mann to have the state help young farmers with their down payment for farm land, in an effort to preserve the family farm.

Ms. Kahn calls it "a very exciting bill" dealing with "a very exciting concept."

Although it was not a legislative assignment, she recently attended a farmers' meeting with Miss Meier at Foley, Minn., and observed: "There's certainly a common thread of irritation with government and what it has done to both farmers and consumers."

The first women to sit on the Agriculture Committee agree with Mann that the makeup gives the panel a wider outlook.

"All the decisions this committee makes affect a wide area of society," says Ms. Kahn. "So they should probably be made up of as wide a slice of society as possible."

Mrs. Clark says some veteran members perhaps were a "bit leery" at first in seeing women or legislators whose entire district was no bigger than a large family farm sitting on the Agriculture Committee.

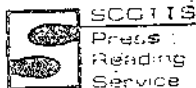
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**BIKING FEMINISTS**—State Rep. Phyllis Kahn led a group of feminists and friends, including Mayor Al Hofstede, on a bike trip around Lake of the Isles Saturday in an effort to show the need for

biking facilities in the metropolitan area. Rep. Kahn has been a leading proponent of a bill to establish bike traffic lanes.

A CLIP FROM:



7093 HWY. 65 N.E.  
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## Keeping maiden name now easier

By CATHIE NEITGE  
Free Press Staff Writer

No Minnesota state law forces a married woman to take her husband's name and a law which goes into effect today makes it much easier for her to keep her own name.

The law gives a man and woman an explicit choice of names when they marry. It also facilitates name changes after marriage.

Things are still rather confused at the courthouse, said Blue Earth County Clerk of Court Richard Fasnacht, but this much he knows for sure — when persons fill out a marriage license, they may choose to take the husband's name, the wife's name, a hyphenated name, a totally new name, or the husband and wife may each keep their own name.

Rep. Phyllis Kahn, DFL-Minneapolis, the bill's principal sponsor in the last legislature, said in a telephone interview that the law was necessary because women who kept their maiden names have had trouble getting credit, charge accounts and passports. Now they will have a legal document to show they have kept their own names.

Fasnacht said his department personnel will cau-

tion couples that any children born to the couple will still take the surname of the father. He said until a court decides, this will be the policy of his department.

Because there is no law or regulation regarding the name given to a legitimate child, Fred King, chief of the state Department of Health's administrative services said his position, like Fasnacht's, is "that the child would take the father's surname."

Although the new law makes it easier for a woman to change back to her maiden name or take a new name, it does not make it any cheaper.

A name change after marriage still requires a brief court appearance before a county court or district court judge, Fasnacht said. The \$18 filing fee plus attorney's fees, which a local attorney estimated at \$150, make the cost prohibitive to some women.

But Rep. Kahn calls the court procedure simple and said many women will make the change without the services of an attorney.

A name change can be requested in divorce proceedings at no extra cost.

Fasnacht predicts the number of court-required

name changes will diminish as more women take advantage of the marriage license application procedure to keep their name. "They'll take the name they want" at that time, he said.

The new law definitely makes it easier to change name after marriage. The law requires district court judges to grant name change requests so long as the applicant has resided in the county at least one year and does not intend to use the name to defraud or mislead. In the past, judges have been able to use their own discretion in considering such requests.

Rep. Kahn said many women, wishing to change their names, had been denied by judges "who thought the women should keep their husband's names." The new law, she said, takes away the judges' discretion.

She discounted a claim by an area woman who said women who keep their maiden names will have trouble collecting social security or veteran's benefits.

Rep. Kahn said it will be "totally easy" to collect because a woman will have her marriage license and her marriage application to prove her name and relationship.

# Bicycle trails licensing gain

2-13-76  
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By BRUCE R. NELSON  
Staff Writer

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A bill appropriating \$593,000 to establish a statewide system of bicycle trails and a bike registration program received preliminary approval Thursday in the Minnesota House.

The House voted 59-52 in favor of the bill by Rep. Phyllis Kahn, DFL-Minneapolis.

It gives local communities the option of joining a statewide bicycle registration program aimed at reducing bike thefts.

If a city participates, bike owners would be charged a \$3 fee administered by the Public Safety Department through deputy bicycle registrars similar to the auto registration system.

Rep. Kahn said registration money would be used for administrative costs and financing bicycle lanes and trails.

Rep. Glen Anderson, DFL-Bellingham, tried unsuccessfully to

remove the registration portion from the bill.

"I don't want my 8-year-old arrested for riding a bike into a community that requires registration," Anderson argued.

Rep. Kahn, however, told him that "your 8-year-old could be arrested right now if he comes into St. Paul, Minneapolis, St. Cloud or Brainerd with a bike that is not registered," because those communities currently have registration ordinances.

Of the \$593,000, a total of \$243,000 would be used by the Public Safety Department to administer the act.

Another \$100,000 would go to the Natural Resources Department to develop an "interconnecting statewide system of bicycle trails."

The state Highway Department would get \$150,000 for matching grants to local communities for the establishment of "bicycle lanes and ways," which the legislation encourages be established statewide.

A bicycle lane is a roadway devoted to bicycle use and a bicycle way is a sidewalk used for that purpose.

Rep. Kahn said bicycle groups statewide have requested the bill and are willing to pay the additional license fee.

She also said enough communities have indicated they would participate so that the legislation would be self-financing.

The bill comes up for a final vote in the House Monday.



Kahn Anderson



SWISS JEIS USING NOISE SUPPRESSION FUNNELS

To cut down ground-testing noise at airport

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## House passes bill setting up state bike registration

A bill providing for a state bicycle registration system, which the sponsor says will cut thefts and help police recover stolen bicycles, was passed yesterday by the house.

Rep. Phyllis Kahn, DFL-Minneapolis chief sponsor, said the system, under the department of public safety, would replace present municipal registration systems, but she added that municipalities would have the option of coming under the state systems and would not be forced to do so.

Bicycle owners could register their bicycles with the state on a voluntary basis in areas where the municipalities did not require it.

A registration fee of \$3 would be charged for a three-year license.

State registration records would be made available to law-enforce-

ment agencies through the Minnesota Crime Information Center.

**THE BILL** provides appropriations of \$243,000 to the Department of Public Safety to administer the system; \$100,000 to the commissioner of natural resources for bicycle trails and \$150,000 to the commissioner of highways for bicycle lanes or ways on or adjacent to highways and streets.

Ms. Kahn said an estimated 300,000 bicycles are expected to be registered annually, and the \$900,000 in fees would pay future costs of the registration and trails programs.

Under the bill, about 24 municipalities which now have bicycle registration systems could keep them but could not register any new bicycles after March 1, 1977.

The bill, approved by a 74-to-51 vote, now goes to the senate and is expected to be heard in a senate committee soon. The senate passed a similar bill in a previous session, but it failed in the house.



Kahn

# Bill to establish official 'state folklorist' gains

By BRUCE R. NILSON  
Staff Writer

57A  
The music, painting, writing and humor of Minnesotans' ancestors would be rediscovered and preserved by an official "state folklorist" under a bill approved this week by a state House subcommittee.

Under the legislation, authored by Rep. Phyllis Kahn, DFL-Minneapolis, a "center for the study of Minnesota folklife" would be established in the state Historical Society. It would be directed by a person with the title of "state folklorist."

"We have a desperate situation in some parts of Minnesota," said Historical Society Director Russell Fridley. "There are communities in this state where folklore is completely neglected."

FRIDLEY told the education subcommittee that Minnesota has 30 to 40 ethnic groups, all with a "rich heritage of diversity."

Minnesota would be the first state in the country with an organized folklore program and the first to have its own official folklorist, the committee was told.

But Fridley said the folklore movement has just begun and predicted that it "will catch on in a big way all over the country in a few years."

Ellen Stekert, an English professor at the University of Minnesota and an authority on folklore told the committee that there is a need to approach Minnesota folklife in an organized fashion.

SHE SAID outside groups have come into Minnesota and "arbitrarily taken folk performers and traditional objects to national festivals and the like as representatives of Minnesota folklife."

The problem, according to Stekert, is that many of those performers and objects don't accurately reflect Minnesota's heritage.

Under the bill, such out-of-state organizations would have to clear their Minnesota folklore finds with the folklorist.

"We have laws in this state that reflect a concern for digging up people's fields looking for artifacts," Kahn said. "But we are far less concerned about digging up people's lives."

THE STATE folklorist would be responsible for researching the cultural customs and beliefs of Minnesota's various ethnic backgrounds and would serve as a resource person for schools and other groups wanting information on the heritage of state residents.

Included in the broad category of Minnesota folklife are such areas as "vocal and instrumental music, dance, drama lore, beliefs, language, humor, handicraft, painting, sculpture, and other forms of artistic expression."

There is no appropriation included in the bill but Fridley said he would ask the 1977 legislature for additional funding to support the program if approved this year.

# House group advocating 'ban the man' legislation

By BRUCE R. NELSON  
Staff Writer

The Minnesota man may be in for a sex change operation.

And, according to Rep. Phyllis Kahn, DFL-Minneapolis, the surgery is long overdue — like maybe 10,000 years overdue.

It seems that the remains of a body were found in Otter Tail County in the 1920s and the folks who study those kinds of things have said the skeleton could be as old as 10,000 years.

Since a good possibility existed that the body was the oldest ever found in Minnesota, the local boosters convinced the state legislature that the site of the find should be marked with an official historic monument dedicated to the "Minnesota man."

That was more than 40 years ago and ever since, Chapter 138.53, Subdivision 3 of Minnesota law has made it clear that the Minnesota man is an official state historic site.

The only problem is that the Minnesota man is not a man.

"They've always known she was a woman," explained Kahn. "But 40 years ago people weren't very sensitive about those kinds of things."

The House Appropriations Com-

mittee, however, is apparently a bit more sensitive in the gender identification field. On a closely divided voice vote Thursday, it sent a bill to the House floor that would change the name of the Minnesota man to the "Minnesota woman."

That action came in the form of an amendment offered by Rep. Ray Faricy, DFL-St. Paul, to a minor bill appropriating funds for other state landmarks.

"It's a simple amendment," said Faricy. "The person whose remains were found in Otter Tail County was a woman. The official site should be called the Minnesota woman, not the Minnesota man."

But Faricy quickly learned that his proposal wasn't all that simple.

"What if we pass this bill and then find out that the body was really a man?" a committee member wanted to know.

"Well, that's why we have annual sessions," answered committee chairman Fred Norton, DFL-St. Paul. "We can always make necessary changes."

The only serious objections came from Rep. Howard Smith, DFL-Crosby, who accused Faricy of being "picayunish."

"We talk about the story of man, not of woman," Smith said. "The use of the word man in this context means both men and women. I'm very serious about this thing. It should be defeated."

But Faricy, who was carrying the amendment because Kahn could not attend the meeting, told Smith that he, too, was serious.

"We're not asking you to change every reference to man in the statutes to person or anything like that. I realize some people have problems with that," he said. "We're just saying that this was a woman so she should be called a woman."

Faricy noted that the law also recognizes an official historic site in Traverse County as the "Browns Valley man."

"We are not asking you to change that one because that was a man," Faricy said.

The amendment passed and will go to the floor on the bill by Rep. Douglas Johnson, DFL-Cook, whose original legislation dealt with some minor repairs on the Split Rock lighthouse on the North Shore of Lake Superior.

"If you have this man-woman fight on the floor," Johnson told his fellow legislators, "I want nothing to do with it because I don't even know where it is."

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# House Passes Fee Hike On Hunting Licenses

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ST. PAUL, Minn. (AP) — A bill raising fees for most hunting, fishing and trapping licenses was to be taken up by the

Minnesota Senate today, following passage by the House Monday.

The compromise bill written by a conference committee passed the House 92-35, with most of the opposition coming from northern Minnesota lawmakers.

The bill also increases from \$3 to \$5 the season permit for state parks and from \$1 to \$1.50 the two-day park permits. Those increases take effect immediately.

The bill would raise an additional \$3 million annually. The chief author, Rep. Phyllis

Kahn, DFL-Minneapolis, said the Department of Natural Resources' game and fish fund will face a deficit of \$1.5 million to \$3 million by the end of the year.

The increases in the deer hunting licenses would take effect this fall but the other hikes would not come until next year.

The resident deer hunting license goes from \$7.50 to \$10 and the nonresident from \$52.50 to \$60. The bill allocates \$300,000 for improvement of deer habitat.

The individual small-game and fishing licenses are raised from \$4 to \$5 and the trapping license from \$3 to \$5. The combination husband-wife fishing license is hiked from \$6 to \$9.

The nonresident fishing license is increased from \$6.50 to \$10 while the combination license goes from \$10 to \$15.

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## U equal athletics report ignores new state law charges legislator Kahn

By TONY BIANCO

In focusing its efforts to comply with federal regulations for eliminating sex discrimination in athletics, the University has "totally ignored" a recently enacted state law requiring equity in men's and women's athletic spending, Rep. Phyllis Kahn (D-L, Minneapolis) charged Friday.

Under the recently announced plan for gradual compliance with Title IX regulations, the University would still be in violation of the state law passed in 1975 requiring "substantially equal budget per participant" in men's and women's athletic programs, Kahn said.

Kahn, who represents the University district, also criticized the University's Title IX athletics report itself, saying it "missed the point" in concentrating on funding for men's and women's programs.

Kahn based her criticism of the University's report on newspaper accounts.

Under Title IX guidelines the University is not required to fund men's and women's programs equally but merely to provide men and women with equal athletic opportunity, said Kahn, the principal author of the 1975 state athletics bill.

Under state law, revenue sports—football, basketball and hockey—are exempted from the equal budget provision, Kahn said. The use of surplus funds generated by the revenue sports exclusively for the men's athletic program is illegal, though, she said.

The University legislative funding request being considered by the Board of Regents includes \$450,000 for women's athletics over the next two years. The men's non-revenue sports will continue to be funded by the transfer of surplus funds from the revenue sports.

"The University is very uptight about keeping the men's program

exactly as it is," Kahn said. "Asking the legislature to fund only the women's program is putting the program out on the chopping block."

Rather than relying solely on the legislature to fund the women's program, the University should share the surplus from the revenue-producing sports between men's and women's non-revenue sports, Kahn said. The legislative request would then include the additional money necessary for both the women's program and the men's non-revenue sports, she said.

"The women's program should not be put in such a precarious position going into what promises to be a very tight legislative budget session," Kahn said.

The most economical way to upgrade women's athletics is to share facilities and resources with the men's program, Kahn said.

Maintaining separate sources of private funding for men's and women's athletics, as recommended in the Title IX report, is "completely unfair and irrational," Kahn said.

The major repository for private men's athletic funds, the Williams Fund, is "blatantly discriminatory," Kahn said. Money raised for the Williams fund is essentially public money since men's department fundraisers use University phones and buildings, Kahn said.

Kahn said she would not vote for increased University athletic appropriations as long as the request for the women's program is kept separate and the distribution of Williams Fund money is left unchanged.

"University administrators may not fully understand how popular a cause women's athletics is," Kahn said. "I was amazed at the strong support for last year's bill from people I would consider fairly conservative."



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Phyllis Kahn

Photo by MARK W. NELSON

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# Feminists file suit against U alleging inequities in athletics

By CATHY DILLON

*Minneapolis Daily Journal*  
The University Community Feminists (UCF) filed a sex discrimination complaint against the University Monday for failing to comply with the Minnesota Human Rights Act.

The complaint, filed with the Minnesota Human Rights Department alleges University noncompliance with a 1975 Minnesota statute requiring equity in men's and women's athletics, said Barb Goodman, coordinator of UCF and filer of the complaint.

"The University is essentially ignoring the law and doesn't have any intention of complying with it," said Charlotte Striebel, an associate professor of mathematics who helped Goodman prepare the complaint.

Although Title IX and the state law complement each other, the state law is potentially more effective because it requires "substantially equal budget per participant" for men and women in the same sport, excluding revenues generated by that sport, said Rep. Phyllis Kahn (DFL-Minneapolis), principal author of the bill.

Under Title IX guidelines, the University is not required to fund men's and women's programs equally, but only to provide men and women with equal opportunity in athletics, she explained.

Title IX also makes no provisions for revenue generating sports, she said. One of the administration's principle arguments for not complying with the law until 1984 is that cutting the budget for men's revenue sports would jeopardize the entire men's athletic program.

The state law would eliminate the possibility of this problem since it contains an exemption for revenue-producing sports, she said. The revenues for such sports as football, basketball and hockey would be sub-

tracted first and then funds for men's and women's athletic programs would be balanced, Kahn said.

Also, UCF or any group has a "much stronger base for a suit against the University" under the state law than Title IX because the law has been in effect since July 1, 1976. Title IX is not supposed to go into effect under federal regulations until 1978, she said.

"I'm glad to see a case (regarding the state law) filed against the University," Kahn said, explaining that a law never works by itself and the legislature is not empowered to enforce it.

"I hope it accomplishes what the St. Paul suit did," she said. Two women, one of them Striebel, filed a suit against the St. Paul school district for discrimination against women in athletics. Although the suit originally was filed under the Human Rights Act, the school district agreed during the litigation to comply with all legislation on the issue - Title IX, the Kahn Act and the Human Rights Act.

Since the St. Paul suit was settled before the law was scheduled to go into effect this increases the chances for UCF to win its suit against the University, Kahn said.

She criticized the University's plan to fund men's and women's athletic programs separately.

The revenues generated by men's sports will be used exclusively by the men's department while the University plans to ask the legislature to fund the women's program.

"It's ridiculous for the legislature to let the University blatantly ignore that the law has been passed by granting these funds," she said, explaining that she would not vote for increased funding as long as the

Feminists to 16

## Programming from 3

such as leadership and membership, to approximately 450 student organizations.

Like Mollor, Harrold disapproves of program screening.

"To make prejudgements about a name of a group or the content of a program would be an encroachment on freedom of speech," Harrold said.

Harrold questioned the constitutionality of screening lecturers and said the process could turn into a "constant policing" of campus activities. He added that anyone offended by a program is free to leave, write a letter to the editor of the Daily or arrange for opposing views to be expressed in a separate program.

Although a balance of political programs is desirable, Harrold said, no single group is responsible for ensuring it.

"Although the University prefers a forum where all viewpoints can be heard," Harrold said, "it has never been clearly spelled out whose obligation it is" to provide the balance.

In recent years, the Students International Meditation Society (SIMS) has been the subject of a misrepresentation controversy.

SIMS teaches Transcendental Meditation and was founded by religious and spiritual leader Maharishi Mahesh Yogi. To belong to this group, one must attend classes for which there is a lifetime membership fee ranging from \$35 for junior high school students to \$125 for adults.

Because SIMS, a non-profit organization, represents itself as a non-religious group, some questioned the use of course fees, suspecting that funds were being forwarded to Maharishi Mahesh Yogi for use in his religious endeavors in which case members of SIMS would be indirectly supporting a religious group.

"TM is a completely mechanical technique," SIMS President Ron Stakland said. "It is not in the least religious."

"Fees are used to maintain expansion of the movement and to cover expenses of printed matter from national, regional and local center," Stakland said.

Skomars said SIMS does not conceal information about course fees.

"Other groups have dues," she said, implying that SIMS was not that different from any other student organization.

"A person who thinks it's a ripoff can opt not to join or (can) start their own organization," she said.



# Plan to decriminalize prostitution gains sponsors in legislature

10-20-77



Phyllis Kahn

Photo by Phil Hernandez

By GLORIA OHLAND

*Miss. Daily*

A bill designed to decriminalize prostitution between consenting adults has been considered in the state legislature for several years. Rep. Phyllis Kahn (DFL-Mpls.), the bill's sponsor, is "not very optimistic" that it will be passed during the next session, but its chances may be better than ever, she told a Coffman Union audience Wednesday.

When she looked for co-sponsors in 1973, no one in the legislature was interested. Now the bill has five House sponsors, four Senate sponsors, and others in reserve who are willing to support it.

Her bill doesn't legalize prostitution, but lessens the penalties for consenting adults. Penalties are increased for pimps, owners and managers of houses of prostitution, and anyone involved in promoting juvenile prostitution.

The bill should correct inequities that continue to exist in enforcement by making customers equally guilty of the crime, according to Kahn. In a four-month period last year, 164 prostitutes and six male customers were arrested.

"That looks like very unsymmetrical enforcement for a very symmetrical crime," Kahn said. "Someone once told me that if we really wanted to effectively control prostitution all we would have to do is start picking up the legislators, judges and priests

who are the prostitutes' customers."

The arguments that Kahn has come up against include "boys will be boys," and "prosecuting them will ruin their families and business lives," and "women should be prosecuted to get them out of an improper life pattern," she said.

"I've never understood why involvement in crime is improper for one and not another," Kahn said.

Kahn rejects the arguments that penalties really work as a deterrent in a "victimless" crime such as prostitution. But if penalties do work, the effect of her bill will be to divert customers from juvenile prostitutes, she maintained.

"When I talked with counselors and social workers 5 to 10 years ago we were talking about prostitutes who were 16, 17 or 18 years old. Now they are 12, 13 and 14," Kahn said. "And Minneapolis has become famous as a source of these prostitutes for Eastern cities."

Minnesota prostitutes differ from the national norm in that they tend to be very young, mostly white and from suburban and rural families, Kahn said.

The reason Minnesota is figuring prominently in exporting prostitutes is because we have a combination of a basically liberal philosophy, a "kind of repressed sexuality," and because "educating people about sex in this state is virtually taboo," according to Kahn.

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FEB 7 1978

## 2 DFLers seek restrictions on S.<sup>37</sup> African investments

ST. PAUL, Minn. (AP)—Two Minneapolis DFLers said Tuesday they were introducing legislation to prohibit the state Investment Board from purchasing stock in any U.S. corporation operating in South Africa.

The bill, sponsored by Sen. Alan Spear and Rep. Phyllis Kahn, also would prohibit state investments in firms that use unfair, discriminatory employment practices.

The state Investment Board reportedly owns stock in some 30 corporations that operate in South Africa or have sub-

sidaries operating there.

"We have a special responsibility to stand up and be counted in the fight against racial segregation, particularly in its most blatant form in South Africa,"

X-2



# Legislator says U needs academic, not building funds

By ALISON ORESMAN

57A

The University should emphasize academic needs more than new construction in its funding requests to the legislature, Rep. Phyllis Kahn (DFL-Minneapolis) told University of Minnesota Education Association members Monday.

Citing intense lobbying efforts and the way the budget is presented to the legislature, Kahn said one might get the impression that "the administration considered itself to be in the real estate business."

Kahn added that the University is unique because it has begun requesting building funds every year rather than in alternate years, which is common practice among other higher education institutions in Minnesota.

Kahn, a member of the house appropriations committee, which deals with University budget requests, said the University's academic needs should be more strongly asserted.

One mistake the administration makes in legislative requests is to press for programs it thinks would be popular with the legislature, Kahn said, adding that this becomes a self-fulfilling prophecy.

"Administrators are nervous that requests for the College of Liberal Arts will turn the legislature off," she said.

When asked if it would, Kahn did not answer and began speaking about something else.

Michael Sieben (DFL-Newport), vice chairman of the education division of House Appropriations, said collective bargaining in the long run may be a more appropriate way to deal with University budgetary requests to the legislature.

"The collective bargaining approach is inevitable and probably the right thing to do, ultimately," Sieben said at Monday's meeting.

*Minnesota Daily 3-9-78*

UMEA to 9

## UMEA from 4

He intimated that the University then might be in a stronger position to obtain money from the legislature, because it is "harder politically to reject" monetary requests arrived at through collective bargaining.

Kahn added that lobbying efforts that accompany collective bargaining would make University requests much more effective at the legislature.

Gene Mammenga, chief lobbyist for the Minnesota Education Association, added that collective bargaining at the University would allow faculty members to set down in writing faculty and administration relationships.

Kahn called the present relationship between administrators and faculty "distorted."

"If we are talking about the need for belt tightening and retrenchment, the first place cuts should be made are in the administration," Kahn said. "The growth of administrators at the University is way out of line with the other Big Ten Universities."

Tuition levels also were discussed at the meeting. Sieben said tuition always has been tied to instructional costs and that there is no indication that this will change. Students generally pay about 25 percent of their instructional costs.

"The implication is, as faculty salaries and instructional costs rise, so should tuition," Sieben said.

Tuition for students on the Twin Cities campus rose 16 percent this year and will rise another 8 percent next year.

57A

# Kahn's plan would boost tax on high tar cigarettes

X-3

10/21/79

Proposed

An increase in the state tax on smokers of high tar cigarettes was proposed today by a Minneapolis legislator.

The tax for smokers of low tar cigarettes would be reduced under a bill drawn by Rep. Phyllis Kahn, a DFLer.

Her plan is among three cigarette bills announced today by lawmakers.

**UNDER THE** Kahn bill, the tax on cigarettes containing 8 or less milligrams of tar per cigarette would be lowered to 13 cents a package. Brands containing more than 17 milligrams would be taxed at 21 cents a pack.

All others would remain at the current level of 8 cents a package.

"It would encourage smokers to use low tar brands and the tobacco industry to promote these brands," Kahn said.

**THE CHANGE** would increase the annual state tax revenue from cigarettes to \$95.5 million. The current figure is \$86.8 million. The figures are based on purchasing patterns in 1975.

Increased revenue would help programs involving diseases related to smoking.

Rep. Arlene Lehto, DFL-Duluth, has prepared a bill which involves licensing of restaurants. Flagrant violations of the state's Clean Indoor Act could cause loss of a restaurant license under state health regulations.

**REP. PEGGY BRYNE**, DFL-St. Paul, proposed a law which would restrict sale of cigarettes on property owned or controlled by the state. There would be exceptions, such as corrections institutions.

Sale of cigarettes in health care facilities to the general public would be prohibited. Also barred would be distribution of free sample cigarettes.

## A fight no one really wins

Congratulations are due the five House DFLers who split from their caucus last week to uphold a traditional power of the speaker. The five — Phyllis Kahn of Minneapolis, Don Moe and Fred Norton of St. Paul, Gordon Voss of Blaine and Arlene Lehto of Duluth — voted against a DFL proposal to route bills through the DFL-dominated Rules Committee instead of the Independent-Republican speaker. By doing so, they showed an unwillingness to jeopardize the legislative process for partisan advantage.

The proposed change would not have made the House function any better; there is no evidence that the usual practice of having the speaker assign bills to the calendar isn't working. Moreover, remedies exist if a speaker arbitrarily tries to keep a bill from the floor, especially with the House evenly divided between DFLers and Independent-Republicans. The proposal had one purpose — to let the DFL caucus, which has a one-vote edge on the Rules Committee, control the flow of legislation. It would have undermined the agreement by which the evenly matched caucuses divided powers to prevent deadlocks and to enable the House to

operate this session.

We had hoped that the statesmanship that produced that agreement would last. Power plays like last week's are a sign that both statesmanship and the agreement are eroding. So far, the DFL has done most of the partisan jockeying. But some Republicans want to follow suit, and Speaker Rod Searle indicated that the mood of his caucus may be changing. "We've come here to fight," he said. "That's the way it's going to be from now on."

We hope not. Partisan differences are inevitable as the House begins dealing with substantive issues. But the House could have trouble even getting to such issues if it wastes time and energy — and members' good will — on procedural wrangles. Such wrangles may give one side a short-term edge. But if squabbling gets in the way of legislation, no one wins in the long run. We hope that legislators in both caucuses — like the five DFLers who voted against last week's proposal — put the legislative process ahead of partisan advantage.

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3-1-79

That's the way it's going to be from now on.

# Tables have turned on liberal legislator

57A

By Tom Davies  
Staff Writer

When Phyllis Kahn entered the Minnesota House in 1973 she was the subject of a documentary. A group from the University of Minnesota wanted to study the legislative process by concentrating on two legislators.

They picked Kahn and Rod Searle because they represented the various splits in the Legislature: Kahn is a DFLer, Searle an Independent-Republican. Kahn is from Minneapolis, the metropolis, and Searle is from Wasco, a small town in a rural area. Kahn a woman and freshman legislator, Searle a man and veteran legislator, and so on.

The documentary took a while to get together and Kahn just saw it for the first time recently. Describing the film last week, she delighted in its unintended ironies.

"Rod was speaking with some pique about all the new

legislators," she said, "that they were heading committees and subcommittees and didn't know what they were doing. And I was saying how important it was to have new legislators and new ideas."

That was in 1973, when the DFL took control of the House for the first time in years with the help of 32 newly elected DFLers. But, by the time Kahn saw the film, the situation in the House had flip-flopped.

Searle, who was bemoaning the new legislators in 1973, is now speaker of the House -- primarily on the strength of 32 new Independent-Republicans, who brought the party back to power for the first time in years. Now Kahn is bemoaning the newcomers and isn't happy at all with the new ideas they're bringing to the House.

The differences between the two legislatures, she said, have made "me one of the most depressed people

Kahn continued on page 5A



Phyllis Kahn

CONTINUED

around here."

"In 1973 we had all been elected on a program of extreme activism and a belief that government is operated to solve problems. Now we have so many people who were elected on a platform of stopping government."

The difference, in simple terms, is the difference between liberal and conservative legislators, the difference between politicians who believe government can solve the state's problems and politicians who believe government itself is often the problem, particularly a government that has been controlled by liberals for six years.

In a House that changed overnight from DFL domination to an even split between DFL and IR legislators, the second idea is the most vital. Many of those missing 32 DFLers were the most liberal. Of the liberals that remain, most are on the defensive.

Not Phyllis Kahn. The woman who brought you no-fault divorce, sexual equality in sports and no-smoking sections in restaurants isn't backing off, regardless of political realities. She is, in some ways, the last of the liberals.

Some of her fellow liberals in the House, for instance, vote against funding of any kind for abortions. In some cases it's a personal belief. In other cases it's a question of voting "right" on abortion or not getting re-elected. It may not be fair — and Kahn, for one, does not think it is — but such votes hurt those legislators' liberal ratings.

Kahn has consistently scored 100 percent ratings from the Americans for Democratic Action, a liberal group that checks legislators' voting records for ideological purity. She is regularly the spearhead for liberal legislation, whether it's battling nuclear power or protecting sexual equality.

"It's become a very real question whether Hubert Humphrey was the last of the pragmatic liberals," she said.

Liberals also have a quixotic image, though they aren't filling at windmills so much anymore as advocating them. Kahn upholds the image, fighting for lost causes regardless of the vote totals.

The recent House debate over changes in what is known as "the Kahn act" is an example:

In 1974 Kahn was able to push through the Legislature a law that demanded equal opportunity for females in school and recreation league sports. In the next five years, female participation in sports more than doubled in Minnesota.

But the law was not without critics, since it put an extra burden on

school districts and, to some, undermined the masculine prerogative in sport. This year the Minnesota High School League and the Minnesota School Boards Association sponsored legislation that, Kahn said, "emasculates the law, though that might not be the right word."

The debate lasted 5½ hours, the longest of the session. It also was the most futile. Kahn's supporters could muster no more than 45 votes as she repeatedly tried to change the bill that would undermine the earlier law.

The debate included some of the most powerful speechifying of the House this session, particularly an almost biblical performance by Rep. James Rice, DFL-Minneapolis. Rice, perhaps the only real orator in the House, called the high school league's bill "an insult to human rights" and scolded his fellow legislators like a prophet appalled at the ignorance of his brethren.

No question who won the debate, but the bill changing the Kahn act passed the House on more than a 2-1 vote. It is likely to be improved, by Kahn's standards, in the Senate, but the vote illustrated what Kahn sees as the greatest failure of this Legislature.

"The things that have been the major issues in this session have been negative issues," she said, mentioning the anti-Kahn act, anti-stadium, anti-no-fault divorce and anti-abortion votes.

"The last election was a very negative campaign," she said. "So many (new legislators) see the election as an endorsement" of that negativism.

"In essence," she added, "you've got a bunch of old-time legislators, but they're young."

She said the Legislature in 1979 reminds her of the Legislature she first saw in 1973. She said she was "appalled at the quality of the people in the Legislature" then. But she soon found herself "fascinated by the process and that you could do something, that there were manageable problems."

She was not timid as a freshman. "In her first months as a legislator she pushed through a motion calling for the end of the Vietnam War, stood alone in not voting for the Vietnam veterans' bonus, introduced bills to ban nuclear-power-plant construction, establish no-fault divorce and register bicycles, saved a contraception bill from defeat and took Humphrey to task for having an all-male staff.

Before 1971, she said, she was never in the state Capitol "or any other legislature, though I went to Washington as a kid." She was born in New York City's borough of Brooklyn, got a doctorate in biophysics from Yale and moved to Minneapolis before

she got interested in politics.

She helped form the Twin Cities chapter of the National Organization for Women (NOW) and first visited the capitol as a lobbyist for NOW in 1971. About the same time, the Legislature was reapportioning the state and creating a new legislative district in the University of Minnesota-Prospect Park area.

She was then a research assistant at the university, where her husband teaches, but she entered the primary for the new district in 1972, winning the DFL nomination against four opponents. She won that election and, since then, has faced only token opposition or none at all.

"I've never had to be politically frightened by reelection," she admitted.

That's part of her problem with new House members.

"The newly elected people are scared people," she said. "They literally think that one vote will defeat them (in the next election) ... But it's part of your job. You can't panic every time someone shouts at you on the phone."

She said that's contributed to the negative nature of this Legislature — of the laws she's had a hand in creating in her career, all are under attack, she added, except the no-smoking laws. It also makes her wonder what the new legislators will get out of this session.

The best part of being a legislator, she said, is in taking on a problem, working a bill into a form that will alleviate the problem and getting the bill passed into law.

"That's real gratification," she said. "The current Legislature is not going to feel this. I don't see how the pleasure of killing something could be as nice.

"You can make the world better by passing laws," she insisted.

Now that's a liberal.

# Arts bills may relieve sullen concrete look

By ARON KAHN  
Staff Writer

The state Capitol is very appealing, visually. It's filled, but not cluttered, with large, graceful art works of various form. Its colors are rich, soft. The floors and stairways are marble.

The state's other buildings, however, are mostly sterile places, often exuding the quiet anxiety of people longing to be somewhere else.

There are bills at the Legislature that would close the gap, albeit in modest fashion. Money would be set aside for purchase of art works whenever building construction or sizeable alteration is approved.

The art-in-architecture program may not become law this time around, but Sen. Emily Staples, DFL-Plymouth, and Rep. Phyllis Kahn, DFL-Minneapolis, will stay at the drawing boards for as long as it takes.

"IT'S NOT ONE of those things that have the biggest priority," Staples says in concession to political reality. Kahn agrees. Yet they feel the idea shouldn't be cast aside, even in this time of spending consciousness.

The morale, and therefore the efficiency of employes would be improved with more pleasant surroundings, they say, and this alone ought to be enough to convince lawmakers that Minnesota should at least experiment with a concept legislated by 13 other states.

Alaska, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Hawaii, Illinois, Iowa, New Jersey, Nebraska,



Staples



Kahn

Oregon, Texas, Washington and South Dakota have some type of art-in-architecture program. The programs range from optional to mandatory, with the art investment varying from 1/2 to 1 1/2 percent of the construction amount.

STAPLES' BILL, which has survived a committee, calls for a mandatory 1 percent on construction costing more than \$100,000. The Minnesota Arts Board would help decide which art works are chosen, giving priority to Minnesota artists.

Kahn started with a similar bill, which in altered form is now part of an omnibus construction bill. A subcommittee removed the 1 percent requirement and prevented the program from taking effect this year, even if the law is passed with her amendment on it.

Kahn said that when they speak of art, the authors refer to a range of works including paintings, sculptures, murals, frescos and even decorative bannisters. When the price is included in the total construction cost, "it's a very cost-effective way," she said.

Many legislators are grumbling at the notion, however.

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PRAIRIE SUN—Hennepin Co.



**POLITICIANS WHO RAN** in the 10 kilometer run included, left to right, Tom Johnson, Hennepin County attorney, Phyllis Kahn, DFL state representative from Minneapolis, Jerry Knickerbocker, IR state representative, Hopkins-Minnetonka, and Elliot Rothenberg, IR state representative, St. Louis Park.

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# Kahn: Stop double standard in prostitute raids

By BETTY WILSON  
Minneapolis Star Staff Writer

Prostitutes should not be arrested or jailed unless their customers are, a group of female state officials said today.

State Rep. Phyllis Kahn, DFL-Minneapolis, and other female officials issued a statement today saying that The Minneapolis Star's recent exposure of the use of prostitutes by prominent men has made the public aware of the double standards of the application of state and city prostitution laws and enforcement policies.



Kahn

Kahn said prior to the press conference that she expected most of the women on the Minneapolis

council and most women legislators to join her in the statement. Kahn said those who said they supported it include DFL Reps. Janet Clark and Dee Long, both of Minneapolis; Hennepin County Commissioner Nancy Olkon, and Ann Higgins, city library board member.

"The law says it is as illegal to be a customer of a prostitute as it is to be a prostitute," the statement said.

"No one can possibly call for unequal enforcement of a law resulting in a situation where men with positions of power and influence in society are excused while women lacking such protected stature are prosecuted.

"If we are unwilling to enforce prostitution laws equally, then they should be eliminated."

Kahn, who has sponsored a bill to remove the criminal punishments for prostitution, and the other female officials said immediate

steps also should be taken to:

- Concentrate police and community resources on problems "that are truly destructive of the family," such as battered women and child abuse. End the "outrageous waste of public funds used in the entrapment technique of arresting prostitutes."

- The use of taxpayers' dollars to support the reported activities of some vice squad members is unacceptable, the statement said. Police must be held accountable for a professional standard of behavior, it said.

- Hold public officials accountable for statements that reveal their contempt for women and adherence to a sexual double standard.

For example, said the statement, "A Hennepin County district judge (Dana Nicholson) stated (in a legal decision) that customers should not be arrested and prosecuted because it 'could ruin them and their family and business lives.' He went on to say that 'the men involved are otherwise functioning well in society, whereas, the women are not, so that the women should be prosecuted to get them out of improper channels and into proper life patterns.'

"James O'Meara, former head of the vice squad, said that the customer wouldn't want his name in the paper, remarking, 'What's his crime, anyway? Are we going to ruin a man for having sex?'"

Police Det. Donald Dwyer argued police misconduct saying, "It takes a pretty strong guy to stand up to the hospital and the breadwinner" and that the "double standard" are the drugs of today."

- Recognize that the abuse of children, occurring when juveniles are used as prostitutes, is the more serious problem—not the behavior of consenting adults. These young

adults should be dealt with by the social services, not the criminal justice system.

The statement commends The Star "for outstanding courage and investigative thoroughness in exposing a problem which no one wanted to confront and for revealing the unjust treatment of women under the present system."

"The revelations can yield positive facts, the women said."



# Rep. Kahn's prostitution bill to be resubmitted.

By Lori Sturdevant  
Staff Writer

State Rep. Phyllis Kahn is dusting off her perennial bill to lessen penalties for prostitution in the hope that recent disclosures about public officials buying sex will put the bill in a new light.

But her hope is a slim one, the Minneapolis DFLer concedes.

"I want my bill to be available as a vehicle for discussion of prostitution. We so sorely need that kind of discussion," Kahn said Friday. "But realistically, the Legislature won't want to deal with anything this controversial in an election year."

She wrote a statement last week calling on the police to enforce prostitution laws against both sexes or not at all. Within a few days, 18 other female officeholders, five of them legislators, signed the statement as well.

That statement was not meant as a condemnation of the men named as sex customers in a recent series of articles in The Minneapolis Star, the female legislators who signed it said yesterday.

Several signers said they felt sympathy for the men involved and had no intention of opposing the men politically because they allegedly bought sex.

But, the women added, they wanted to call attention to the unequal enforcement of the law's insistence that both the buying and the selling of sex are crimes.

Several of the female lawmakers said Kahn's bill to make prostitution



Rep. Phyllis Kahn

a petty misdemeanor — a minor crime punishable by issuance of a ticket — might get a better reception this year because of the public discussion of prostitution generated by news reports.

As Kahn pointed out, it wouldn't take much for the bill to get a better reception: in the six years it has been introduced in the Minnesota House it has only had a subcommittee hearing once. Most years she has been unable to find a cosponsor for the measure. In 1979 the bill was tabled by the House's juvenile and criminal law procedure subcommittee.

Several people who signed the statement said they themselves might have difficulty supporting Kahn's bill. Rep. Linda Berglin, a south Minneapolis DFLer, said she could only endorse it if it included elements regulating prostitution "to keep it from being a public nuisance." Rep. Lona Minne, DFL-Hibbing, said, "Inside me, I'm just not ready for that," though she said she thinks that eventually prostitution will not be a crime in Minnesota.

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Phyllis Kahn

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Kahn seeks single sports program

By Lynnette McIntire

Equality for women athletes will require more than equal spending, according to state Rep. Phyllis Kahn (DFL-Minneapolis). Women athletes should be given the opportunity to reach their full potential, which may mean more experienced coaches, more training and, if necessary, training and competing with men's teams.

"As long as all the programs are funded adequately, we don't need equal dollars on each side," she told the audience in a speech sponsored by the University Women's Law Caucus Friday.

Funding based on athletes' sex is inherently unfair, Kahn said. Instead, she proposes that athletic funding be based on whether the sport is revenue-producing or non-revenue producing. Profits from money-making sports should be distributed among all athletic programs, Kahn said.

(The University women's athletic de-

partment currently receives no money from the men's athletic department, according to Carol Van Dyke, sports information director for the women's athletic department.)

Women athletes are not the only group that would benefit from the proposed revision; men's minor sports, like golf and track, would gain from increased funding, Kahn said. The men's and women's tennis teams have a lot more in common than the men's tennis team and the football team, she said.

"It's not only the women who are suffering (from inadequate funding and coaching). Also, minor sports have a lot to gain by joining the women's struggle," she said.

Kahn's funding plan would eliminate the duplication of coaching staffs (for example, one coach for each men's and women's team). "It's the sensible thing to do, both financially and considering declining enrollment," she said.

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Kahn also advocated strong financial support for sports that promote life-long, broad participation and that are low-cost, as opposed to sports like football that are expensive to maintain and involve only a few people.

Kahn was a strong supporter of last year's \$1.1-million state legislative grant to the University's Women's Intercollegiate Athletics Department. She insisted that the grant does not condone separatism. "It should only be kind of catch-up," she said. "I prefer that the excessive revenue from men's teams be divided among all athletes."

The merging of the men's and women's athletic departments is "the right direction to go," Kahn said, "but it has to be done very carefully with adequate protection for the women's program."

"Women are afraid that the women's department would be swallowed up and lose its identity. And when there is a merger, it's usually the woman director that loses her job," Kahn said.

She praised the University administration's strong support of Title IX, a federal mandate to guarantee sexual equality in campus activities. She was particularly impressed that the University has not joined several coalitions of colleges that are advocating the Sanford proposal, a plan where each school would decide its own plan of sexual equity. "All that is, is a license to allow continued inequality. It would be like industry measuring their own pollution levels," she said.



Phyllis Kahn

Photo/Steven Greene

# Ban on 'adults only' rental to be sought in Legislature

By Greg Hughes  
Staff Writer

A bill aimed at outlawing so called "bias" against persons with children in the rental market will be introduced in the 1980 Minnesota Legislature, its authors said Thursday.

State Reps. Janet Clark and Phyllis Kahn, both DFL-Minneapolis, said the bill, if voted into law, will make it illegal for landlords to "discriminate" by restricting rental units to adults only.

Rental units where owners live on the premises would be exempt, they said.

Clark and Kahn each drafted separate bills on the subject for the 1979 legislative session, but neither received a hearing because of the large number of bills competing for the Legislature's time.

**THE BILL WILL BE** similar to an ordinance proposed by St. Paul City Councilman Ron Maddox, which failed last month.

A similar measure was defeated in Minneapolis last summer.

"We will combine our bills because they are similar and we'll work together for passage," Clark said.

The bill's authors said they feel it will have a good chance of passage despite setbacks in St. Paul and Minneapolis.

But a new draft has not been written yet, and Clark and Kahn's earlier bills were the subject of a House subcommittee hearing Thursday in which public testimony was taken on the emotional issue.

**REP. RAY Faricy**, DFL-St. Paul, complained that the debate was taking place in the wrong place. He made his views known to William Moore, chairman of the Urban Affairs Committee of the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis.

Moore had made a brief presentation on behalf of Archbishop John Roach. Roach supports the bill.

"I want to know why nothing is being said from the pulpits in the churches and the synagogues," Faricy replied angrily. "I hope you get that word back to John . . . We're not going to change the world unless we do it from the churches and synagogues." Faricy is a Roman Catholic.

**PERSONS ON** both sides of the issue took turns at the microphone before the Law Reform Subcommittee of the House Judiciary Committee.

As in public and private debate before the St. Paul and Minneapolis City Councils, arguments for the bill are that most

Twin Cities apartment buildings do not want to rent to families with children and are free to keep them out in the absence of this kind of law.

Proponents argue the issue is one of justice.

Another argument is that the current tight housing market is making it possible for landlords and apartment building owners to be more selective in choosing renters.

But opponents of the bill say it is the tight housing market in the Twin Cities and the state that is causing the problem, not discrimination.

They also argue that renters who are elderly, students and persons without children have a right to peace and quiet and should be able to get it.

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# Kahn to lead 'smoking' event

State Rep. Phyllis Kahn will be the moderator of the first Minnesota Seminar on Smoking in the Workplace, to be held on Tuesday, May 6.

Miss Kahn is the principal author of the Minnesota Clean Indoor Air Act enacted in 1975, and a member of the board of directors of the American Lung Assn. of Hennepin County. She will lead the seminar designed to provide a forum for the discussion of the issues related to smoking in the workplace.

The seminar is sponsored by the American Lung Assn. of Hennepin County. Featured speakers are Charles Schneider, chief of Environmental Field Services, Minnesota Department of Health, Marlys Grantwit, corporate personnel staff, Control Data Corp., and Mary Ellen Tisdale, corporate legal staff, Control Data Corp.

Schneider will discuss "The Minnesota Clean Indoor Air Act as it Relates to the Workplace." Miss Grantwit and Miss Tisdale will relate "Control Data Corporation's Experience in Implementing a Pol-

icy on the Designation of Smoking and Non-smoking areas."

According to a recent survey of the National Interagency Council on Smoking and Health among 3,000 U.S. companies, smoking in the workplace is now a major concern of employers, employees and health officials. This concern sets the stage for a seminar that will discuss a wide range of issues related to smoking in the workplace.

A number of additional topics will be covered at the seminar, among them, health effects of smoking in the workplace, smoking and worker's compensation, legal aspects of smoking in the workplace and energy use related to smoking in buildings.

The Smoking in the Workplace Seminar will be held at 9 a.m. Tuesday, May 6, at the Pillsbury Conference Center, IDS Tower, Minneapolis. Registration is required. Information can be obtained by contacting Robin Derrickson at the American Lung Assn., 871-7332.

# Daily Journal

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## Legislators' trip to park not junket, Kahn says

By GENE LAHAMMER  
Associated Press Writer

ST. PAUL (AP) -- A subcommittee of the Minnesota House recently spent three days at Isle Royale National Park in Lake Superior. The midsummer trip cost taxpayers about \$1,600.

A junket?

Absolutely not, says Rep. Phyllis Kahn, DFL-Minneapolis, chairman of the State Department Division of

the House Appropriations Committee.

She says state legislators have "oversight and foresight" responsibilities which are "not fulfilled by passing bills and hearing testimony in St. Paul."

"We have a responsibility to see how it's functioning, to literally go look at it, instead of just taking somebody's word for it," says Kahn. "In coming from the point of view

of an activist policy-setting legislator. I believe the Legislature is the policy-setting body of the state as opposed to the executive branch."

Kahn, 43, serving her fourth House term, heads the committee which passes on the all spending requests and programs by state agencies.

Two officials of the state Department of Natural Resources also went along,

using personal vacation time and their own funds to make the trip.

But one of the DNR officials said the only reason they used vacation time was that there wasn't enough money in the DNR's out-of-state travel budget to cover the trip. Isle Royale is in the state of Michigan even though it's only 22 miles off Minnesota's North Shore.

Steve Thorne, deputy DNR

commissioner, estimates the trip cost him and Don D. Davison, director of the DNR's Parks and Recreation Division, between \$50 and \$60 apiece.

"Both of us decided we'd like to go simply because it gave us an opportunity to experience some of the things we'd been talking about before her committee for a long time," said Thorne.

"It always helps to have the

Legislature understand the things we're doing...We're trying to convince them all the time about the value of outdoor recreation."

Thorne said the DNR is attempting to cut about \$3 million from its current budget because of the state's budget difficulties and out-of-state travel was one of the items which has been reduced

(Travel)

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## ★ Travel

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drastically.

The group spent one day inspecting state parks along the North Shore, then went to Isle Royale for talks with national park officials and hiking and camping.

"I really thought it was a working meeting," said Thorne. "I just hope you don't jump on Phyllis for the trip. It was a pretty valuable trip from our standpoint."

Interim travel by lawmakers has increased in the past decade. Spending committees inspect state institutions, and policy committees sometimes schedule hearings in other parts of the state in an effort to bring government closer to the people.

There's a suspicion that some hearings are scheduled in a particular area to help make an incumbent look good before the home folks, especially if there's a tough re-election fight around the corner.

Kahn and Rep. Delbert Anderson, IR-Starbuck, were the only legislators to visit Isle Royale. They took along one legislative staffer. Kahn's husband and daughter also made the trip but paid their own expenses, she said.

By contrast, 33 legislators and an equal number of legislative staffers registered for the annual meeting of the National Conference of State Legislatures in New York City earlier this summer.

That trip to the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel cost taxpayers an estimated \$30,000.

A House natural resources subcommittee traveled to Silver Bay in late May to hold a hearing on Tettegouche State Park. A House labor subcommittee toured asparagus fields and migrant camps in the Owatonna area

about the same time.

The Legislative Commission on Minnesota Resources met for three days in early June at Dourlas Lodge in Itasca State Park. The Health, Welfare and Corrections Divisions of the House Appropriations Committee visited Fergus Falls State Hospital in mid-May.

A House environment subcommittee met at Spirit Mountain in Duluth to discuss certain area sewage and environmental problems.

A Senate tax subcommittee held a property tax hearing at Grand Meadow in early July.

Kahn's committee conducted a hearing in late June at Minncopa State Park near Mankato and canoed part of the Minnesota River which is scheduled for preservation under the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act.

Legislative committees have considerable budgets, which include travel and lodging expenses plus the \$27 per diem payments for lawmakers on state business.

Kahn said the interim per diem payments aren't high enough to compensate legislators who have to take time off from another job. She expects her committee to turn back much of the \$23,637 it was allotted for the interim.

House Speaker Fred Norton, DFL-St. Paul, says he gives committee chairmen the power to approve expenses for various trips and says legislative travels are a good idea in general.

"I think it's good to keep up your reservoir of information for decisions you know you're going to have to make...I've always felt after going on a trip that it was a lot easier to understand requests that are made thereafter."

# Once just one of 'the women,' Kahn makes her own mark.

By LYNNA WILLIAMS  
The Minneapolis Star

She was a scientist, a woman with a doctorate in biophysics from Yale, doing advanced genetic research. She was a liberal too, but one whose political activities demanded little more of her than signing checks and joining protest marches. It was 1969 and Phyllis Kahn was an effect looking for a cause.

She found it in the women's movement, the first stirrings of which were just beginning in Minnesota. Now, more than a decade later, Phyllis Kahn is having a marked effect on that cause—and others—in a visible role in the Minnesota House.

Kahn, 43, a Minneapolis DFLer elected to the Legislature in 1972, this session became the only woman to chair a House committee, the State Departments Division of the Appropriations Committee. It's a position that has solidified her standing as one of the most influential elected women in Minnesota.

Hers is a journey like that other women have taken since the feminist movement began—from onlooker to participant and finally from outsider to insider. But Kahn has done it not by the book—it is still being written, after all—but from her own head and heart.

"It was completely clear when the women's move-

ment began that this was my movement," says Kahn.

There has been no shortage of controversy and headlines as a result of the movement that first pushed Kahn into politics, from her successful championing of the Minnesota Indoor Clean Air Act, staking out no-smoking areas in public buildings, to her winning push—later modified somewhat—to establish equality of opportunity for boys and girls in athletics.

But whether a particular bill has met with success or failure in Kahn's five terms in the Legislature, she has come to occupy a firm position in the House.

She is a familiar figure in floor debates, a small woman rising from her seat in the House Chamber's back row—a vantage point she picked out for herself that first term and now shares with several other women legislators.

"It's something you learn in graduate school," she says, with the quick laugh that is another Kahn staple. "If you sit in the back row, you're less likely to get stabbed in the back."

"There are people who don't agree with her and



Star P1

Phyllis Kahn: a visible role in the Minnes

Kahn  
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★ GENERAL NEWS/PART 2

The Minneapolis Star -- 17A  
Wednesday, March 11, 1981

# Kahn rides liberal views on road to power

(Kahn, from Page 1A)

there are people who probably wish she were somewhere else," said a colleague in the House. "But given her record of getting difficult bills passed—and now the chairmanship—I wouldn't say anyone ignores her."

It's never been exactly easy to ignore her, not even in her first term in the House when more than a few members tried.

That was 1973, when, for the first time in the state's history, six women were sworn in as state representatives.

Newspapers dutifully noted the new phenomenon on the House floor, including one that welded Kahn's graduate degree to her physical stature—she is about 5-foot-2—and took to calling her a "diminutive biophysicist."

## They're 'the women'

Five of the six women legislators were newcomers—there was a lot of stumbling over the word "freshman"—and while four have remained in politics, only two, Kahn and Rep. Mary Forsythe, an Independent-Republican, are still in the House. Joan Growe is secretary of state and Linda Berglin is now a first-term DFL senator.

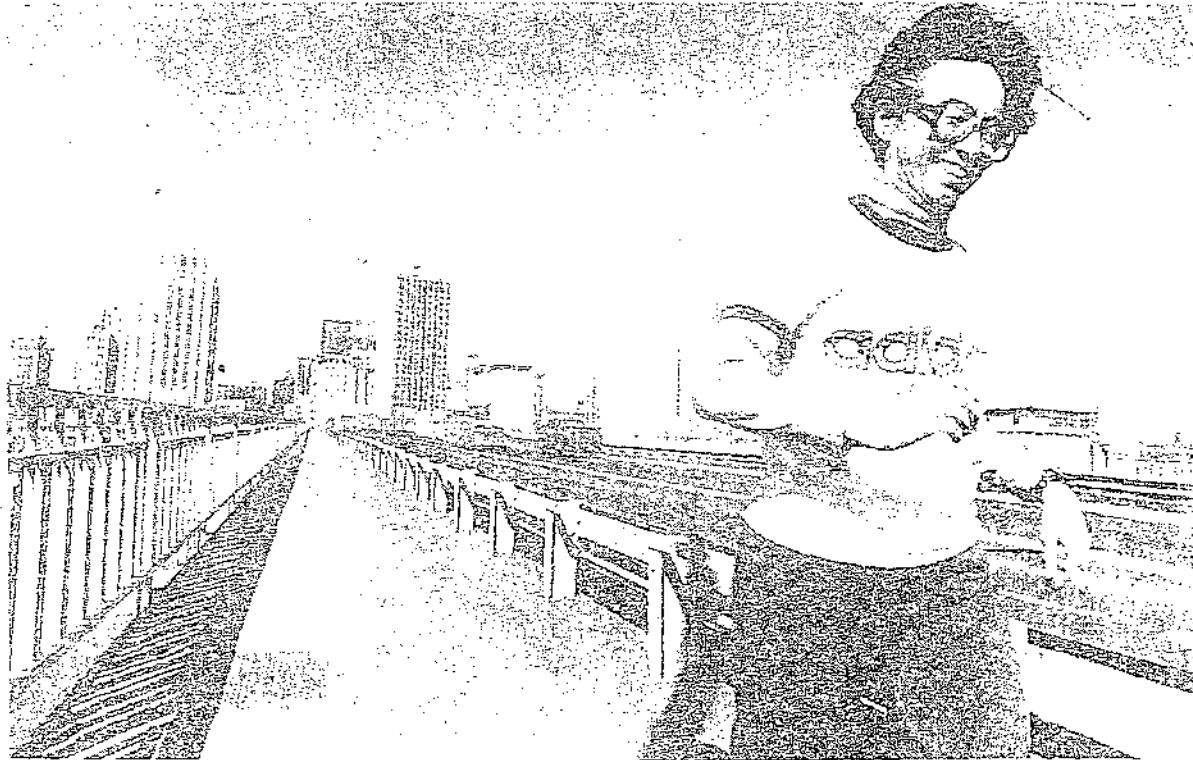
So there they were, different in background and party and age, but still "the women" to a lot of "the men."

"There were only six of us," remembers Growe, "but you would have thought from some of the reactions we got that we had taken over the place."

"We were a pretty diverse six, too, but we tended to get lumped together. Phyllis and I look nothing alike but there was one member who could not tell us apart."

"It was a testing time for us all," says Growe, who believes the first two years may have been a bit rockier for Kahn than for the other new legislators.

"Phyllis had done an extensive and very effective job of lobbying the Legislature on particularly sensitive women's issues prior to run-



Star Photo by Tom Sweeney

Phyllis Kahn ran across the Wabasha Bridge in St. Paul

ning, whereas I had lobbied, but on kind of good government issues for the League of Women Voters."

"Also representing the district she does, I think a lot of people made assumptions about her right away."

Kahn, who lives in the Prospect Park neighborhood, had won a hard-fought election in a newly created district in the University area, 57A, a constituency some

House members apparently assumed preferred its legislators to be wild-eyed, radical or both.

"There was a time when Phyllis used to say that if she spoke in favor of a bill it would automatically lose a number of votes. So if she had a really good idea for an amendment sometimes, she would slip it to me and I'd offer it," Growe said.

But while some legislators may

have squirmed in their seats listening to the Brooklyn-born Kahn hurl herself into floor debates, she was too busy learning the system—and passing bills—to pay much attention.

"For some reason I managed to get embroiled very quickly in some controversial issues," says Kahn. "There was a resolution on stopping the bombing in Vietnam, for instance, and other issues that re-

quired a fair amount of manipulation, rounding up votes, making the right moves."

The anti-bombing resolution passed the House under Kahn's guidance, but some manipulation on the part of Richard Nixon—he stopped the bombing—made a similar resolution in the Senate moot.

"There were people who were put off by the whole new Legisla-

ture," Kahn says. "There were suddenly a lot more young, brash people around... everyone had a lot of trouble that session. You'd see a lobbyist offering this new legislator just out of college a cigar or wandering around what had been the old watering holes looking lost."

For Kahn, that first session was important in another way than simply learning the rules of another male-dominated game. In large part, she says now, her first two years in office—and the campaign she ran to get there—produced some of her priorities as a legislator.

In that first run for office, Kahn's opponents often criticized her for being a "one-issue"—the women's issue—candidate.

To counter that, Kahn talked to her largely university-oriented constituents about her background as a scientist, someone who just might be able to apply the skill of logic to the art of legislating the state's laws.

"When the time came to pick committee assignments, as a result of the things we had talked about in the campaign, I ended up pushing for areas I had emphasized, where technical ability would be of greater use," Kahn said.

As a result, her legislative career has been as much focused on computers and budgets as it has been on women's issues like abortion.

"I've never shied away from [women's] issues," she says, "but I haven't been on those committees."

If her ability to deal with technical issues helped get her elected in the first place, it has also become a strength for which she is well-known in the House.

The words "extremely intelligent" are used so often about her that in some members' mouths the words seem to run together with her name, as in "Extremely Intelligent Phyllis Kahn." And no one—especially those who have been on

Kahn

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CONTINUED...



## Once just one of 'the women,' she leads

(Kahn, from Page 17A)

other side of debates with her—gets through an evaluation of her legislative skills without using the term tenacious at least twice. (Republicans seem to prefer the term stubborn.)

"If there's something to be learned or done, she'll stick to it until it's learned or done," said former Speaker of the House, DFL Rep. Fred Norton, who Kahn supported in a bitter fight for the speaker's job in the 1980 session.

"I think she's extremely thoughtful and she always does her homework," Norton said.

"She sometimes is a little too provocative for her own good, but she ultimately is pretty successful in passing her legislation even though some people may complain about her style."

If Kahn's intelligence and persistence are always mentioned, so, too, is the fact she has at times offended some House members, as much by her liberal positions as by her outspoken personality.

"I don't think a lot of people credit her with being as open-minded as she is," said Rep. Gordon Voss, a member of the Appropriations Committee who entered the House the same year as Kahn. "There's a flexibility there some may not see. When you have a knotty problem and it looks like it will be an impasse, if you treat Phyllis as though it is an impasse, it will be. But if you sit down and talk it over with her it won't be."

"It's true some people view her as divisive," he added. "She's been pigeon-holed by some."

Like other of her colleagues, Voss said he believes Kahn has developed into a legislator who can find common ground without compromising her principles.

When changes were made in the last session to the 1975 Kahn-authored legislation dealing with athletic opportunity for both sexes, Voss said, Kahn's willingness to "meet and confer" even though she disagreed with some of the proposals "led to a much better bill."

"I think she was a much more rigid person when she first came here," Voss said.

Others also cite the chairmanship of the appropriations subcommittee as a broadening experience for Kahn, and certainly it is a job that has brought her increased prestige—and decreased public criticism—from her colleagues.

So she is at home in the House now, as she continues her fifth term as a legislator who doesn't mind the labels, who applies the terms liberal and feminist to herself as quickly as do others.

## Still herself

Part of that ease may come from the district she represents—she has not had a serious challenge to election since her first term.

But mostly, those who know her say, it is simply because she has continued to be herself.

"That's Phyllis," said one Republican legislator angered by Kahn's recent entrance into the fray-by-newspaper over a Republican staff appreciation party where secretaries were involved in a legislator-planned parlor game.

"She fights like a tiger for what she believes in," said another Republican. "That certainly has not changed."

IR Rep. John Weaver, who opposed Kahn on the athletics legislation, said he learned early that he was facing someone who really believed in what she was doing.

"Phyllis was really strong... she really was totally determined to do what she thought was right."

In any discussion of Kahn's determination, one of her major outside-the-Legislature activities always comes up in the "Do you believe Phyllis?" category.

Three years ago, Kahn, while she had always been an active outdoors type, was barely able to run out of her house without facing imminent physical collapse.

This spring, she will run in the Boston Marathon—a feat that has caused something akin to god-natured homicidal rage in the male friends she regularly runs with.

Kahn, who has been running "obsessively" for two years, qualified for the premier marathon event last summer at a faster time than was actually necessary.

She ran the 26.2 miles in 3 hours, 20 minutes, not realizing that the qualifying time for women over 40 had been changed to 3 hours, 30 minutes.

"Phyllis," said one of her running partners, Hennepin County Attorney Tom Johnson "does not give up."

## A winner

Winning has been part of Kahn's life, even before she always knew what issues she was fighting for.

She had been a winner in a world of scholarship where women were much more likely to be faculty member's wives than faculty members. And—until the women's movement put some things in place for her—she never considered that sex discrimination was

Kahn

Continued on next page

# Phyllis Kahn's career turned from bacteria to lawmaking

(Kahn, from Page 19A)

something that might happen to her.

She was born in Brooklyn, graduated a physics major from Cornell, and received a doctorate in biophysics and molecular biology from Yale in her speciality, bacterial virus genetics. She also studied at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and did post-doctoral work at Princeton and Yale.

After her husband, Donald Kahn, accepted a job teaching math at the University of Minnesota, Kahn, by then the mother of two small children, was hired in 1965 as a research associate in the university's department of genetics and cell biology.

She worked on a grant from the American Cancer Society, concentrating her research on non-chromosomal genetic material in bacteria.

Her first exposure to the infant women's movement began in about 1969, Kahn said, at about the same time she began to believe her posi-

tion at the university had been affected by sex discrimination.

In Kahn's cluttered legislative office, three photographs of bacteria that accompanied scientific papers Kahn presented at conferences are tacked on a bulletin board near a picture of her with Bella Abzug—a neat summation of the two passions that were coming together.

As the women's movement escalated, Kahn was among the founders of the Twin Cities group of the National Organization for Women and the Minnesota Women's Political Caucus.

## Women needed

In 1971, Kahn stepped inside a state Legislature for the first time, a registered lobbyist for NOW on a variety of women's issues.

She saw both "the contempt in which women's issues were held" and the difficulty of making an impact from the outside. Increasingly, women's groups in the state began to concentrate on the need to elect women to public office.

When the new district was cre-

ated by redistricting, Kahn began to think seriously about running.

She had filed a discrimination complaint against the university in 1972 after not being considered for tenure in the department. But she still was caught up in the research she was doing.

She was working at her microscope one day, she remembers, satisfied because her application for another two-year American Cancer Society grant had been completed and submitted to the dean of the department.

"I was working away," she says, "and I thought, 'This is ridiculous, the grant is in and I'm doing really good work, the field is exciting and even though no one else knows it's interesting I'm going to go ahead. I'm not going to run for office; I'm going to stay here and do such good work no one will be able to deny me anything.'"

That same day, Kahn says, she was told by the department dean that because she had filed the discrimination charge, she could only submit a request for a one-year grant extension.

She decided to run for office.

Kahn continued at the university until 1974—stretching that one-year grant out over two years—but then left to devote full time to her legislative work.

On forms where she once filled in "geneticist" for occupation, she now writes "legislator."

Kahn was one of five women who joined as a plaintiff-intervenor in the sex discrimination case filed by Shyamala Rajender, after she did not receive a tenure track position in chemistry. A consent decree mandating a special affirmative action program at the university was reached last August.

Kahn's individual case is expected to be heard shortly.

## Fewer bills

While she is interested in the outcome, Kahn has little time to think about it, she says, in the middle of a legislative session where she has a use for every available minute.

Her work as chair of the State Departments Division of appropriations—the committee that re-

views each state department budget—has meant she is carrying fewer bills this session than is usual for her.

Legislation she has had time to author includes bills to require nu-

clear waste disposal sites to be licensed by the state and one to establish statutes to help handle sophisticated computer crime in Minnesota. Both bills were passed out of subcommittees last week.

# Creation of N-waste panel backed

Associated Press

57A The House Environment and Natural Resources Committee voted Tuesday to create a legislative commission to study the problem of low-level radioactive waste in Minnesota.

The bill, sponsored by Rep. Phyllis Kahn, DFL-Minneapolis, was sent to the Appropriations Committee by a one-sided voice vote.

The study commission will report to the 1982 Legislature.

8-2 The original bill called for the state Environmental Quality Board to set up a site-selection process and issue permits for a low-level hazardous waste facility.

However, Rep. Bill Dean, I-R-Minneapolis, said the issue needed further study and his amendment to create the study commission carried on a 15-11 vote.

The panel also voted 15-11 to exempt low-level radioactive waste from the site-and-permit

process. Any high-level radioactive waste facility would require state permits, even though the siting of those facilities has been pre-empted by the federal Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Three DFLers voted with 12 Independent-Republicans on the key amendments while all the "no" votes were cast by DFLers. The DFLers who voted with Republicans were Reps. Richard Kostohryz, North St. Paul; Joe Begich, Eveleth, and Jerry Schoenfeld, Waseca.

3-18-81 Mrs. Kahn argued against the one-year delay for the state to decide on a policy dealing with disposal of low-level radioactive waste.

She said the Nuclear Regulatory Commission has given the states until Jan. 1, 1986 to designate three candidate sites for handling low-level radioactive waste. If the state does not act or cannot agree on a regional site with neighboring states, the commission will take over responsibility.

There are no such sites in Minnesota and only three in operation in the United States. Those sites are in South Carolina, Washington and Nevada. A fourth site in Illinois was closed recently.

Shallow land burial is the typical disposal method for low-level radioactive wastes, according to John Malinka of the Legislative Office of Science and Technology.

Malinka said a survey indicated that 1,461 cubic meters of such waste are generated annually in the state. Slightly more than half, 800 cubic meters, is generated by hospitals and institutions, while 432 cubic meters is generated by industry and 229 cubic meters by commercial nuclear plants.

# Legislators lock horns with state auditor over office, charges

Associated Press

57A  
Two state legislators have locked horns with state Auditor Arne Carlson over his move to a more expensive office and his charges to local governments.

State Rep. Phyllis Kahn, DFL-Minneapolis, is unhappy over Independent Republican Carlson's moving his office without going through the regular legislative appropriations process.

"He's about the only part of state government that could move all by itself like that," she said.

Rep. David Battaglia, DFL-Two Harbors, said that Carlson pays too much for his new quarters and that the auditor's office charges local governments too much for its services.

Battaglia, a member of Kahn's subcommittee, also is irked that Carlson had a shower installed in the new of-



Arne Carlson

ices to accommodate noon joggers and night workers.

In reply, Carlson, pointed to the separation of powers between the legislative and executive branches of government.

"I will not allow this office to be subordinate to the state Legislature," he said. "We are equal partners in the same governmental process. Once you put the audit process under the jurisdiction of the Legislature, you have destroyed the audit process of this state . . ."

It all began last year when a House appropriations subcommittee headed by Kahn rejected Carlson's request for \$200,000 to remodel his staff's old offices in the Veterans Service Building in the capitol complex.

Carlson then moved his staff Nov. 1 into a new, privately owned building near the capitol. He reportedly pays \$10.50 per square foot annually for his new quarters.

With the exception of the Legislature, all state operations pay rent, even in state-owned buildings.

Carlson said that the old quarters were overcrowded and unsuitable and that attempts to find other state-owned space in the capitol area were unsuccessful. He also noted that the move to his new office was arranged through the state Administration Department.

Marlo Hanson, head of the department's real estate management division, said the \$10.50-per-square-foot leasing cost may be more than the state pays for any other privately owned space. He noted, however, that some capitol tenants pay as

Auditor continued on page 4B

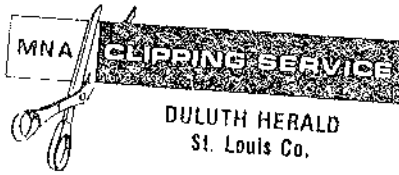
## Auditor

Continued from page 3B

much as \$10.00 per square foot.

As for his fees, which increased 38 percent between 1974 and 1981 for a local government auditor, Carlson said they were unrealistically low under the previous auditor, DFLer Robert Maltson, and are lower than those of most private auditing firms.

Kahn, Battaglia, and Carlson will clash today when Kahn's subcommittee decides how much state money Carlson should get for the next biennium.



1981

# Legislature tackles big problem of crime in the computer room

ST. PAUL (AP) — A Minnesota House committee is attempting to curb one of the newest growth industries: computer crime.

"Computer crime is often not petty crime," says Rep. Phyllis Kahn, DFL-Minneapolis. "It can result in losses of millions of dollars."

"We need to bring our criminal laws up to date to aid prosecutors in combatting electronic theft... We can't expect 19th century criminal law to effectively counter 20th century crime."

Kahn is chief author of a bill which was approved Monday by the House Criminal Justice Committee and sent to the floor.

The bill creates a new crime of "aggravated computer abuse," which calls for a penalty of up to 10 years in jail and a fine of up to \$50,000.

The crime would apply to anyone who intentionally used a computer to defraud or to steal money, services or property, including checks, other financial information and computer software. The same penalty would apply if someone damaged a computer system while using it without authorization.

The bill also creates the lesser crime of "computer abuse," which covers unauthorized use of a computer without intent to steal or defraud.

An example of this is an employee who, without

permission, uses his company's computer to record bowling scores, play games such as tic-tac-toe or create "Snoopy" calendars, said Kahn.

The Senate is taking a different approach to computer crime, says Sen. Jack Davies, DFL-Minneapolis. The Senate Judiciary Committee opened hearings on the issue today.

Instead of creating a new category of crime, the Senate bill redefines "property" in the existing theft statute to include intangible items, such as computer software and services.

Davies says this approach fits the philosophy that criminal laws "should focus on the ends sought rather than the means." He said there's no apparent reason to have separate categories of law for stealing different kinds of property.

Nobody knows for sure how much is lost to computer crime annually, Kahn said. Estimates range from \$100 million to \$3 billion. The U.S. Commerce Department has estimated that only one of every 100 computer crimes is detected.

While the average bank robbery yields less than \$10,000, the average bank theft by computer produces \$193,000, said Kahn. Computer crimes against corporations average \$621,000, and against state and local government, \$329,000.



Staff Photo by Art Hager

Rep. Phyllis Kahn, DFL-Minneapolis, worked at her desk in the Minnesota House chamber Wednesday. The pile of journals and binders of legislative bills

on her desk is typical, with less than a month left in the regular session.

# A Liberal for All Seasons

57A

Undaunted and unbowed, Phyllis  
Kahn continues to battle

By Nancy Cochran

In 1975, when State Representative Phyllis Kahn first presented her Clean Indoor Air Act to the Minnesota legislature, few people took her seriously. Then Speaker of the House Martin Sabo didn't; he smirkingly puffed billowy clouds of smoke as she recommended that smoking be banned from the legislature floors and chambers. The tobacco industry didn't; it paid no attention as she proposed that separate non-smoking areas be required in all stores and restaurants. Then something unexpected happened: the bill passed. And stranger still, similar laws were proposed and passed in other states. Suddenly Phyllis Kahn found herself treated very seriously.

Even Sabo had stopped smiling when the Minneapolis Star carried a lead story about the puffs of smoke he blew in Kahn's face. "He got letters that were so vicious," related DFLer-Kahn, "that his secretary, who worshipped him, came to me to ask if I would drop the issue." Kahn had a better idea, and asked Sabo to be co-sponsor for the Clean Indoor Air Act. He reluctantly agreed, fearing that if he did not support separate non-smoking areas, Kahn might succeed in abolishing smoking in public places altogether. The compromise worked well. Sabo was Speaker of the House and a notorious chain-smoker; his endorsement was all the bill needed to pass.

Kahn, who represents the University of Minnesota district in Minneapolis, considers the Clean Indoor Air Act to be her biggest achievement in eight years of legislative work. "Continually, if I'm at a cocktail party . . . people will start a conversation by saying: 'There's one thing you've done, and if you never do anything else, it's the greatest thing.' And I always know what they're talking about." Yet Kahn also admits that the effort to pass the



Glen Hagen

Clean Indoor Air Act was not one of her hardest. "Actually it was one of the easiest things I've ever done," she explains. "It was a fluke. There was a good group working on it . . . and things fell together well in terms of the testimony being available and the fact that the tobacco industry did not take it seriously at all. People thought it was all a big joke till it passed."

Kahn smiles. No one is laughing at her now. Re-elected last September to a fifth term, she feels quite secure in speaking her mind on controversial issues. In her last four bids for election, Kahn has faced

"no serious" opposition. ("Well, maybe they thought they were serious," she reconsiders.) The University district is among the most liberal in the state, and Kahn is unquestionably its spokeswoman. Indeed, she has consistently received a nearly perfect rating from the Americans for Democratic Action, a liberal group that checks legislators' voting records for adherence to ideological principles.

Yet in talking with her at her modest home in south Minneapolis, where she is relaxed in a pair of slippers, corduroy pants, and a sweater, Phyllis Kahn seems far removed from her image as a hard-line liberal legislator. Her short straight brown hair and square-framed glasses make her seem younger than her 43 years, as does her small (5 ft. 1 inch) stature. Her surroundings project a similar aura of casualness and relaxation. Home for Kahn is obviously a place for family living, and not a show place for guests. Seated comfortably on the couch, she is surrounded by the many newspapers and magazines — everything from *Ms.*, to *Runner's World*, to the *New Yorker* — that she pours over in her spare time.

But Kahn's house is also animated. As we talk, her son and husband enter and exit through the front door, and bring in the dog. (A large dog, with a loud bark, but a strong penchant for being scratched behind the ears.) Kahn ignores all distractions, and manages to focus her attention on answering my questions. She responds frankly and directly, but always with sincerity, never with sarcasm or bitterness. Her speech is quiet, though not soft, with a trace of a Brooklyn accent betraying her beginnings. One hardly realizes that her words are often packed with dynamite.

For example, Kahn frankly describes the Reagan administration as "an absolute

disaster." Her left hand moves in agitated circles as she speaks. "Every time I read something," she says with exasperation, "even about things I think I don't care about much, it just seems worse and worse. Just as an example, I picked up the paper (in February) and saw that the ambassador was being recalled from El Salvador. Here they recalled him for the wrong reasons. I think he was too sympathetic to the right wing in El Salvador, but it turns out he was recalled because he wasn't sympathetic enough to the right wing. Every time you pick up these little tiny articles, you've got to read through and see what disaster is happening."

Kahn was equally frustrated by the 1980 session of the Minnesota legislature, whose election in 1979 she feels foreshadowed the 1980 national election. "We elected a lot of people running on a platform against government — getting government off their backs and out of their lives." The result, as Kahn saw it, was a kind of "negative" session, where old legislation was attacked, and little new legislation created. She was more encouraged by the feel of the last session. "There's a different atmosphere," she concludes, "certainly among the Democrats (a feeling) that we are supposed to help people who can't help themselves, and that sort of thing." While Kahn was disappointed that the 1981 session was stalemated on the budget issue and had to be called into special session, she asserts that the democratic leadership defined its position clearly. "The Governor had for political purposes submitted an irresponsible, unbalanced budget, and we weren't going to pull his coals out of the fire for him and take the responsibility for it."

Kahn finds it difficult to be a liberal these days, with a new wave of conservatism capturing the country. "We do feel somewhat besieged," she admits. "We have to work much harder not just to accomplish new things, but to hold the line, and try to save the things we've worked for all these years. As far as the budget goes, we're in a double bind. We're asked to cut agencies far more than we believe is right, and we cut them in the name of saving some money for additional liberal programs, but that is just enough to save these programs from going backwards." Although she believes that her constituents are sympathetic to these concerns, Kahn found that her work in the 1981 session, particularly her role as chairman of the State Department Division of the Appropriations Committee, was "far more difficult than anything I've ever done before."

Kahn's liberal stance on most issues might be traced, in part, to an eastern upbringing. Born in Brooklyn, she lived on the East Coast for 27 years, attending (at various times) Princeton, M.I.T., Cornell (where she received a B.A. in Physics), and Yale (where she completed a Ph.D in

molecular biology and biophysics). In 1964, when her husband was offered a position in the mathematics department of the University of Minnesota, they moved to Minneapolis, and for a year Kahn concentrated her energies on caring for her two children. Kahn herself joined the staff of the University's department of genetics and cell biology in 1965 as a research associate, a job which she ended ten years later in a discrimination suit against the University. She believes she was unfairly denied a tenured position. "I should have been offered a regular faculty position," she maintains. "Instead, I was a research assistant for 10 years." The case will go to trial this summer.

It was during these years that Kahn, an avowed feminist, became involved with the National Organization for Women (NOW). In 1971 she became a founding member of Minnesota's Women's Political Caucus, and a year later she was one of

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a group of NOW representatives who took Hubert Humphrey to task for maintaining an all-male staff. Not surprisingly, it was through the women's movement that Kahn was first introduced to politics. Stepping into Minnesota's Capitol for the first time in 1971 to lobby for NOW, Kahn was both excited and appalled by what she saw. "First of all there was only one woman in the entire legislature at that time — one out of 200. And the women lobbyists were held in some contempt by men legislators. They were too busy to talk with us and they were very unconcerned about our issues. The other thing was: I'd never paid much attention to what the state legislature does, but by hanging around, I saw how many issues they deal with and how it touches people's lives in so many ways. So I became sort of hooked on the process, but also I felt a real irritation at the lack of impact women were making on the field."

At that particular time Minnesota was undergoing some redistricting, and Phyllis Kahn found herself "sitting in what was obviously a very nice district for me to run

in, which had no incumbent." So she ran. Her competition consisted of four male candidates and one of the candidate's secretary "in case there was a women's vote." It was Kahn's toughest race, but it was nevertheless hers all the way. "The votes weren't close," she recalls, "but it seemed close."

Thus Phyllis Kahn blazed her way into the Minnesota legislature in 1972, and the freshman legislator was soon on her feet, startling her fellow representatives with a bold proclamation to end the bombing in Vietnam. Kahn was able to push the bill through the House, but it never passed the Senate because the bombing had by that time been stopped. She views the incident as a learning experience. "I got embroiled in a controversial situation right away," she admits. "There were difficulties with it and I had to start using parliamentary motions on the floor of the House. People around me would tell me to say something and I'd say it. I was told later that someone at the desk said they were really impressed with the freshman legislator knowing on her first bill how to 'progress' the bill." She laughs. "I didn't know how to do it. Someone just told me to say 'I want to progress the bill,' and I said 'What does that mean?' and he said 'I'll tell you later, just say it.'"

Kahn learned fast, and by the end of that first session she had already defined her position as an activist legislator. "I had a baptism by fire," she says. But after eight years she's still proud of that initiation. "You learn quickly what the legislative process is going to be like when you get in trouble on those kinds of issues. And it's nicer to have it happen on those kinds of issues than when you're carrying the whole welfare budget for the state, or something that would really matter if you messed it up."

Soon Kahn was able to use her hard-won knowledge and influence to promote discussion of women's issues. She sponsored the first bills for no-fault divorce, which allowed a marriage to dissolve without legal charges being filed. In 1974, a person with whom she had worked at NOW brought her some proposed legislation: a bill demanding equal opportunity for females in school and recreation league sports. Kahn managed to push the bill through the legislature, and it soon became known as the "Kahn Act." As a law, however, the Kahn Act drew powerful opposition. Critics claimed that the law burdened the school districts, and the Minnesota School League and Minnesota School Board Association sponsored legislation to modify it. Kahn fought hard to preserve the law's potency, but in a 5-1/2 hour debate — the longest of the session — her efforts proved futile.

Yet even modified, the law has shown results which encourage its sponsor. According to newspaper accounts, female participation in sports more than



doubled in Minnesota in the five years following the law's passage. Kahn attributes part of this success to the fact that the federal Title IX, which prohibits sexual discrimination in federally-assisted organized sports programs, was passed around the same time. But she is nevertheless pleased with the Kahn Act's effect. Certainly, she points out, the situation has changed radically since she was in school, when she didn't participate in sports because none were offered for women.

Although she never had the benefits of a Kahn Act as a child, Kahn claims that she has always been "active outside," and that is where she likes to spend her limited free hours. She enjoys tennis, skiing, and biking with her husband and children, and has sponsored legislation creating bicycle registration in Minnesota. She also likes to cook — she bakes her own bread whenever possible — and read. Besides her standard store of newspapers and magazines, Kahn admits to reading many books on political theory these days, while other books she would like to read (on art or anthropology) get piled on shelves.

A great deal of energy and thought has also gone into raising her two children; Tamar, now a student at the University of Wisconsin, and Jeremy, a junior in high school. "I've always encouraged them to be independent, not to bow to social pressures," she explains. "But I've also encouraged them to have social concerns — to realize they have to do things to help people." Kahn explains that this has been her ideal, though her success ratio may not be 100%. She admits that being in politics is "incredibly hard on a family," because of the time commitments and public exposure, but she says that her husband (who still teaches at the University) and children have been basically supportive.

It was her children who sparked Kahn's interest in distance running. "They started it first," she says. "They were both on track teams at school. But they dropped out for various reasons before I could run them into the ground — or maybe when I could run them into the ground," she laughs. Kahn took up running three years ago as a way "to get the most exercise in the smallest amount of time. I could run out of the house and if I ran for five minutes I'd be exhausted," she says. But her running became more than just exercise when she began racing competitively. She brushes off the numerous ribbons and trophies she's won as the result of the "over forty" class in which she runs, but in truth Kahn ran well enough in local races to qualify for the Boston Marathon last April. She ran the 26.2 mile race in slightly over 3 hours 31 minutes, placing "next to the last of the recorded Minnesota women" she says. Although that was only one and a half minutes longer than the time for which she aimed, Kahn

was disappointed with her performance. "It was harder than I expected it to be," she explains. "It was a harder, hillier course." Another unfortunate factor was the fact that the marathon took place at a difficult point in the legislative session when, Kahn says, "I was waking up in the middle of the night worrying about the budget."

But the determination it takes to run a marathon is valuable in legislative work, and Kahn has demonstrated persistence and resilience on many issues. She undauntedly presents her perennial bill to lessen the penalties for prostitution in each session, and in each session the bill — which would make prostitution a misdemeanor, punishable by a fine — is defeated or radically diluted. But Kahn remains optimistic. "I'd like to get rid of all of our crimes that deal with consenting adults," she explains. "As far as prostitution is concerned, I'd like us to deal with the problem of juvenile prostitution, which I consider to be a form of child abuse, and to leave adult prostitutes alone except for giving them police protection." Kahn believes that juvenile prostitutes should be treated as neglected dependant children, and that their families should be held responsible for their actions. She hopes to introduce a bill that would deal with the juvenile issue during the 1982 session.

Some of Kahn's opponents would claim that her determination in pursuing her liberal ideals is out of step with the times and an increasingly conservative trend in the country. Tom Long, her Independent-Republican opponent in the last election ran on such a platform. "Her particular point of view is out of touch with the world at large. There's clearly a different trend in the nation," he says, sighting the election of Ronald Reagan as an indication.

But even Long, like others who disagree with Kahn's ideology, is forced to admit that her viewpoints do represent her district. State Representative Mary Forsythe (R) from Edina maintains: "She has a highly intelligent liberal constituency and she represents them well. Phyllis and I don't always agree," Forsythe adds. "Quite often we disagree. She is not as interested as I am in holding down taxes. But the people she represents are public employees. The people I represent are not."

Kahn's persistence in pursuing some issues, like the prostitution bill, are balanced by a moderate stance on other issues. Kahn is not entirely the Don Quixote figure, unrealistically tilting at ideological windmills, that the press has made her seem. On the controversial issue of nuclear power, for instance, she describes herself as a moderate. "I'm not in favor — mainly because I know what kind of destruction it would cause — of shutting down the plants. But I am for putting every kind of

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Her competition consisted of four male candidates and one of the candidate's secretary "in case there was a women's vote."

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constraint on their operation that we possibly can." Kahn was the chief author of a bill passed in the 1980 session which required nuclear power plants to fund their own emergency and safety plans. In 1982 she plans to support a bill on nuclear waste disposal which passed the House committee last term.

In her five terms as state representative, Kahn has seen a great deal of change in the Minnesota legislature. With 24 women legislators now representing various districts in the state, and women on every committee, there is no doubt in her mind that their impact is increasing. Still, Kahn is relieved that Minnesota passed the Equal Rights Amendment in 1973, and they don't have to deal with it today. "I'm just glad we don't have to run that through the legislature again," she says with a wry look. "I'm not *completely* sure it would be passed."

In nine years she's learned a lot about compromise, too. While she is hardly fiscally conservative, Kahn admits to having lost points on the Americans for Democratic Action rating because she would not support any amendments for increased appropriations suggested on the floor of the House. "I've been a member of the Appropriations Committee since I first came in," she explains, "and you have to stick to the committee judgments even if you don't fully appreciate them, because it's just a whole delicately balanced package." She pauses, and adds: "You get used to being in a position to do a fair amount of negotiating and compromising. You know you can't get everything as pure as you'd like."

Yet despite this realistic position, Kahn retains a basic optimism about the legislative process and what it can accomplish. "The legislature has a basic sense of equality that other institutions don't have," she claims. "It's just its nature. Everybody's been elected from the same size district, their vote counts the same, they get the same salary, they can't be fired. . . ." There is a tone of respect in her voice. It's obvious that Kahn believes in her work. ■

MNA

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AUG 16 1981

# Legislator may Ask Explanation Of Grain Inspection Fee Hike

DULUTH, Minn. (AP) — State Rep. Phyllis Kahn says a House committee may ask for an explanation from the Minnesota Department of Agriculture of its 35 percent increase in grain inspection fees.

Rep. Kahn, DFL-Minneapolis, chairwoman of the state departments division of the House Appropriations Committee, said Friday the committee may ask Agriculture Department officials to explain the fee increase that took effect August 1.

The fee increase has been cited as one reason for grain companies deciding to do their own inspections of incoming grain, leading to a possible lay-

off of half the state's grain inspectors for lack of work.

Inspections of incoming grain are voluntary, and the grain companies must pay a fee to the state for the service. Only grain shipped overseas must be officially inspected by the state.

Inbound inspections have usually provided about 60 percent of the inspectors' workload.

However, Archer-Daniels-Midland, Continental Grain Co., Grain Terminal Association and the Bunge Co. have informed the state Agriculture Department they were stopping inbound grain inspections. Cargill Inc. said

earlier it would follow suit if its competitors stopped inspections to cut costs.

All Minnesota grain inspectors reported back to work following settlement of the state employees' strike, but 100 or more of the state's 350 inspectors are sent home each morning on a "standby basis" because there is no work.

Those sent home receive three hours of pay each day they are on standby under a clause in the recently-negotiated contract with Council 6 of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, said John Baumgartner, commissioner of the state Agriculture Department.

However, Baumgartner said notice will be sent out by the end of August terminating jobs for 150 to 200 of the grain inspectors.

The state's grain inspection service was removed from the Agriculture Department's regular budget by the Minnesota Legislature this year and now works independently with money raised from fees charged to grain companies. Inspection fees were raised Aug. 1 to cover anticipated costs of running the inspection service.

However, Rep. Kahn said that while the fee increase was legal.

# Governor's residence fund may be cut deeper

By Lori Sturdevant  
Staff Writer

When Gov. Al Quie put together his plan for balancing the state budget, he proposed to cut 12.4 percent from the budgets of most state agencies and 6.9 percent from the funds for the governor's residence.

DFL Rep. Phyllis Kahn of Minneapolis wondered about that and a few other things. So she wrote Quie and asked him explain the proposal to her appropriations subcommittee, which was reviewing the agency budgets.

On Dec. 2, Quie wrote Kahn, rejecting her invitation and advising her to send her questions to the finance commissioner or the governor's office.

On Dec. 4, Kahn wrote Quie, asking, "Why is the recommended budget reduction for the Ceremonial House (the governor's residence) only 6.9 percent?"

On Dec. 5, Quie wrote Kahn, telling her that Administration Commissioner James Hiniker recommended the 6.9 percent cut, based on "his judgment as to how he could best administer his department."

On Dec. 8, Kahn wrote Quie, saying that Hiniker had told the committee the 6.9 percent proposed cut originated with the residence manager —



Phyllis Kahn

who reports to Quie's wife, Gretchen — not Hiniker. "Please clarify," she asked.

On Dec. 9, Hiniker wrote Kahn, confirming what he had told the committee.

On Dec. 10, Quie wrote Kahn, saying Hiniker had clarified the matter in his letter of Dec. 9.

On Dec. 15, Kahn wrote Quie, saying that she understood Quie's letter to mean the residence manager did propose the cut and that she still didn't understand why the residence budget "was dealt with so kindly ...

Mansion continued on page 8A

## Mansion Continued from page 1A

particularly in light of your statement ... comparing your method of reducing agency requests to those used by a family."

That same day, the House Appropriations Committee voted to cut the residence budget 12.4 percent — \$47,280 from a biennial budget of \$381,300.

Meanwhile, on Dec. 14, Hiniker asked John Pemble, the governor's office accountant and a member of the administration department staff, to ask Sheila Huston, the residence manager who reports to Gretchen Quie, to prepare a 12.4 percent budget cut for the residence. Huston agreed.

Pemble said he and Huston had agreed last month that the residence should aim for a 6 percent cut, no more.

"They are under an extremely tight budget — they've had a hard time managing all along," he said. He said he's not sure Kahn's inquiries were behind Hiniker's request that the residence prepare a 12.4 percent budget cut, "but I'm sure that's part of it."

Quie's staff has not prepared a reply to Kahn's letter of Dec. 15, said Quie press secretary Cathy Kennedy. But both parties to the correspondence are hoping it ends soon.

As Kahn noted in her most recent letter, "This attempt to resolve policy through correspondence has not been very productive."

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FEB 13 1987

## Kahn says keeping bars open until 3 a.m. would make roads safer for non-drinkers

ST. PAUL (AP) -- The House Commerce and Economic Development Committee decided Thursday to study the question of whether keeping Minnesota bars open two hours later -- until 3 a.m. -- would make highways safer for non-drinkers.

Rep. Phyllis Kahn, DFL-Minneapolis, said she introduced the bill as a serious proposal. She said it's included as a safety measure

against drunken drivers.

"It's one of the cheaper and more meaningful things we can do to help control the havoc that people are complaining about," said Mrs. Kahn.

But she also conceded to lawmakers that, "the first reaction tends to be laughter -- that this is some kind of a joke."

Mrs. Kahn said there is far less traffic on streets and

highways around 3 a.m. At 1 a.m., people who have spent a night on the town head for home along with night-shift workers and others who may have spent the evening at a social event.

"I'm trying to give innocent people more protection from drunken drivers," said Mrs. Kahn. "Traffic density at 3 a.m. is far, far less than from 12 to 1."

Mrs. Kahn said studies indicate that increasing the

drinking hours does not lead to an increase in accidents but only moves the frequency of accidents to a later time, after the bars close.

She said Montana had that experience after deciding to keep bars open an extra hour to 2 a.m., and the Australian city of Victoria had a similar experience with a 3 a.m. closing.

"I'm trying to move that (traffic) peak over to where there are less innocent victims on the road," said Mrs. Kahn.

There were many skeptics. "We're going to be contributing to the problem rather than helping it," said Rep. Marcus Marsh, R-Sauk Rapids. "The longer the bars are open, the longer the people are going to stay and the drunker they're going to get."

But Rep. Mark Peipho, R-Mankato, said the proposal should not be lightly dismissed. "I'm kind of intrigued by this," he said. "I think there's some logic to it."

Lawmakers finally voted, on a one-sided voice vote, to lay the bill over for study during the interim.

Rep. John Sarna, DFL-Minneapolis, committee chairman, said he was certain that there wasn't enough support to pass the bill this year.

Sarna said his first reaction was similar to Marsh's, but after thinking about the idea he decided to co-sponsor the bill.

# Six women: Faculty members who decided to fight the system

By Ellen Foley  
Staff Writer

They told Shyamala Rajender you can't fight Morrill Hall. Friends and colleagues warned her that she could not take on the University of Minnesota and survive emotionally and professionally.

But Rajender and 277 other women took the risk, accepting their turn as part of the struggle for women's rights.

"What we have accomplished by legal action is only a small part of the [court's role of] educating the educators about the legal rights of women," said Federal District Judge Miles Lord, who heard the Rajender case beginning in 1973.

He said department chairmen, deans and colleagues have called the women troublemakers. And he predicts that they will be rewarded throughout their careers for their decision to go public with their complaints.

He said he has never seen a case in which a woman was completely successful in bringing a sex discrimination claim.

"By the time she has won her case, she has so frightened the men she works with that she's a marked person for the rest of her life. For a woman to bring a sex discrimination suit is a real act of feminine heroism — win or lose," he said.

A look at six of the Rajender claimants shows the complex personal side of suing a person's employer when the employer is a major university.

From her suburban home outside San Francisco, Rajender recently spoke about the "arrogance and stupidity" of the university leadership during her seven-year battle.

Rajender claimed in 1973 she had been denied a job that would lead to tenure. After reviews by university committees and the state Department of Human Rights had



"I thought that what they were doing was legally, ethically and morally wrong . . . too many other women had walked away from it."

— Shyamala Rajender

failed to force the university to end the discrimination, Rajender took the university to court.

She received a settlement including \$100,000 from the university in 1980, but it had taken seven years of depositions, courtroom battles and recriminations. She said there were many days when she wanted to drop the case, but her husband and two children would not let her retreat.

Rajender said she had very little support from the women on campus. She had asked some of them to testify and they refused. Then she asked them just to sit in the courtroom to let the judge know that there were other women on campus with similar concerns. They said no again.

"Much to my disillusionment and disappointment women on campus didn't want to associate with me because they were afraid of getting in trouble . . . I felt very alone. There was absolutely no support, no word of encouragement or financial or even moral support from women on campus," she said.

She said she is angry that it took so long for other women to find the courage to file their own complaints.

"Now they see some money come in and they want to jump on the bandwagon," she said.

"Unless women stand together, work together and fight together it will be difficult to [change attitudes] because discrimination pervades society," she said.

She said the university had tried to overturn her case's certification as a class action suit because other women would not step forward and say the problems were not just Rajender's but were occurring to women throughout the university.

Some women who have filed complaints remain at the university. Rajender said that was not possible in her case.

Not only was her contract for the 1972-73 school year not renewed, she could not find another job in academia. She said some prospective employers were initially enthusiastic but suddenly their interest would drop. She said people from those departments later told her that the schools had called the chemistry department and officials had told them that she was a troublemaker. She is now a lawyer.

## April Knutson

April Knutson, a lecturer in General College, received her Ph.D. in French last year, surviving the many years of graduate school. For almost 13 years, she was a teaching associate and a lecturer at the University of Minnesota.

Now Knutson says she is near the breaking point. Since February when it became public that she had settled a sex bias complaint, Knutson said she has received open harassment from colleagues.

Her appointment ends June 15, and Knutson said "I think they want to make sure that I don't come back here."



"I've been told that it's just a shame that someone as talented as I (am) is unemployed. But there are thousands of other Ph.D.s who also don't have jobs."

— April Knutson

She said her personal life has suffered and the enthusiasm she had for teaching in the open admissions college has been drained by the harassment.

She filed a complaint under the Rajender consent decree, and in the summer of 1981 her case was the first the university settled out of court. She is bound by a strict confidentiality clause in the agreement not to discuss its terms, but she could say that she filed a complaint because she was denied a job. Before the agreement she was a teaching associate, and this fall after completing her Ph.D. she was given a lecturer position teaching English composition in General College.

Things went smoothly until early February when a newspaper article reported that she had settled a sex bias complaint. Then she said she noticed a change in attitude toward her.

Her teaching schedule was changed and plans to relocate her office were made without consulting her, she said. She also said the percentage of

minority students in her class, which is tailored for minorities, was decreased without her knowledge.

She also said colleagues have made derogatory comments.

Candido Zanoni, Knutson's supervisor and chief of the Arts, Communication and Philosophy Division of the General College, said that if Knutson's schedule or the makeup of her classes was changed, it was not because people in the department were trying to harass her. He also said he has never heard derogatory comments about Knutson in the department.

Knutson said she has not decided whether she will file another sex bias suit. However, two professors have consulted attorneys about possibly filing libel suits against Knutson.

She said her tenured colleagues seem to feel threatened by her. Perhaps the financial problems of the university make them fear tenure will not protect their jobs while a sex discrimination ruling could protect hers, she said.

"I try to see things objectively. I've been told that it's just a shame that someone as talented as I is unemployed. But there are thousands of other Ph.D.s who also don't have jobs," she said.

She said the university has made strides since she arrived 11 years ago. Many more tenured women have been hired, she said.

## Eva Keuls

Eva Keuls' resume has an impressive list of awards and publications. Yet, after more than 20 years in academia, Keuls said she still feels women — even those like herself at the top ranks of the university — face sex discrimination.

A professor of classics at the University of Minnesota, Keuls claimed in a Rajender complaint that she was passed over for



"I said to myself, 'I don't care if it kills me emotionally or if they fire me, I'm going through with it.'"

— Eva Keuls

promotion and salary increases because of her sex.

In January 1982, Keuls and the university settled out of court. The terms of the agreement are confidential.

Keuls said that a Rajender complainant may face ostracism in her department. She said many failed to file because they knew they were not up to the emotional strain.

Keuls said her scholarship was far ahead of her colleagues, but her pay was behind them. "I said to myself, 'I don't care if it kills me emotionally or if they fire me, I'm going through with it,'" she said.

Friends from other departments and outside the university were very helpful, she said. But no faculty member in her department even mentioned the complaint to her despite newspaper stories.

Keuls said the university is deliberately denying her perquisites such as a sabbatical, which she eventually received after a fight.

Women continued on page 5C

## Women

Continued from page 1C

She said it is disillusioning for her that after two decades as a renowned scholar, she would be "slandered and smeared and have to go to court to get routine awards."

### Phyllis Kahn

Even after almost 10 years in the rough-and-tumble politics business, Phyllis Kahn still got angry when she read over her sex bias case against the university before her court date in 1981.

"I'm someone very used to that, to a lot of give-and-take because of my 10 years in the Legislature. If it affected me so strongly, what is it doing to people who have been in the really sheltered environment of the university?" she asked.

Kahn settled with the university in January 1982, 14 years after she began pointing out allegedly sexist practices in the College of Biological Sciences. Kahn claimed she was denied a position that could have lead to tenure and was kept at the research associate level in which she had to apply for grants through another faculty member. Because she had to use someone else's name, the grants were more difficult to win, she said.

She said she was "extremely naive" throughout her struggle. She said she thought as soon as she pointed out the inequity, the department chairman would correct the situation. When that failed, she said she asked the dean and then faculty committees and then the Equal Employment Opportunities Commission and then the courts, thinking all along that the next authority would see the obvious problem and rectify it. She said she hopes women now are not so naive.



**"The sense of frustration, the sense that there had to be some hope somewhere else pushed me into the women's rights movement and the Legislature."**

—Phyllis Kahn

In 1972, she said, she had prodded a proposal for a two-year grant through the appropriate channels. Dean Richard Caldecott called her at the last moment and said he was reducing it to a one-year proposal. Kahn received a letter from Caldecott that linked the cutback and her continued employment with her discrimination complaints.

It was at that point that the researcher with the Ph.D. from Yale decided that it was time to "change things from the top rather than the bottom." Kahn the scientist became Kahn the politician.

"The sense of frustration, the sense that there had to be some hope somewhere else pushed me into the women's rights movement and the Legislature," she said.

And although she felt she had a strong case, she agreed to a conciliatory settlement because "I just couldn't take the interference in my life as a legislator any more."

### Florence Gleason

Gleason has a Ph.D. from the University of Iowa and was a post-doctorate fellow at the Freshwater Biological Institute from 1974 to 1978. She has received prestigious research grants and discovered cyanobacteria, a naturally occurring alga that could help clean up Minnesota's algae-choked lakes.

Yet Gleason claimed in a suit she was denied an assistant professor position three times between 1976 and 1977 because she was a woman. She said she was never treated as a serious candidate. The university went through the hiring motions "just for show," she said.

She said that before she filed her suit, Richard Caldecott, the dean of the College of Biological Sciences tried to talk her out of it. She said he told her the publicity would harm the university.

Caldecott said he could not comment on the case because it has not been settled. (Lord has not ruled on Gleason's attorney's fees.)

Unlike other claimants, Gleason did not get a settlement offer from the university. Her case was tried before the panel of special masters, who in July 1981 ruled in her favor. She was awarded an assistant professorship, \$15,000 in laboratory start-up costs and \$15,242 in back pay. Because legal fees have not been settled, she said she has not yet received the lab costs or the back pay.



**"You get very angry and you have to submerge yourself [in your work] or you never get anything done. It can ruin your life if you let it dominate your life and your feelings."**

—Florence Gleason

She said the trial was emotionally draining: "You get very angry and you have to submerge yourself [in your work] or you never get anything

done. It can ruin your life if you let it dominate your life and your feelings."

### Silvia Azar

Silvia Azar considered herself luckier than other women who were alleging sex discrimination against the university. If she lost and was fired from her position as assistant professor in the medical school, Azar, a physician, would lose the opportunities for research and teaching, but she could go back to clinical work.

She said she felt isolated in her five-year fight over promotion and salary issues. She said she and her husband have brought up their six children "to fight for what is right" and she knew she couldn't back down.

She filed her first grievance through a university committee in 1977. She also filed complaints with the Equal Employment Opportunities Commission and the state Human Rights Commission. In 1979, she joined the Rajender class action suit.

In February 1982, the university offered Azar \$97,608 in damages, back pay and attorney's fees. She was given a \$20,000 a year raise. A short time before the settlement she had been promoted to associate professor and given tenure.

An authority in kidney disease in the Department of Internal Medicine,



**"Women should be constantly fighting for one or two generations to make it go."**

—Silvia Azar

Azar had received a prestigious National Career Research Development Award. Male professors who had received the award had been associate professors when they received the award or were promoted to that rank when they received it. Azar was not.

She said it was difficult to disassociate her daily work from the legal battles and her productivity suffered. And although she did not get support in her department, she did get help from women in the university and her family.

She said she thinks her battle did some good in the medical school by "shaking up some people and making them think."

## U of M new hires

	1980		Percent	1981		Percent
	Male	Female		Male	Female	
Executive, administrative, managerial	10/	3	23.1%	7/	0	0.0%
Faculty, tenured	11/	1	8.3	10/	3	23.1
Faculty, non-tenured on track	58/	21	26.6	47/	28	37.3
Faculty, other non-tenured	127/	52	29.1	79/	41	34.2
Professional non-faculty	38/	28	42.4	56/	52	48.1
Total	244/	105	30.1	199/	124	38.4

Source: EEOC report filed with federal government

# Minnesota ERA alive, Kahn says

By Bill Gardner  
Staff Writer

Although the national Equal Rights Amendment went down to defeat this summer, Minnesota ERA supporters are well on their way to enacting a state ERA, state Rep. Phyllis Kahn, DFL-Minneapolis, said Monday.

Sixty-three representatives and 24 senators already have agreed to co-sponsor legislation providing a state ERA. Kahn told the weekly Newsmaker Luncheon at the Minnesota Press Club. Others have said they will support such legislation but don't want to join the list of co-sponsors, Kahn said.

ERA supporters refrained from trying to pass a state ERA during the years of battle for a national ERA, Kahn said, because "We didn't want to dilute the national effort."

Kahn predicted that, by the time the bill is introduced later this year, more than half the members of the state Legislature will be co-sponsors. "This is not a dead issue in Minnesota — it's a very alive, potent issue," she said.

Seventeen other states have ERAs "in some form or other," Kahn said.

Sue Abderholden, National Organization for Women (NOW) Twin Cities chapter president, said the ERA defeat has led to a renewed determination and political activism on the part of women. The NOW's national membership has doubled since Ronald Reagan was elected president, she said.

Abderholden promised that politicians opposed to the ERA will feel the wrath of women in November.

The new battle for a national ERA already has begun, Abderholden said, although the ratification process will have to start over in each state. The ERA was ratified by 35 of the needed 38 states by the June 30 deadline.

"It (the ERA movement) is not going to die off just because June 30 has passed," Abderholden said.

# Kahn's running just never stops

By Jim Wells  
Staff Writer

It is never enough to say that Phyllis Kahn is running again. It only raises questions among the people who know her.

Is the subject politics, or marathons?

It's all interrelated, Kahn says — the athletic part of her life is an outgrowth of her political side.

"There is a relationship between these things," she explained. "The whole thing of women's athletics is part of the women's rights movement. And I came into politics from the movement."

She first ran for the Minnesota Legislature in 1972. Five years later, she became interested in jogging.

"I've been doing it since 1977; compulsively since 1978," she said. "When I first started, I got about a half block from my house and thought, 'Anything that can make me feel this rotten must be good for me.'"

The idea of a marathon always held a certain appeal for Kahn, but she started running for other reasons.

"I started to see a lot of runners around and it was just about this time that we got a new dog," she explained. "I figured the exercise would do us both good."

Kahn currently finds herself preparing for two races. The first requires a certain amount of footwork; the second a final few days of rest. She's seeking a sixth straight term as state representative from District 57A in Minneapolis, as well as "just getting a lot of sleep" this week for the first Twin Cities Marathon Sunday.

Political race or foot race, Kahn has been successful.

In 1981, she was Minnesota Runner of the Year in her age division (40-50) after winning Grandma's Marathon and a number of 10-mile, 10-kilometer, and five-mile races in her division.

Sunday's marathon will be the 12th for Kahn, whose best time is three hours and 18 minutes.

"The charm of marathon running," she said, "is that it's a recognized athletic accomplishment that any clod like me can achieve. I can watch a tennis tournament at Forest Hills on television and like to be there playing against Billie Jean King, but that isn't going to happen. But with running, the gun goes off for a person like Dick Beardsley and me at the same time."

During the peak period of training for a marathon — the final six weeks — Kahn runs 70 to 80 miles a week. "Otherwise, I'll do 50 miles a week," she said. "That seems to fit well with the schedule I keep."  
Sunday's race is special to

\$78



Phyllis Kahn  
In two races now

Kahn. She is on the board of directors for the event and has worked for this marathon a long time.

"The two cities have a lot to offer," she said. "I've run in Chicago and New York and the whole concept of this race, from start to finish, is beautiful. I've run the lakes in Minneapolis and they're beautiful. And the foliage as you cross the Lake Street bridge and the Edgemoor area in St. Paul are gorgeous. All we need is a little help from the weather to make this a truly beautiful race."

There is a "dog" story in every runner's life. It usually is an episode titled "my worst experience ever."

Kahn has hers.

"It was about three years ago," she said, "during a vacation trip to Africa. My whole life flashed before my eyes. I was running along the perimeter of the hotel compound when a water buffalo came out of nowhere and charged at me. I don't think I've ever run that fast in my life."



# State lawmakers preparing to wage own battle for ERA

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By Jacquil Banaszynski  
Staff Writer

Whatever the fate of federal efforts to pass an equal rights amendment, Minnesota is preparing to push off on its own.

The opening days of the 1983 Legislature already have seen 26 bills offered by 120 lawmakers, that would give the state's voters the chance to amend their own constitution to provide for equal rights for women.

Just six months after the narrow defeat of a 10-year campaign to ratify the proposed ERA nationally, "it's heartening to see that people do have a recourse and a way of continuing, and that we're not going to give up," said Linda Berglin, a DFL state senator from south Minneapolis.

Nor is Minnesota alone. The Wisconsin Legislature is expecting a similar campaign.

On the opening day of Congress last

week, a bill proposing an equal rights amendment to the U.S. Constitution was reintroduced in the House of Representatives bearing 224 signatures.

"If you look at what was really happening in most states that didn't ratify the ERA, the polls showed that the public favored ratification," Berglin said. Defeat was "the product of some legislators and some fear and some misunderstanding or lack of knowledge about the issue," she said. "It wasn't really the sentiment of the people that the ERA was not enacted."

The sentiment of the people of Minnesota leans toward a Minnesota ERA, according to the latest Minnesota Poll. The Minneapolis Tribune reported Sunday that, of the Minnesotans polled Jan. 4-8, 60 percent were in favor of such an amendment to the state's constitution. Twenty-seven percent were opposed and 13 percent didn't know or didn't answer.

Phyllis Kahn, a Minneapolis DFLer



Rep. Phyllis Kahn

who is Berglin's counterpart on feminist issues in the House of Representatives, said last year's failure to ratify equal rights as an amendment to the U.S. Constitution probably helped provide some impetus locally.

"Women throughout the state made this a real issue to candidates in the fall elections," she said. "The defeat of the ERA nationally showed that it was appropriate to move on a state-by-state basis."

Sixteen state constitutions already guarantee equal rights for men and

ERA continued on page 2B

# ERA

Continued from page 10

women. Thirty-five states, including Minnesota, had ratified the federal amendment, three short of the number needed to revise the U.S. Constitution. (Illinois is the only state in the Upper Midwest that has a state ERA. Ironically, it also was one of the holdouts against ratification of a federal ERA.)

Berglin and Kahn said they also intend to submit bills urging Congress to revive the federal ERA. Meanwhile, they predicted that pro-ERA action will be focused on the state level. Once enough states have amended their own constitutions, the impetus will spill over to Congress, they said.

The Minnesota ERA bills are identical, calling for a November 1981 ballot measure that would ask voters to amend the state constitution. Even legislators who are skeptical of such an amendment seem eager to pass the question along to the voters.

"A lot of legislators are just going to vote yes on the thing and get it out of the way," said Sen. Florian Chmielewski, DFL-Stillwater. "Referendum guarantees the people the right to vote on controversial issues or things of this type that the Legislature doesn't want to handle itself."

However, neither Kahn nor Berglin is being cavalier about a Minnesota ERA.

"It looks like we have it," Kahn said, noting that 106 of the state's 134 representatives have vowed support for the House bill. (To date, 27 of 67 senators have sponsored bills in that chamber, but more are expected.) "I think there's really strong grass-roots support for it. But you never have it until it's there."

If the bill passes the Legislature, a real campaign will begin, Berglin said. Getting support from a fickle voting public, especially during a presidential election, can be tricky business.

A constitutional amendment needs an affirmative vote from a majority of voters casting ballots in the election. A failure to vote on the ballot measure is counted as a negative vote, meaning that the ERA probably would need as much as a 53 percent yes vote to pass.)

The pro-ERA efforts will not go unchallenged. Although several legislators have joined the ERA bandwagon, a fight is anticipated from anti-abortion forces, headed by Chmielewski.

The pro-life, pro-choice division

probably will be a significant factor in the Legislature," Chmielewski said. "And if it gets on the ballot, the people only have one chance to vote so they need all the facts."

Chmielewski said affirmative-action laws in Minnesota already are among the best in the nation, nullifying the need for a state ERA. He said the ERA as now written is "hypocritical" because it doesn't guarantee protection for the unborn.

A floor-to-ceiling-length computer printout details all the state laws that would have to be changed to accommodate an ERA, he said. Gendered language would have to be eliminated and laws limiting abortion probably would be thrown out, he said.

Minnesota Eagle Forum and Stop ERA also are organizing to lobby against the bill in the Legislature, and then to carry the anti-ERA campaign to the public, if necessary.

"It's just a matter of getting the word out to the people," said Terry Todd, state director of Eagle Forum, which is affiliated with Phyllis Schlafly's national movement to block the ERA. "What the liberals can't get through their heads is that the conservatives may go along and blend into the countryside to a point—until something has to be done. Then we move."

"And there are a number of liberals who also will see the light," she predicted.

Todd, a former lab technician who now works full time on the anti-ERA campaign and raises four children in South St. Paul, said her group's main focus will be to educate the public about the pitfalls of writing constitutional amendments.

"We have to realize that what one group of people sees as equitable, another group of people does not see as equitable," she said. "What the ERA boils down to is a total neutralizing of the male-female gender in the Minnesota statutes. If you neutralize totally, then you remove mother and father and put in parent, you remove husband and wife and put in spouse."

Todd said a state ERA would sanction homosexual marriages, result in integrated prisons and eliminate alimony protection for many career homemakers.

"If there's an inequity in the law and I grant you there have been inequities, they must be changed. But it should be done on a statute-by-statute basis," she said. "Then, if a

some point in time you determine it's not exactly what you wanted and it has to be altered, you don't have to overcome the problem of repealing a constitutional amendment."

However, it is just such a law-by-law approach to equal rights that rankles ERA supporters.

"The constitution is the vehicle that is used to protect people's basic freedoms in spite of what legislators might do and what time might bring," Berglin said. "It's important to remember that laws are made by people, most of whom are men, and those laws can be unmade."

"In the last 10 years we have gone through a lot of consciousness-raising

ing; but that doesn't negate the need to have a basic foundation of laws to build these laws," she said. "I provide in our constitution the basic guarantee of equality for everyone, also based on everything else except sex. I think it was a basic oversight in the original constitution of this country, and therefore in many of the constitutions of our states."

Berglin said a state ERA would have minimal impact on current laws, daily life in Minnesota. A constitutional amendment probably would necessitate some legal housecleaning, and would erase some "stilted" provisions of state law, such as one requiring that all men—but not women—help in fire-fighting efforts.

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**Telecommunications council proposed**

ST. PAUL (AP) — Making Minnesota "second to none," in telecommunications operations is the goal of a bill sponsored by Rep. Phyllis Kahn, DFL-Minneapolis.

Ms. Kahn said Monday that "telecommunications systems will be as important in business location decisions as roads, rivers, airports and highways were in the past."

Government, private and public broadcasting organizations and others interested in developing a telecommunications system would be represented on the new Minnesota Telecommunications Council, Ms. Kahn said.

The bill has received the support of Gov. Rudy Perpich, who together with the Legislature would receive the benefit of the council's advice on all aspects of telecommunications. The system is part of Perpich's plan to develop high technology in the state.

Ms. Kahn said Minnesota has "the timely opportunity," to develop a telecommunications system which could attract future businessmen to the state. Establishing a council with a singular mission of developing such a system greatly improves the chance for success, Ms. Kahn said.

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**Telecommunications  
council proposed 588**

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## Legislator says Carlson also should cut spending

State Auditor Arne Carlson, who has called for restraint in state government spending, should begin with his own office, Rep. Phyllis Kahn said Thursday.

Carlson, an Independent-Republican, this week criticized a 256 percent spending increase by the state from 1973 to 1983.

During the same period, the growth in the budget of the auditor's office was 287 percent, said Kahn, a Minneapolis DFLer. She is the outgoing chairwoman of a legislative unit that approves the budget for state agencies.

Kahn charged yesterday that when the 1979 Legislature denied Carlson's request for more money from the state's General Fund for new functions in his office, he used money from a revolving fund set up to pay for local government audits. That fund is financed by local audit charges.

Kahn did not suggest that Carlson's use of the revolving fund is illegal.

However, she said, "The revolving fund was also used to finance the cost of (Carlson's) moving to new, more elegant quarters."

She added that his claims that Min-

nesota spending growth was much higher than neighboring states was distorted.

Carlson could not be reached for comment yesterday.

"The state spending Mr. Carlson complains of consists largely of increased aid to individuals and local governments and school systems and decreasing the need for local property taxes," Kahn said. "The increased spending in Mr. Carlson's own budget is a direct cost to local units of government adding to their fiscal burdens."

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# DFLers battling over who will be House speaker

By Betty Wilson  
Staff Writer

DFLers, confident of keeping control of the Minnesota House in the Nov. 6 election, are already taking sides in the battle over who will be House speaker, perhaps the most powerful post in state government after governor.

Whoever is chosen will be in the driver's seat in the House next year when it deals with major tax reform that could determine whether Minnesota becomes a winner or loser in the competition among states and internationally for jobs and business. Other key proposals for 1985 which the speaker has power to encourage or discourage could set the direction of state government for years to come.

This year, the balance of power may be held by the "wood tick" rump faction of about 20 rural, business-oriented DFLers. Such a shift in power would eclipse the liberal DFL membership, with profound impact on tax and jobs legislation.

Wood tick leaders said if they are reelected, they will emphasize business and economic issues in the 1985 session.

At least seven DFL legislators have announced their candidacy or have expressed an interest in succeeding Harry Sieben Jr. of Hastings, who decided not to seek reelection.

Rep. Glen Anderson, 45, a Bell-

ain farmer and a leader of the wood ticks, now in his sixth term.

Rep. Lyndon Carlson, 44, Crystal, a teacher, also in his sixth term.

Phyllis Kahn, Minneapolis, 47, a former legislator and sixth-term.

Fred Norton, 46, a St. Paul lawyer serving his ninth term.

Wayne Simoneau, 49, Fridley, a consultant and fifth-term.

Robert Vanasek, 35, New Prague, a miller and sixth-term.

Ann Wynia, 41, St. Paul, a college instructor and fourth-term.

John Tomlinson of St. Paul withdrew last week, saying he wouldn't have time for the speaker's job.

Norton, one of the first to announce his candidacy, said last week that he has lined up about 25 votes so far. He said he regards himself, Wynia and Anderson as the frontrunners.

(Sieben frequently turned over his gavel to Wynia, an assistant majority leader, giving her experience and exposure in the speaker's chair. But he said he will be neutral in the fight to be his successor.)

Others dispute Norton's frontrunner claim, but say he has the advantage of having no general election opponent and can concentrate on the speaker's race.



Glen Anderson



Fred Norton



Ann Wynia

Norton, who was appropriations committee chairman for seven years, is stressing his experience. He was elected speaker for one year in 1980 by a coalition of DFLers and Independent-Republicans who banded together to keep former Rep. Irv Anderson of International Falls, the choice of a majority of the DFL caucus, from getting the office.

Norton said those bad feelings have dissipated, but admitted, "There may be a handful of people who don't like how I got elected last time."

He and other candidates are promising caucus members fairness and no vendettas in handing out committee seats.

Some DFL caucus member are anxious to avoid the kind of internal battle that took place in 1980 between Norton and Anderson, and are talking about compromises.

"I don't think Glen can make it (enough votes) as speaker," Simoneau said. But if they stick together, "Absolutely, the wood ticks have the balance of power," he said.

Simoneau, who said Norton is within a dozen votes of the number needed to win, said he's considering dropping out of the race himself and trying to put together a Norton-Anderson coalition.

Simoneau said he's talked with Norton about a proposal that would put Norton in the speaker's office and Anderson would have the No. 2 post of majority leader or hold a top committee chairmanship.

Anderson, who nominated Norton for speaker in 1980, doesn't rule out that possibility. But he said he's jokingly told Norton that he should return the favor and nominate Anderson this time.

It's not a conservative versus liberal contest, but the wood ticks have definite ideas about the kind of leadership they want, Anderson said.

"You can bet that if the wood ticks are back in force, it will be a pre-business session. I would say they are going to have a lot to say about things," he said.

The group's clout will get its first test at a "tucknic" fund-raiser Oct. 3 in the parking lot of the Carlton Celebrity Dinner Theatre in Bloomington, where speaker candidates and lobbyists are expected to show up en masse.

"There's a perception that on a particular issue they (wood ticks) are going to, a lot of times, have the say, like on unemployment compensation last time," said lobbyist John Lennes.

House continued on page 165

## House

Continued from page 3B

attesting to the growing strength of the group. "You see more and more legislators who say, 'Well, maybe I'm a wood tick.'"

The best way to campaign for speaker seems to be to help other DFL legislative candidates campaign. Norton and Wynia, who is taking off from her instructor's job this quarter to campaign fulltime, even went door-knocking for Kahn in her primary election contest. Norton reported giving \$11,750 to other candidates from his own campaign treasury.

Rep. James Rice of north Minneapolis, chairman of the appropriations committee, also has been making contributions from his campaign kitty to other DFL legislative candidates. Some of his colleagues speculated that he's seeking to build a voting bloc that will make him a power broker in the speaker's election with an eye to reinforcing his own choice chairmanship.

Rice denied that's the case and said he's made no decision on who he will support, but made it clear it won't be Norton.

"Norton did a disservice to the caucus in starting his campaign very, very early .... I just see it as kind of naked ambition," Rice said.

Rice and others warn that the speaker's race is diverting attention away from the election and caution that DFLers can't take the election for granted.

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## Anti-smoking law drawing praise, says DFL legislator

Associated Press

Minnesotans have had the legal right to breathe smoke-free air indoors for 11 years, and an architect of the tough anti-smoking law said Thursday the statute has worked "incredibly well."

"People often come up to me and say, 'It's the greatest thing that government has ever done for me,'" said state Rep. Phyllis Kahn, who has never smoked.

The Minneapolis DFLer said the 1975 Minnesota Clean Indoor Air Act became a model for laws passed by other states and remains as strong as any in the country. Oregon, Utah and Nebraska later passed similar laws, she added.

Minnesota's law, which has never faced a repeal attempt, allows smoking only in designated indoor areas used by the public or serving as a place of work. That includes restaurants, stores, schools, buses and offices.

The only exceptions are bars serving meals to fewer than 50 people, which can designate the entire premises a smoking area, and factories and warehouses, which are regulated by the Department of Labor and Industry.

"All the complaints that people have are sort of swept away when you go to another state that doesn't have a law," said Kahn, 49.

When Minnesota passed its law, there was little organized opposition from the tobacco industry, Kahn said.

"Our biggest advantage is that we were the first state to pass this kind of comprehensive law. The tobacco industry did not pay any attention to it. In general, the problems that other states have run into is the incredible pressure and interest of the tobacco industry," she said. "One of the strengths of this law is its simplicity. The regulations were left to be set by the Department of Health, which did a very good job of it."

"Another strength was that we did not fund a strong enforcement, so people had time to get used to it gradually. Non-smokers got gradually more assertive, so we never had a backlash," Kahn said.

Lawmakers have decided to make regulations for the Capitol in St. Paul even stronger than state law. Leaders of the House banned smoking in all committee rooms in January 1985, and Senate leaders followed suit a year later.

It was smoke filled committee rooms that got the anti-smoking push started in Minnesota, when former state Sen. Ed Brandt found it hard to breathe during meetings while he was in the Legislature from 1969 to 1971.

"I tried desperately to find a place where I'd be free from it, but it didn't work," Brandt said in a 1980 interview. So, he and a small group of fellow non-smokers formed the Association for Non-Smokers' Rights, which was instrumental in passing the law.

The administration has openly claimed the Central American peace process to which it once gave lip service.

Military operations in Honduras, which Minnesota National Guard troops at

least of to date, stand unopposed, will comprise the United States' part of America's military "Global Force." They will include the future participation and heavy, already participated, activity in military operations. National Guard troops for

2014 have been sent to Honduras. The Minnesota National Guard was involved in Central America, Gen. Rudy Peraza now has decided to challenge the federal law which prohibits him from preventing specific training nur-



Don B. Conover/Staff at Air Guard base.

## View of a Central American Tragedy

by Phyllis Kahn

I knew I was in trouble at the first curious inspection in Honduras. I had arrived as a member of a travel seminar to Honduras, El Salvador and Nicaragua sponsored by the Minnesota Lawyers In International Human Rights Committee. We were there from Dec. 28 to Dec. 31 to meet with political, military, labor and religious leaders, and to visit U.S. embassies, military bases, refugee camps and various communities.

The inspector had opened my bag and found the book *Life from the Mountains: the Making of a Sandinista*, by Dina Calvez. Since he could not read or speak English, the real problem was the book jacket with its photo of a Nicaraguan revolutionary and an FMLN (Sandinista) flag.

The young man called over his book. They poked at the book, poked at me, then went through my luggage examining every sheet of paper. Nearly 50 to several soldiers with rifles. I tried to explain in my primitive Spanish that the book was for my own reading. Finally I was allowed to join the rest of our group, and at the first stop I dumped the book cover in a wastebasket.



San Salvador

The incident was an introduction to the theme that would recur prominently during our trip - heavy military presence and a calculated reverence for, and fear of, ideas.

Thoughtful Hondurans spoke to our group of their tragedy - the second poorest country in the Western Hemisphere, occupied by three armies (the Contras, the U.S. military and the Honduran armed forces). United States military aid to Honduras has increased from \$1 million in 1980 to \$36 million in 1986 - for a country whose national government budget is about \$3.1 billion. It's apparent that increased U.S. military assistance supports the Honduran armed forces at the expense of a fragile civilian government.

We found at one flow military warfare the stark combination of military, political, economic and psychological techniques developed during our counterinsurgency and pacification projects in Vietnam. At Palmerola Base (where the Minnesota National Guard will participate) nearby Tegucigalpa, the capital of Honduras, we were told that the U.S. mission there combines military training with public affairs activities. From a building next to medical care, Camp National Guard and reserve units for about Central American assignments in civ- ily involved questions about the War Powers Act and avoid discussion in Congress about U.S. military involvement.

At Palmerola an American captain delivered a semi-hysterical tirade on the "Soviet threat." He told us all about the Cuban-Marxist-Leninist presence and gave the Central American version of the domino theory: Nicaragua, Honduras, El Salvador, Guatemala, Mexico, and finally Texas eventually falling to the communists. We weren't allowed to look at any of the supply depots (or other areas behind barbed wire) but received an extensive tour of the military field hospital where some malnourished children were being treated.

One Honduran we met - Efraim Diaz Arzavilla, president of the Christian Democratic Party - explained that the threat of war is good for some businesses in Honduras, but that actual war would be a disaster. He said that many fear the United States will provoke a

war between Honduras and Nicaragua. Diaz disputed the U.S. military's claim to be a stabilizing influence. He pointed out that the conditions for revolution in Central America are unstable democracy, unemployment and poverty.

We arrived in El Salvador - a country still suffering from the earthquake which struck last October - and had to walk around piles of rubble to reach our hotel rooms. Between the airport and the city we had observed many military trucks carrying soldiers with M-16s. We also saw cover along the highway - many places where bodies had been found. And we saw our first "lanoleros" - men with stained blue windbreakers - the feared vehicles of the death squads.

We drove to the San Antonio de Barrios Camp (active - a reeducation project). The area had been destroyed by Salvadoran armed forces bombing, but was now open to recruitment.

Military presence seemed particularly heavy that day: it was the anniversary of the infamous murder in 1980 of four American churchwomen. But a safe contact pass from General Adolfo Elías, head of the Salvadoran Armed Forces, allowed us the visit. Although the pass took its straight through several military checkpoints, we were held up for more than an hour at one by soldiers of the Atlacatl Battalion. We weren't encouraged by their hand-lettered sign reading "los perros de la guerra" (the dogs of war), or by our knowledge that Amnesty International has cited the battalion by name for human rights abuses.

We were often amazed during this trip by ordinary people's courage - their hard work and love for the land, working to reestablish this fragile community which could be wiped out by a single bombing raid (with bombs probably supplied by the United States).

At the University of El Salvador, meeting with the law school's dean and student leaders, our group witnessed damage to buildings caused by a 1980 military raid. We were told that the sacking of the university was worse than damage from the earthquake, but that neither the Salvadoran nor the U.S. government had agreed to help rebuild. Passionately they asked us to convey to North Americans

that the university would struggle to be an agent of change, to sponsor peaceful solutions to the country's conflict.

"The peace or war," the dean said, "is not a choice, but a process based on the rights of all and the institutionalization of justice." He observed with deep irony that he had defended Jose Napoleón Duato, the current president, at Duato's court martial in 1972, and so expected that the president could understand the importance of government backed by law rather than force.

The next day we saw disappointment in the Duarte regime expressed more literally in public covering the U.S. in a town's security blockade - slogans such as *Democracia - Terrorismo, Democracia - Terrorismo*, *Democracia - Terror* and *Democracia - Terror* and *Democracia - Terror*.

We met with U.S. embassy personnel in each country, and were struck by conflicting philosophies. In Honduras and El Salvador, U.S. officials emphasized the need for patience with human rights abuses in "nascent" democracies. The call for patience, however, was absent in Nicaragua, where embassy personnel freely admitted that U.S. policy was to change the internal and external behavior of the Nicaraguan government through supporting armed insurgents, the contrary.

It's hard not to agree with the plea made by Nicaraguans that the United States should abide by international law, cease its military intervention and turn to negotiation. Humanitarian aid channeled through non-military agencies is needed in this devastated region.

As people we spoke to often repeated, Central America needs well-thought-out solutions to its real economic problems. But U.S. aid has only transformed "banana republics" to "bird republics," with a concomitant loss in productivity. Many in our group came to believe that the true tragedy of current U.S. involvement in the region has been the loss of the ability to make peace or encourage stability.

Phyllis Kahn is state representative from district 50b (Hennepin County).

MPIRG Statewatch

Jan-Feb 1987

# Bill would prohibit bicyclists from wearing headphones

Bicyclists would be prohibited from wearing headphones covering both ears under a bill approved Tuesday by a House Transportation subcommittee.

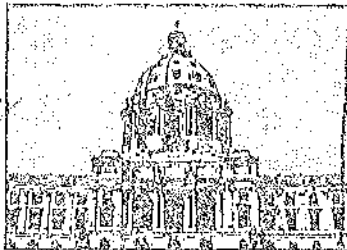
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The proposal, by Rep. Phyllis Kahn, DFL-Minneapolis, extends to bicyclists the existing law governing motor vehicle operators.

The proposal would allow bicyclists to wear an earphone in one ear, but not both. Violators would be subject to a petty-misdemeanor fine of up to \$100.

Exclusion of bicyclists from the original bill was an oversight and should be corrected to reflect the state's general policy of treating a bicycle as a vehicle, Kahn told the safety subcommittee.

In response to suggestions that the law also be extended to joggers on public roads, Kahn said she felt that that would complicate the bill and should be dealt with separately.

Marjorie Thies, president of the Minnesota Coalition of Bicyclists, told the committee that she believes the law is more important for bicyclists than for automobile drivers.



At the Capitol



# 3 a.m. bar closing bill gains; economic benefits claimed

By Gary Dawson  
Staff Writer

588

Responding to appeals from the convention and hospitality industries, a Minnesota House committee Monday approved a bill allowing bars to serve drinks until 3 a.m.

The bill, approved on a voice vote by the Regulated Industries Committee, repeals the 1 a.m. closing time Monday through Saturday and the midnight deadline on Sunday. The measure now goes to the House floor.

Rep. Phyllis Kahn, DFL-Minneapolis, the bill's sponsor, said the legislation would promote economic development and jobs. Kahn also insisted it would promote safety by

keeping drunks off the roads during the high-traffic period immediately after midnight on weekends, when much of the public is driving home.

The hearing was advertised in advance, but no one responded when committee chairman Rep. Joel Jacobs, DFL-Coon Rapids, called for opposing testimony.

"Where are the MADD mothers?" Rep. John Rose, IR-Roseville, asked in a reference to the group Mothers Against Drunk Driving when no one rose to testify against the bill.

Jacobs said there would be plenty of time for opponents to talk to legislators before

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## Closing

Continued from Page 1A

the full House acts on the bill.

The legislation retains a provision that allows municipalities to set earlier closing hours than allowed by the state.

Chief among its proponents were Minneapolis restaurant and bar interests, who insisted that Minnesota cannot become the host of "world-class" conventions without adopting later liquor hours such as those enjoyed by other large cities. Those cities compete with Minneapolis and St. Paul for conventions.

The Minnesota Licensed Beverage Association and Minnesota Hotel, Restaurant and Restaurant Associations also support the legislation.

"We are at a severe competitive disadvantage," said Mike Andrews, owner of Dixie's Bar & Grill in St. Paul and the Loon Cafe and J.D. Hoyt's in Minneapolis.

Bob Thomas, executive vice president of the Minneapolis Convention and Visitor Commission, said the Twin Cities compete regularly for conventions with Atlanta, Detroit, Milwaukee, Kansas City, Chicago, Denver and other cities with later closing hours. Some of those locations have closing hours as late as 5 a.m., the committee was told. He said convention agents always ask about tavern closing hours and that Minnesota's "are a big negative."

"Minneapolis could be a world-

class convention city," said Steve Schussler, president of the Downtown Hospitality Council of Minneapolis.

Rep. Tom Osthoff, DFL-St. Paul, interrupted the testimony at one point to remind the Minneapolis boosters that St. Paul also would like a fair share of the convention business.

Rose said he didn't want the Twin Cities to be like Detroit and that the "cleaner" reputation of the local scene was an advantage, not a disadvantage, for visitors.

Kahn, citing experiences in Australia and Scotland, argued to the committee that later hours encourage people to pace their drinking, discourage binge drinking before closing time and result in fewer fatal crashes. Heavy late-night drinkers will not be endangering more responsible members of the public who go home earlier, she said.

Two other liquor bills were scheduled to be heard, but the committee's time expired.

Osthoff is sponsoring legislation that would deregulate hours for on-sale, repealing all state-mandated closing times. Municipalities would continue to be allowed to set earlier hours.

Off-sale hour limits also would be repealed, but sales would continue to be prohibited on Sundays and on the New Year's, Independence Day, Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays.

# Phyllis Kahn passes physical, political tests

**International Falls, Minn.**  
None of her legislative enemies has accused Phyllis Kahn of political amateurism.

Today I concur. She nearly created an international incident in her running togs the morning after my biking caravan arrived at the Canadian border. Adroitly she shoehorned her way out of it with the

crafts of the intuitive politician, and I can report with relief today that the four conductor is neither in jail nor facing deportation.

Phyllis Kahn is a woman-elf who migrated from the East Coast to defend Minnesota's twin pillars of order and social justice from the wrong-headed among our natives, most of whom she identifies as

Republicans. She debates with a dockwalloper's gusto, although always with flawless and high-speed English and with what most of her colleagues call uncommon brains. When all of her other weapons fail, she turns kittenish. Tuesday, she left her soft fur all over the international bridge.

The legislator is a physical fanatic.

You can't contradict me on this because I logged the temperature and distance of our Monday split into International Falls. It measured 37 miles from Blackduck to the border, and it finished in a temperature of 94 degrees at the courthouse. The trouble with that figure is that we weren't biking in front of the

Klobuchar continued on page 21

## Klobuchar Continued from page 1B

courthouse. We were on Hwy. 71 where the temperature off the asphalt was closer to 110 degrees.

When we reached our campsite at Smokey Bear park in the center of town, the International Falls fire department was on semi-alert, ready to hose down the incoming vagabonds. Bedouins arriving from a 13-day siege in the Sahara had looked more promising. Still, we regained most of the vital functions by nightfall with forced feedings of spaghetti and sauce from Roger the Chef at the local Holiday Inn. The next morning, I herded the company to the Elks Club on Main St. for blueberry pancakes.

Kahn was an absentee.

Have you checked the hospitals?" one of my deputies asked me.

"Never mind the hospitals," I said. "Check the local Democrats. If there's a bean seed in town, Kahn will be making a speech."

There were no such rites and Kahn already had disappeared over the border in her running shoes. I speak truth. While the rest of my wards idled through the sunrise to begin a day of convalescence in the North Woods, Kahn opened the morning by running 10 miles before breakfast.

This woman is somewhere in her 40s, I can't give you her exact age because if I asked she would give me a 25-minute speech on the right of privacy and American-Canadian reciprocal trade agreements.

"Describe your adventures," I said at the campsite, where she was oiling her sprockets.

"It was a beautiful run overlooking lots of water," she said. "But as I was coming up on the bridge I realized it wasn't like running around Lake of the Isles before breakfast. You had to

have some identification. I didn't have a thing."

Visitors approaching the international border are told incessantly that the customs agents on both sides will deal with them courteously but never jol about valid identification.

"Did you drop the name of Rudy Perpich?" I asked.

"I presented myself," she said, "as a loyal, taxpaying American citizen trying to improve her quality of life."

In other words, a hardship case.

"They were very understanding," she said. "They didn't even frisk me."

I don't know how you can conceal dangerous contraband in a sweatband.

But with the others, she bicycled the 20 miles round trip yesterday to an outlet on Rainy Lake, from where we boated into Voyageurs National Park.

It's been years since I've paid much attention to Voyageurs. The National Park Service and the International Falls protectionists have gone through their wars. The idea of a wilderness park has waxed and languished. But the place is finally achieving an identity, and mounting streams of visitors.

You don't notice that immediately because there is an immense waterway here, laced with evergreen and hardwood forests the government is trying to recycle into the original white pine stands that were stripped decades ago by indiscriminate logging.

You can camp in almost total isolation if you choose, or nose around the archipelagoes by motorboat, and do it a long scene

from another century — eagles circling the bays, crows and gulls gliding above the rock cliffs and loons building their nests.

There is a reconciling quality to it, symbolic perhaps of the calmer posture the community itself has adopted in the wake of some terrible economic blows of the past few years. It seems to be consolidating.

The town is still here despite Boise Cascade's layoff of about 600 workers two years ago. Thousands still come here to fish and feel the replenishment of the northern lakes.

After a day of 110 degrees on the pavement, I don't know where we would have gone without it. Maybe over the bridge with Phyllis.



**Jim Klobuchar**

# Legislator wants state zoo to justify public support

Press (MORNING)  
7/1/87

St. Paul, Minn. (AP) 586.

If Minnesota zoo officials discontinue the beluga whale exhibit, they'd better have an alternative attraction to justify continued public support, a state legislator said Wednesday.

Her message to zoo officials, said Rep. Phyllis Kahn, is "Tell us what you're going to do to make the zoo the kind of place that should get public support."

Kahn, DFL-Minneapolis, heads the Appropriations Committee's state departments division, which heard testimony Wednesday from Kathryn Roberts, zoo director, and others regarding the future of the zoo in Apple Valley.

State funding for the zoo must

be approved by Kahn's subcommittee and other panels before it is included in appropriations bills. During the 1987 session, the Legislature appropriated \$8.5 million for the zoo for the next two years, which amounts to between 40 percent and 50 percent of the zoo's budget.

The allocation was about \$200,000 less than the zoo received in the last biennium, but considerably more than Gov. Rudy Perpich proposed, Roberts said.

If zoo officials decide not to replace Big Mouth and Little Girl, the popular beluga whales that in May were shipped to San Diego's Sea World where the male is being treated for an acute bone disease,

they'd "better tell us what they're going to do" to draw people to the zoo, Kahn said.

Zoo officials currently are conducting a survey to measure support for continuation of the 10-year-old whale exhibit, and the zoo board is to vote on the issue July 17. Last month, the board rejected a zoo planning committee's recommendation that the beluga whale program be scrapped.

The question of whether to continue the exhibit has divided the 15-member zoo board and has been the subject of emotional debate, with some arguing that whales should not be held in captivity and others contending that the exhibit is needed to draw large crowds.

ST 5

# Kahn's leadership cited in school battle

By Dennis J. McGrath  
Star Tribune Writer

58B

## Analysis

When they learned that Judy Farmer hadn't carried her own precinct in Tuesday's primary election for the Minneapolis Board of Education, members of the Minneapolis Quality Education Coalition heaped praise on state Rep. Phyllis Kahn.

"It shows how effective Phyllis is," said Hennepin County Commissioner Jeff Spartz.

Indeed, if anyone can be credited with the coalition's strong primary showing, it's Kahn.

She launched a lonely attack against the school board more than two years ago, saying changes in its policies were needed. Her dogged pursuit of the issue has forced a citywide debate about the quality and direction of the city's school system.

But Kahn, an eight-term legislator, was joined by two officeholders who are quickly gaining stature and influence in the DFL Party, Minneapolis

City Council Member Steve Cramer and state Rep. Peter McLaughlin.

These three, with the public support of other prominent DFL politicians, were the prime architects of a classic throw-the-bums-out campaign that swept the coalition's candidates into the top four spots in the primary.

While Cramer and McLaughlin have intense dispositions, they can't rival Kahn. The southeast Minneapolis mother of two approaches her political quests with the same devotion she brings to her marathon running and long-distance bicycling.

With a Ph.D. in biophysics from Yale, Kahn has a reputation as a stubborn, outspoken politician willing to battle anyone.

Her key partners in the coalition appear to have bright futures. Cramer and McLaughlin, both in their sec-

ond terms, are being talked about as potential mayoral candidates.

Cramer, DFL-11th Ward, is hooded by his colleagues about his relative youth (he is 30), and was referred to by some of his colleagues as "Young Mr. Cramer."

But the use of that pejorative nickname has declined as Cramer's influence has grown. He masterminded the creation of the city's Technology Corridor, is an active proponent of economic development in Minneapolis and has assumed a leading role in the fight against airport noise, an overriding concern among residents in his south Minneapolis district.

Part of the reason for Cramer's success is his workaholic tendency, which results in a flood of memos to his colleagues, suggesting new ideas or changes in other council members' proposals. That initiative makes him one of the council's chief policymakers.

McLaughlin is a tireless campaigner, and viewed as a comer in the House

if he doesn't run for the mayor's office when Don Fraser retires.

McLaughlin, a 38-year-old college professor, was noticed during the 1987 Legislature when he presented what were considered creative compromises between House and Senate tax bills. He was one of the first legislators to join Kahn's criticisms of the school board.

He was one of a number of Minneapolis legislators who, during the 1986 legislative campaign, recognized the discontent that residents felt about the schools. He introduced a bill that would allow for the election of school board members by district rather than citywide. That issue will appear on the Nov. 3 general election ballot as a referendum.

Cramer and McLaughlin are emerging as forces to be reckoned with. To say that their initial successes in the school board fight had catapulted them into party leadership positions would be overstating the case, but it undeniably bolsters their reputations as savvy politicians on the ascent.

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# Kahn says let scalpers scalp, it's free enterprise

By Jack B. Coffman  
Staff Writer

Minnesota should legalize ticket scalping because police have better things to do than arrest people trying to sell Twins tickets at more than face value, Rep. Phyllis Kahn, DFL-Minneapolis, said today.

Kahn, a Minneapolis legislator and ardent baseball fan, is introducing legislation taking the crime of scalping off the books because she thinks what a willing seller and a willing buyer decide about baseball tickets is their business, not society's.

While 15 Minneapolis police were arresting 30 people during the recent playoffs on scalping charges, she said, 370 more-serious crimes were reported in the city at the same time.

She said the 550 tickets confiscated by police during a crackdown on scalpers near the Metrodome resulted in 550 empty seats. "They didn't even give them to little kids."

The proposal will have no impact on the World Series because the Legislature can't act on the proposal until next February.

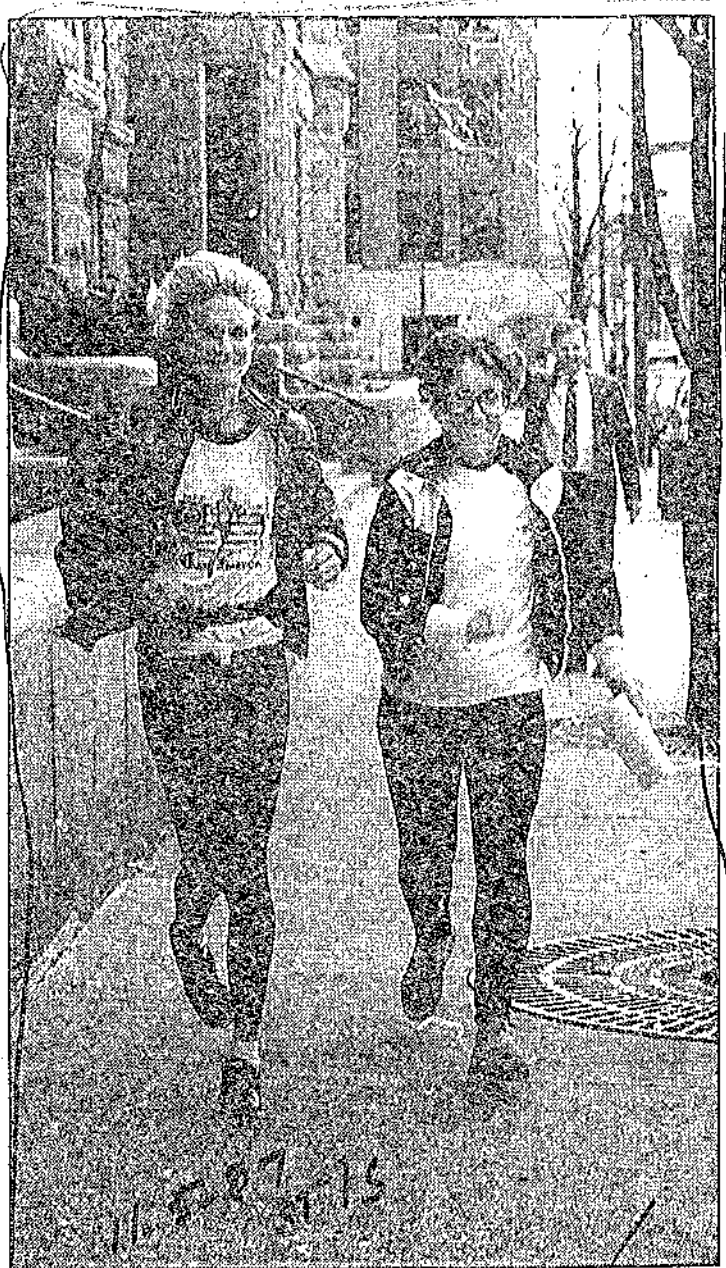
"A state law against ticket scalping is essentially unwarranted government interference with a market system of resource allocation," said Kahn. A scalper selling a ticket to someone "is a completely voluntary exchange," she said. "I see no benefit to society in interfering with the exchange," she said, calling such matters "free enterprise."

"The tickets are not illegally obtained," said Kahn, who added that if the Twins or any other team want to control the number of tickets sold to any one person they can already do so.

Present state law makes ticket scalping a misdemeanor punishable by up to 90 days in jail or a fine up to \$700.

While Kahn wants to scuttle the scalping law, she said a compromise might be to make such an offense more like a traffic violation, where a ticket could be issued and a fine levied up to \$50.

She said co-sponsors of the scalping legalization bill are Rep. Gordon Voss, DFL-Blaine, Rep. Lee Greenfield, DFL-Minneapolis, and Rep. David Battaglia, DFL-Two Harbors.



Staff Photo by Charles Bjorgen

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### Run for fitness

Sarah Fulcher of North Carolina, left, who is running cross country to raise donations for the United States Fitness Academy in California, was joined by Rep. Phyllis Kahn, DFL-Minneapolis, at Minneapolis City Hall with a wave from Mayor Don Fraser. Fulcher, who has completed 3,218 miles of her 11,000-mile goal, was met at Lake Harriet by members of the Northern Lights Running Club and ran with them downtown.

MRS. CLIPPING SERVICE

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# Legislature has changed, Kahn says

By LINDA VANDERWERF City Editor

**EVANSTON** — Nearly 10 years ago, a journalism student asked Rep. Phyllis Kahn, D-Ft. Minneapolis, how she would rate herself on a political scale of 1 to 10, with 1 being very liberal.

"Zero," was her answer without hesitation.

Kahn said it's one of the signs of her growth as a legislator that she probably wouldn't make up her own scale any more. When reminded of the story during her visit to the Iron Range last week, she laughed and said, "I'm probably up to a one-half or a one by now."

Kahn was one of six women elected to the Legislature in 1972, and was known in the 1970s as one of the Legislature's most outspoken feminists. She said



Photo by Mitch Tolstson

she's seen a lot of changes in the Legislature and in herself since then.

Before 1971, she had never set foot inside a state capital building, but went there with other women that year to lobby the Legislature on several feminist issues. Though she had no political background, Kahn said she was fascinated by the workings of state government.

"I got hooked on the process," she said. "It seemed so interesting." Kahn also helped form the Minnesota Women's Political Caucus that year.

In 1972, several things came together, including her dissatisfaction with her position as a research associate at the University of Minnesota, her growing interest in politics and a redistricting that left her living in a Minnesota House district where there was no incumbent. She decided to run for the Legislature in that district, which was near the University of Minnesota and was quite liberal.

"It was clearly a good district for a liberal, issue-oriented woman to run in," she said. The six women elected to the Legislature that year were the largest group elected in one year since the 1920s when four women were elected shortly after women got the right to vote.

There was an advantage in being one of six women elected that year, she said. The women legislators were from different parties and had different family situations and interests, she said. "They couldn't put us in a box, and say this is a woman legislator." The women worked together to change some "small things" about the Legislature as well as on major issues, she said.

The representatives were in the habit of beginning their speeches, "Gentlemen of the House..." Kahn said. "So we decided to correct them every time they did it." No one uses that phrase any more, she said.

But overall, Kahn said, she found that the Legislature had a "pervading sense of equality,"

with each member having one vote and coming from similar-sized districts. "And you ask for a woman's vote the same way you ask for a man's vote," she said. "I think women are treated better in the Legislature than many places in the real world." It was a refreshing change from her work at the University, where she had filed a discrimination complaint, she said.

In the late 1970s Speaker of the House Martin Sabo came to her and said, "I finally did it. I think I have a woman on every committee." Sabo was aware of women's growing political strength, she said, and was very encouraging. His practice of placing women on all committees made them more visible and less of a novelty.

In her 15 years in the Legislature, Kahn has been a proponent of some major women's rights legislation and has been the author of other bills that have dealt with social issues. Her strong stands have angered some of her more conservative colleagues and have cost the tobacco industry millions of dollars.

The first major bill she sponsored was the no-fault divorce bill. She has carried bills on funding for battered women's shelters and for displaced homemakers programs. She worked for the right of a woman to keep her own name after marriage and for the rights of girl athletes.

In other parts of the country, girls are still going to court to be allowed to try out for boys teams, she said. In Minnesota any student has the right to try out for any athletic team. Minnesota also has requirements for equal funding for boys and girls sports.

Kahn is a sports enthusiast and calls herself a "Tercetons bicyclist," and her previous visit to the Range was with Jim Klobuchar's bicycle tour last summer.

She said a girls sport that is gaining in popularity is ice hockey. It is popular in the East and is being introduced in the

Twin Cities area. "Some day I think this place will be as proud of its girls hockey as of its boys," she said, then laughed and added, "Maybe not in my lifetime, but..."

Perhaps one of Kahn's best-known bills is the Minnesota Clean Indoor Air Act. She was the chief author of the law, which was passed in 1975. The tobacco industry paid little attention to the her bill, she said, but has spent millions in recent years to combat laws that are not as strict as Minnesota's, Kahn said she is working on a bill for the 1988 Legislature that will tighten restrictions on smoking in the workplace.

Kahn said she doesn't spend as much time on women's issues as she did at first, partly because there are more women to carry the load. Her main interest now is appropriations, and her science background, she has a doctorate in biophysics, has also led her to other topics. She's interested in some of the economic development issues on the Range, particularly in the research to promote the wood products industries. She has also worked on bringing computers into state government and on developing measures to deal with computer crime.

The computer crime issue was interesting, she said, and required redefinition of parts of the criminal code. Definitions of theft and property weren't easily applied to 20th century computer crime.

As her interests in the Legislature have shifted, she said, her legislative personality has mellowed, too.

"One way I've really changed is the development of more patience," she said. At first, she wanted to get her proposals adopted right away. She sees the same thing now in new legislators, she said.

"I have more ability to look at different ways of doing things," she said. "I'm much more willing to compromise."

— Last week on the Range.

# Legislators assail FBI probe of policy dissidents

By Dorothy Lewis  
Staff Writer

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A six-year FBI investigation involving the infiltration and surveillance of hundreds of U.S. political and religious groups opposed to Reagan administration policies in Central America was criticized Wednesday by several Minnesota state legislators.

Rep. Phyllis Kahn, DFL-Minneapolis, said she was appalled that the federal government would violate the privacy of Americans simply for using their constitutional right to oppose government policy.

And Rep. Howard Orenstein, DFL-St. Paul, said he was "outraged at the government's misplaced priorities. ... I find it most disturbing that during the FBI investigation into these peaceful protesters, our government, at the very highest level, was selling arms to terrorists in Central America."

The FBI investigation was documented in reports obtained under the Freedom of Information Act by the Center for Constitutional Rights, a New York-based group of

lawyers. The lawyers' action was on behalf of the Committee in Solidarity with the People of El Salvador, which the FBI has acknowledged investigating.

But the center said the documents show the investigation was broadened to include most organizations opposed to U.S. policy toward Nicaragua and Guatemala.

Among the items mentioned in thousand of pages of FBI documents are several references to the Twin Cities.

One report states that 18 Twin Cities organizations make up the Central American Coalition, which, according to informants, is affiliated with the Central America Solidarity group.

Another states that the El Salvador Solidarity Committee, 1701 University Ave. S.E., Minneapolis, is in the same offices with the Central America Solidarity group. The El Salvador Solidarity Committee, Guatemala Solidarity Committee, Nicaragua Solidarity Committee, Central America Working Group of the University of Minnesota, Ecumenical Task Force on Cen-

tral America and Honduran Task Force are also in the same office space.

The report stated that the Minneapolis FBI office believes the Central American Coalition and its members are affiliated with the Committee in Solidarity with the People of El Salvador.

The report names 11 people who have "appeared as featured speakers on behalf of the Central American revolutionaries in El Salvador and Nicaragua."

Among these are Dr. Charles Clements, a Boston physician, who spoke on "his involvement with the El Salvador guerrillas."

The Rev. Richard Lundy of St. Luke's Presbyterian Church in Minnetonka, said Clements addressed the congregation at Assumption Catholic Church in St. Paul, talking about his experiences treating patients in El Salvador.

Lundy made his comment at a Pauli press conference called by the Central America Solidarity group to announce what was learned from the FBI files.

Rene Hurtado, a Salvadoran refugee who was given sanctuary at Lundy's church, was also named in the documents.

Mary Turck, a St. Paul lawyer, said the investigation was made possible by a law signed by President Reagan on Dec. 4, 1981. She said the law bypasses U.S. constitutional rights under the Fourth Amendment by permitting "the FBI to conduct investigation without warrants" into possible terrorist activities.

Turck said the investigation ended with the FBI finding no evidence of terrorism in the El Salvador Solidarity group or any of the others. She said the probe ended when FBI informer Frank Varella spoke on a television news program.

Turck added, however, that the homes of several sympathizers with the El Salvador Solidarity group in Minneapolis were burglarized last summer. She said papers, files and books were involved in the burglaries, rather than such items as televisions and cameras, causing some people to believe they were connected to the federal investigation.



5713

# Kahn asks smaller zoo board, private fund-raising group

By Conrad delVecchio  
Staff Writer

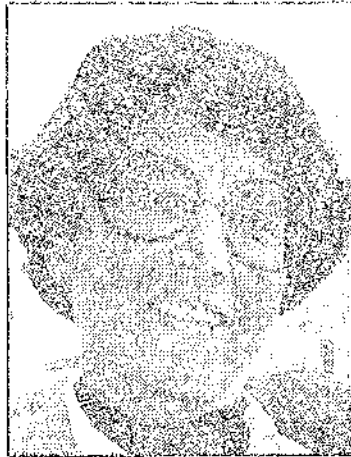
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The Minnesota Zoo needs a new governing structure to correct its lack of major attractions, weak fund-raising and "elitist" philosophy, state Rep. Phyllis Kahn said Wednesday.

The Minneapolis DFLer suggested disbanding the zoo's 30-member board and replacing it with a new group of nine to 11 members, augmented by a private zoo society to handle fund-raising. The current board was constituted last July, when its size was doubled in an effort to add members who could boost zoo donations and eventually turn it into a private, nonprofit organization.

"I have not found any treatise on group dynamics or leadership that recommends a nonhierarchical structure of 30 as a governing group," Kahn said in a position paper on the zoo released yesterday.

She heads a House committee that made a two-year appropriation of \$9.6 million for the state-owned zoo in Apple Valley last year. Since then she has criticized the closing of the zoo's popular beluga whale exhibit on the day the Legislature adjourned last April.



Phyllis Kahn

"Statements from current influential board members indicate that they are more interested in approval from the international zoo community than from the public, which supports them with admission fees and tax dollars," she said.

Under Kahn's governing plan, some members of the current board could join the private fund-raising society, which would have one representative on the main zoo board along with six

to eight people appointed by the governor and one each from the Metropolitan Council and the Dakota County Board.

Zoo Director Kathryn Roberts criticized the Kahn plan, saying: "I think it would be disastrous after seven months to say the structure we have now doesn't work. One of the best strengths the zoo has now is its board."

Cultural organizations similar to the zoo, such as the Science Museum of Minnesota and the Minnesota Orchestra, operate with boards larger than 30 members, she said. "They know they need that many people to bring the money in," she said.

The new zoo board is already addressing many of the concerns that Kahn raised, Roberts said, including planning new exhibits and embarking on a fund-raising campaign that has made 1,500 solicitations.

Kahn also criticized the zoo's lack of experienced management and its vague long-range plan. It should have a new exhibit every year and a major new exhibit every two to three years, she said. "A zoo that does not do this is considered stagnant," she said.

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# At the Capitol

## This year, Kahn tends a crop of political paradoxes

By Dennis J. McGrath  
Staff Writer



Rep. Phyllis Kahn, the Legislature's Ms. Clean, is best known as the engineer of the Minnesota Clean Indoor Air Act, among the oldest and the most restrictive antismoking laws in the nation.

The Minneapolis DFLer also is an accomplished marathon runner and long-distance bicyclist who rarely drinks liquor.

So why is this paradigm of healthy living proposing that bars be allowed to serve liquor until 2 a.m.?

"Traffic safety," she said. Kahn promptly whipped out a graph to show that the later closing times would combine with lower traffic volume to make the roads safer for motorists, sober and intoxicated.

The bill, approved by a House committee Monday night, is one of a number of seemingly contradictory positions Kahn is taking this session.

A feminist, she opposes the bill to outlaw surrogate motherhood. (That's because it isn't appropriate to make criminals of women who weigh complicated social, ethical and moral factors and choose to act as surrogate, she said.)

And she objects to the creation of a \$1 billion environmental trust fund, despite being a champion of natural resource legislation during her eight terms. (Her objection is to the idea of funding it with a state lottery, a mechanism she calls dishonest.)

"I'm on more losing causes this year than ever before," Kahn said.

But on what she considers her most important piece of legislation, the 1975 antismoking law, she was a big winner.

That landmark legislation came surprisingly soon after Kahn entered the

Legislature in 1973. Before becoming a legislator, the native New Yorker earned degrees in physics and biophysics from Cornell and Yale, and later added a degree from Harvard.

She moved to Minnesota in 1964, following her husband, Don, who accepted a position as a math professor at the University of Minnesota. Kahn, the mother of two children in their 20s, also worked at the university as a researcher.

She abandoned the biological sciences for political science when she was swept up in the women's rights movement in the late '60s and early '70s. Opportunity came in 1972 when redistricting carved a heavily DFL constituency out of southeast and northeast Minneapolis that would support a liberal feminist.

Since then Kahn has taken pride in being "on the cutting liberal edge," she said in an interview Tuesday. She also has earned a reputation as an assiduous gadfly.

Of the Minnesota Zoo, for example, she called the current board elitist and said it is more interested in courting the international zoo community than appealing to Minnesota residents who finance the zoo.

Some critics call her obstinate and say she is unwilling to compromise.

"I think I'm not quite as stubborn as people say I am," she said.

For example, she doesn't harass those who smoke in the halls outside Capitol committee rooms, even though that's a violation of her clean air act, she said.



Staff Photo by Charles Bjorgen

State Rep. Phyllis Kahn enjoyed a moment during a hearing Tuesday at the Capitol in St. Paul.

House Minority Leader Bill Schroeder agrees that it's unfair to describe her as obstinate; he prefers "tenacious." The Independent-Republican leader says that except for believing that Kahn is "politically, a flaky liberal" he thinks highly of her.

"She has a sense of direction that is not going to be bent by other influences," said Schroeder, who entered the Capitol the same year as Kahn.

"She is a tough negotiator, she is a very bright woman and she knows her subject matter well. You don't want to underestimate her when it comes time to develop a compromise."

On the bar bill, Kahn is accused of being a tool of the liquor industry. The idea is hers, she insists, and adds that she's been tinkering with the idea for nearly a decade.

It would permit special licenses for bars to serve liquor until 2 a.m. On Saturday and Sunday mornings the establishments could remain open an additional 30 minutes, although no more liquor could be sold.

As she marks her 51st birthday this month, Kahn said she has no designs on other political offices. She's probably too liberal to win a statewide office, and the congressman who rep-

resents her area, Democrat Martin Sabo of Minneapolis, shows no signs of leaving Washington.

Kahn said that doesn't bother her, because she still enjoys the legislative process. Besides, she said, the smoking law is a bit lax in the protection against smoking in the work place, and she's got a bill to tighten it.

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### House Committee recommends solid waste reduction, recycling program

On a roll call vote of 14-10, the Minnesota House of Representatives Environment and Natural Resources Committee gave preliminary approval March 10 to a bill that author Rep. Phyllis Kahn (DFL-Mpls) calls "an important first step" toward managing and reducing solid waste in Minnesota.

Kahn's bill, HF2069, would set up a comprehensive solid waste reduction and recycling program throughout the state. By Jan. 1, 1990, every county would have to provide its residents with recycling opportunities, and set up programs to

educate the public and promote recycling.

The bill would place a one-cent waste reduction initiative fee on package or packaged product distributors sell to retailers. Items exempted from this fee include those that are recyclable and made of recycled materials; those intended for use in a manufacturing process or to package certain drugs and medicine or food or food products exempt from sales tax; or those that require a refundable container deposit of at least four cents. The Minnesota Waste Management Board would distribute fees to counties to set up recycling systems and other recycling efforts.

Several environmental organizations, as well as 43 Minnesota counties say they support Kahn's proposal. The University of Minnesota's Center for Urban and

Regional Affairs says if Minnesota's serious about addressing solid waste problems with recycling programs, the state needs to provide residents with convenient recycling opportunities.

But industry officials oppose the measure. The Minnesota Soft Drink Industry says recycling's happening now and will increase in the future. Others say the one-cent fee is a "hidden tax" that consumers won't know they're paying.

The committee amended the bill to remove a proposed mandatory deposit on all nonrefillable beverage containers sold in Minnesota. The AFL-CIO said it could support the recycling and waste reduction proposals, but maintained that mandatory deposit legislation would lead to job loss and businesses moving out of the state.

## Kahn accuses Carlson of being a big spender

State Rep. Phyllis Kahn, a feisty legislator with a reputation for political nose-tweaking, accused State Auditor Arne Carlson Wednesday of failing to practice what he's been preaching about runaway government spending.

588  
Kahn, a Minneapolis DFLer who oversees the subcommittee that funds constitutional offices, charged in a press release that recent increases in the auditor's office budget have exceeded the overall rate of growth in state and local government spending.

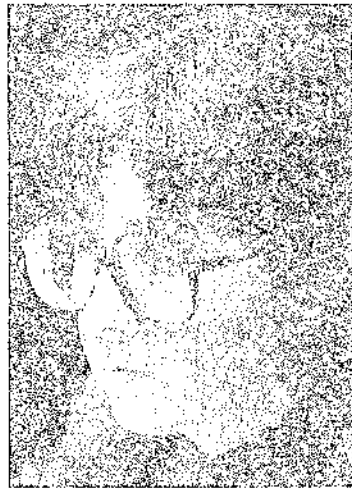
Kahn said Carlson's "new, more elegant quarters" near the Capitol are among the first in state government to be equipped with showers and lockers. She concluded her press release by observing that the letter accompanying Carlson's spending report was "on a piece of hand-engraved, 100% cotton rag office sta-

tionery, hardly reflecting a model of austerity."

Kahn's attack followed by one day Independent-Republican Carlson's well-publicized report calling for restraint in state and local government spending, which has been outpacing inflation and growth in personal income.

Carlson said Kahn's attacks were inaccurate, distorted and irrelevant. He contended that his office budget is a model of austerity and that any increases have been directly related to increased responsibilities mandated by the Legislature.

He denied having showers or lockers in his office and said he is one of the few state officials who has not traveled out of state at public expense over the last three years.



Rep. Phyllis Kahn

"She's offensive," Carlson said of Kahn. "She's never once reacted to anything other than by attacking people personally."



53B

# Legislator wants to let kids vote

By LARRY FRUHLING

Register Staff Writer

ST. PAUL, MINN. — Hear the one about the 12-year-old Minnesota voter?

Probably not. Phyllis Kahn, a veteran state representative, says her proposal for a state with referendums on the question of lowering the minimum voting age to the sixth-grade level is unpopular.

Kahn, 56, says that if the plan for lowering the voting age from 18 to 12 probably had gone anywhere, it had already. But she says that's not true because half a century ago women had the right to vote, and says "We put the name on the table."

Kahn, a Democrat from Minneapolis, says she got the idea earlier this year when almost every Minnesota politician in sight began paying attention to the problems faced by children, including neglect, abuse and inadequate child care.

"I thought the rallying item was anything that would empower children themselves," she said. "Once you can vote, people pay attention to the kinds of things you need."

### Reputation for Tenacity

Although the idea of putting the voting-machine lever in the grasp of grade-school children has drawn its share of derision ("Governor, do you favor homework?"), no one is eager to dismiss Kahn's proposal altogether primarily because of her reputation for persistence.

Fifteen years ago, tobacco companies thought Kahn was joking when she proposed segregating smokers



Phyllis Kahn  
"Board member"

from non-smokers in Minnesota restaurants. Let Kahn eventually win, establishing the Minnesota Clean Indoor Air Act as a model that was copied by a number of other state and local governments.

"Do not doubt the tenacity of this brand," said Rita Finsbinder, a long-time Democratic war-horse. "She is dead serious."

Cal Larson, a Republican member of the Senate Education Committee, calls Kahn "a marathoner" who never gives up once she's become attached to a notion. But in this case, Larson says Kahn is pursuing "kind of

an ally idea."

Although many children have told Kahn they like the idea of being able to vote, Finsbinder says that they do so would be one more step toward

"They should go play on the playground and learn the responsibilities of life," Finsbinder said. "If we let them vote before they learn their own responsibility, they might have no disillusioned with politics, that they wouldn't vote again for the rest of their lives."

Kahn, meanwhile, says that politicians who oppose her plan do so at their own peril. Noting that children eventually become voters, even under current Minnesota law, Kahn said, "I'd be a little careful about saying that young people are too stupid and uneducated to make informed judgments on the issue."

Kahn said state officials are looking into the question of whether people as young as 12 could vote for president and other federal offices if the voting age were lowered. But it already is clear that 12-year-olds could not run for governor, the Legislature or other state or local offices.

The proposed constitutional amendment to cut the voting age to 12 would not affect the present requirement that a candidate for public office in Minnesota be at least 21, Kahn said.

Besides, she pointed out that if a 12-year-old became governor, he or she might get in trouble at school because of the state's compulsory attendance law.

# DIFLER Kahn seeks urban sales tax

## Need for new revenues to fight against crime, drugs and poverty cited

By Jerry Bowson

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St. Paul, Minneapolis and Duluth should be given the option to impose a one-half percent additional sales tax to fund urban redevelopment programs, an influential Minnesota House Subcommittee chairman announced today.

Rep. Dennis Kahn, DFL Minneapolis, who calls for Appropriations Chair Dennis Hanna's subcommittee that had withdrawn a version of the bill. Rep. Paul Pappalardo is currently in the legislative session. The plan is aimed at rehabilitating distressed areas and reducing drug, crime and poverty in the inner city.

"There is no way we can come up with the kind of money," said Kahn, whose subcommittee has been charged to cut \$185 million

from state agencies and programs. The bill would be used to fund for education and property tax relief for residents of the state's inner city.

Kahn said he would be willing to discuss the bill to legislators that it's hardly worth the effort.

Rep. Paul Pappalardo, DFL St. Paul, who is currently a major portion of the bill, said he and St. Paul legislators discussed Hanna's proposal at a legislative meeting today.

"We didn't come to an agreement, but I think it's probably a good idea," Pappalardo said. "I probably believe I can go back to my district and talk to my people."

The proposal is being discussed with members of the House and Senate.

On the side of Gov. Rudy Perpich said the

governor would not comment on Kahn's suggestion at this time and that the governor would have to look at it.

Kahn said her subcommittee has made about \$10 million in agency and program cuts so far. Also, another \$100 million to \$110 million in new spending initiatives including the urban revitalization programs, have not yet been funded.

Among those initiatives is an extra \$14 million Perpich wants to offer sharply increased state health insurance costs, an increase in salary and benefit negotiations between the state and its 80,000 employees. If that funding, the state would have to raise \$14 million from the \$96 million it plans to set aside for salary increases over the next two years. That would reduce anticipated 5 percent annual state employee increases.

Among recommended agency budget cuts, which tentatively approved by the subcommittee are:

• Elimination of the Pollution Control Agency Citizens Board. "Nobody could tell me what they've done in the last 20 years so I thought it was time to get rid of it," Kahn said.

• Reorganizing the commissioner of water and fisheries. "The operation of water and fisheries has been turned over to a new board. Other veterans services would be consolidated under an administrator with less than commissioner status.

• Eliminating the positions of director of fish and wildlife and fisheries section chief in the Natural Resources Department and consolidation of duties under a single fish and wildlife administrator.

## House bars spanking in public schools

The House decided Monday to abolish spanking in public schools, although the 78-49 vote was closer than expected. 2.2.99

Several Independent-Republicans argued against the bill, with Rep. John Ginger of Long Lake giving a personal testimonial to the efficacy of spanking. "Help those of us who needed this kind of thing," he said.

The author, Rep. Phyllis Kahn, countered by borrowing from Republicans in Washington, D.C. "Help us have kinder, gentler schools," said the Minneapolis DFL'er.

Kahn said the bill is needed because there have been incidents in Minnesota in recent years of excessive punishment by teachers or administrators.

A similar bill is pending in the Senate and is expected to pass this week.

Kahn's bill outlaws spanking and other forms of "unreasonable physical force that causes bodily harm or substantial emotional harm."

Spanking already is prohibited in many school districts in the state, including Minneapolis and St. Paul. Several representatives argued that school boards, not the state, are the proper governing body to decide if spanking should be allowed.

The House and Senate versions of the bill exempt private schools, because sponsors thought the exemption would reduce opposition to the proposal.

58B



# Kahn beats out Munger in bid to head environmental panel

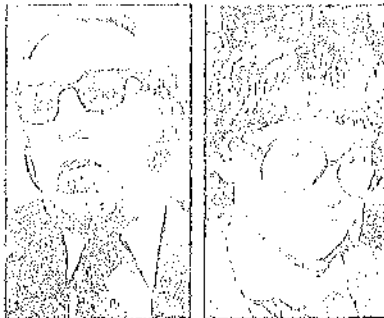
By Jack G. Coffman  
State Writer

By a one vote margin Monday, Rep. Phyllis Kahn, DFL-Minneapolis, won a battle to head one of the state's leading environmental panels by beating Rep. Willard Munger, DFL-Duluth, the acknowledged environmental leader of the Minnesota Legislature.

On an 8-7 vote, Kahn was named chairwoman of the Legislative Commission on Minnesota Resources, a panel that decides how to spend millions of dollars for environmental and natural resource projects around the state and which soon will spend money from the newly established state environmental trust fund.

Ironically, Munger was a leading figure in establishing the environmental trust fund that will receive a major portion of the proceeds of a state lottery. He also is the longest-serving member of the Legislature and is chairman of the House Environment and Natural Resources Committee.

"I didn't run against anyone. I ran because I think I have the best



Munger

Kahn

background to do it," said Kahn, who noted that Munger will still be "Mr. Environment."

Munger, a veteran of 33 years in the House, has announced he will seek one more two-year term and had hoped to complete his career as chairman of the Legislative Commission on Minnesota Resources, a group of which he has been a member for many years but has never headed.

Until Monday, Munger said his biggest political disappointment had been losing an election for the Minnesota Senate a number of years ago.

"This hurts worse," he said Monday.

In campaigning for the job, Kahn pointed to her academic degrees in physics and biology as well as her experience as chairwoman of the State Department Division of the House Appropriations Committee.

Munger pointed to his years of service on the commission, his successes in enacting environmental protection legislation and the fact that he had served the last two years as vice chairman of the commission.

"This job requires a different kind of skill than just being the person who is the best champion of the environment of the state," Kahn said Monday of the post she feels will be increasingly complicated.

Kahn replaces Sen. Clarence Purfeerst, DFL-Faribault, who has been commission chairman for the past two years. The House and Senate alternate members serving as head of the 16-member group.

# Push commuting by bicycle, legislator urges

PHILADELPHIA, Pa., (AP)—A state legislator is urging commuters to push their way to work by bicycle, and to use the bicycle as a means of transportation to the office.

Rep. J. J. Conroy, D-Pa., said he has introduced a bill to encourage the use of bicycles as a means of transportation to the office. He said the bill would encourage the use of bicycles as a means of transportation to the office.

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PHILIP KARR  
PHILADELPHIA



# RE-ELECT

State Representative

# PHYLLIS

# KAHN

DNL/LABOR ENDORSED - DISTRICT 58B

A hard-working and effective legislator who is responsive to your needs.

- One of the most senior members of the House Appropriations Committee and Chair of its State Departments Division.
- Member of the Committees on Environment and Natural Resources; Agriculture; Ways and Means and Economic Development.
- Chair, Legislative Commission on Minnesota Resources.
- Former research associate at the University of Minnesota with degrees from Cornell, Yale and Harvard.
- Homeowner, (with husband Donald) and resident of the Eastside for more than 20 years.

**Rep. Phyllis Kahn is endorsed and supported by:**

DNL • AFL/CIO (COPE) • Sierra Club • Minnesota Nurses Association (MinnNA) • Hennepin County Women's Political Caucus • Americans for Democratic Action (ADA) • League of Minnesota Conservation Voters • Minnesota Education Association (MEA) • Minnesota Elementary School Principals Association • AFSCME P.E.O.P.L.E. • Teamsters D.R.I.V.E. • Minnesota NOW PAC • Minnesota Police & Peace Officers Association • Police Officers Federation of Minneapolis • Minnesota Federation of Teachers (MFT).



# Legislator says state should take a chance, wager on Super Bowl

By Robert Whitford Staff Writer

State Rep. Robert Kahn, D-10, has introduced a bill that would allow the state to take a one-time shot at betting on the 1991 National Football League Super Bowl game and to share in the profits.

The bill would allow the state to license a one-time Super Bowl game and to share in the profits. The bill would also allow the state to license a one-time Super Bowl game and to share in the profits.

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## Bets (Continued from page 1A)

The bill will be introduced in the coming legislative session. It says the unspecified game should be designed "to make it competitive with illegal forms of wagering." The session begins Feb. 12.

John Williams, a Howe researcher, helped draft the bill. He said making the state game competitive with illegal sports bookmakers might be difficult because "the state will want to net as much as possible. Bookmakers generally work on a low margin."

Illegal sports betting has an additional -- albeit larcenous -- advantage to some players. Winners don't have to pony up taxes to Uncle Sam or the state.

Williams said there are several possible games that could be set up, all based on the Super Bowl. One would be head to head betting on the two teams and an established point spread. Another would be to set odds at the beginning of the NFL season on what two teams would make it to the Super Bowl and sell chances based on those odds.

In Nevada, where gambling is legal, it was estimated last year that \$50 million was wagered on the 1989 Super

Bowl. An enforcement of handicappers rejected that \$2 million was bet illegally around the nation.

George Christanson, a New York-based consulting firm whose clients are in the public gaming industry, says there are no precise figures on how much is bet legally and illegally on the Super Bowl, he said.

"If you said there are billions of dollars bet each year on the Super Bowl you would not be far off," he said.

Christanson said the state would be taking a chance if it devised a head to head game in which players bet against the state. For one thing, the state, using taxpayers' money, could lose, he said. Besides, a sports bookmaker might net only 3 cents to 40 cents on the dollar, and the kind of margin the state would want, said Christanson.

The Minnesota State Lottery will net about 35 cents on each dollar in lottery ticket sales.

Kahn has developed a reputation for sponsoring legislation that draws comment. She said this proposal was spawned from a constituent's sugges-

tion. Though she opposes gambling and has voted against almost every gambling bill, Kahn said wagering is popular among Minnesotans. "As long as the Super Bowl is coming, let's channel the money," she said. "We would use this extravagance to benefit amateur sports."

Her chances of getting the bill passed are better than winning Minnesota's first lottery jackpot. The state is pressed for money and is looking increasingly at gambling as a way of picking up more cash.

The bill even picked up an early endorsement. "That's not a bad idea," said House Appropriations Committee Chairman Wayne Simonsen, DFL-Fridley.

Kahn has two other bills she will push this session. One would repeal the existing state prohibition against ticket scalping. The other would allow municipalities to keep bars open until 2 a.m., an hour later than existing law.

# Kahn miffed by agencies' budget-cut snub

Associated Press

588

A House DFL leader said Tuesday that she was disappointed to be rebuffed by the Perpich administration in her attempt to get an early start on cutting state spending to balance the budget.

The state is facing a revenue shortage of at least \$161 million by mid-1991, Rep. Phyllis Kahn, DFL-Minneapolis, chairwoman of the Appropriation Subcommittee that handles budgets for state agencies and departments, sent a memo to department heads last month asking for early recommendations on

how to trim spending. *J. J. 1/1*  
But Finance Commissioner Peter Hutchinson, in a letter to Kahn dated Jan. 21, said the administration is weighing its own budget cuts and he wants department heads to concentrate on a single process and not submit separate responses to Kahn.

"In order to do all this in an orderly and thoughtful way, agencies and their financial people need to focus their attention on only one budget process," he said.  
Kahn said she's not happy with that attitude.

"As far as I know this is the first time a governor's office or the Department of Finance, acting on behalf of the governor, has ordered members of the executive branch to refuse to answer good faith questions from the Legislature," she said.

House Appropriations Chairman Wayne Simoneau, DFL-Fridley, said he's not surpised by the administration's response to the Kahn request.

"It's nothing for me to get excited about, at least not this early in the session," said Simoneau.

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DETROIT LAKES  
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MAR 13 1991

### Kahn proposes tree planting

Concerned with global warming, Rep. Phyllis Kahn (D-Ft. Minneapolis) proposes a state tree planting program.

The tree plantings, under Kahn's proposal, would be financed through a surcharge on automobiles and carbon dioxide producers.

The Environment and Natural Resources Committee approved the bill, sending it on to the Appropriations Committee.

505

**Kahn proposes merging  
state's 37 counties into 10**

Rep. Phyllis Kahn says she will introduce a bill to merge Minnesota's 37 counties into 10 large counties.

The Minneapolis *DuLac* said Tuesday she is suggesting 10 jurisdictions to reflect the state's district court map. Counties provide court services, but also have become primary dispensers of welfare and human services.

"If we're going to be cutting local government aids, it would seem like the ideal time to make some serious organizational changes," she said.

Kahn doesn't expect a statewide county merger to be enacted this year. She said her bill would set up a process for studying the possibility of a merger and all its aspects.

Gov. Arne Carlson praised Kahn's proposal on Wednesday.

"I hope that Phyllis pursues it," he said.

However, the Kahn proposal is certain to encounter powerful opposition because it would eliminate the jobs of hundreds of bureaucrats and county commissioners as well as other county officials.



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FEB 17 1991

# Kahn proposes a map of 10 counties

By BILL FOND Staff Writer

137

Sen. Cal Larson calls it a "Kannerism."  
Larson's term defines those strange pieces of legislation that Rep. Phyllis Kahn (DFL-Minneapolis) manages to dream up.  
In 1989, she introduced a bill to lower the legal voting age to 12. She also has proposed a state buyout of Northwest Airlines.  
Neither bill passed.  
This time around, Kahn said she is considering legislation that would merge Minnesota's 87 counties into 10.

"It's a Kannerism, that's what it is," Larson said. "I wouldn't be surprised if such a bill were introduced."  
Kahn's proposal would shake county boundaries, drawn about 100 years ago, to the foundation. She feels the old lines don't reflect the current times. Kahn believes organizational changes are in order.

But some, like Rep. Loren Thompson (DFL-Wabasha) disagree. He views Kahn's idea as the stripping of power from rural Minnesota.  
"I have the same feeling about this as I do a unicameral legislature,"

I worry about people having adequate representation. I don't think we need 87 representatives."  
Kahn's bill is a strange in nature, carrying out messages. Her bills cover the voting age and inspired by the conviction that children have a voice and are under-represented.

Some of her legislation has been executive. She was a strong advocate of smoke-free public buildings and many government offices have adopted the standard.  
Despite working in a different legislative body, Larson has had opportunity to work with Kahn. "I've got a lot of respect for her,"

Larson said. "She's a bright person and I get a kick out of her... I think she does get people thinking."

But, what does Larson think of the merger?  
"I think her philosophy is centralized government. This would certainly do it. But the best kind of government is local government."  
Finding a backer for the proposal in the Senate may be hard. Larson said he has been approached by Kahn in the past.

"I just told her, 'I'm not going to get in on one of these crazy bills of yours,'" Larson said jokingly.

# Bars could stay open until 2:30 a.m. under bill proposed in House

GARY DAWSON STAFF WRITER

Municipalities could allow bars to serve drinks until 2:30 a.m. — 1½ hours longer than now permitted — under legislation sent to the floor of the Minnesota House of Representatives on Monday.

The bill, which has heavy backing from the Minneapolis convention and tourism industry, was approved on a divided voice vote in the Regulated Industries Committee.

The bill's sponsor, Rep. Phyllis Kahn, DFL, Minneapolis, called it a "public safety" measure that also would create more opportunities for entertainment and help lure conventions and tourists here.

Kahn, who has been pushing for years to extend the current 1 a.m. closing hour, claims the later tipping time would give responsible citizens time to get home from evening events before drunks hit the road.

"We need to protect people like me who have a dry, but a late-night, life style," Kahn said.

However, Jenny Ollphant, a representative of Mothers Against Drunk Driving, disputed the legislation's public safety benefit, testifying that drunks still will endanger themselves and others.

Nevertheless, committee members, citing later bar hours in cities outside Minnesota that compete for tourism and convention business, voted for the later hours. Wisconsin, for example has a 2 a.m. closing Sunday through Thursday and 2:30 a.m. Friday and Saturday.



• The House Judiciary Committee chairwoman won't hold gun control hearings this year.  
 • The House speaker predicts legislators will reject the governor's property tax plan.  
 • The state's revenue shortage will delay planning for Transportation Department headquarters.  
 Page 30

## BARS

CONTINUED FROM 1C

After years of unsuccessfully supporting such legislation, the convention and tourism interests could score a victory this year. With the Super Bowl and the NCAA Division I Basketball Final Four coming here next year, there is more than usual pressure for later hours.

"The argument that we need to do it for the Super Bowl shows we need to do it generally. It shows what happens when people from outside the state look at us for hospitality and entertainment," Kahn said.

The committee approved an amendment allowing all cities to choose later hours if they wish. Kahn had proposed only St. Paul, Minneapolis and Duluth be given the choice. The Minnesota Licensed Beverage Association, which had opposed that restriction, then threw its support behind the legislation.

Sen. Sam Solon, DFL-Duluth, chairman of the Senate Commerce Committee, said he will give the issue a hearing in his committee if a similar bill is introduced in the Senate. Sen. Sandy Pappas, DFL-St. Paul, said she has considered sponsoring legislation, even though many neighborhood liquor establishments do not favor later hours.

"It's ridiculous," Solon said of the 1 a.m. closing. "We'll have all these people coming here from all over the world for the Super Bowl and the Final Four, and we're going to tell them we're locking up the town at 1 a.m."

## Bar closing hours around the U.S.\*

Legislation would extend closing hours in Minnesota to 2:30 a.m. seven days a week.

City	Closing hours
Baltimore	2 a.m.
Boston	2 a.m.
Chicago	2 a.m.**
Cincinnati	2:30 a.m.
Dallas	2 a.m.
Denver	2 a.m.
Indianapolis	3 a.m.
Kansas City	3 a.m.
Los Angeles	2 a.m.
Louisville	4 a.m.
Milwaukee	2:30 a.m.***
Nashville	3 a.m.
Phoenix	1 a.m.
Pittsburgh	2 a.m.
Portland	2 a.m.
San Diego	2 a.m.
Seattle	2 a.m.
St. Louis	1 a.m.
Tampa	3:30 a.m.
Twin Cities	1 a.m.

\* Hours vary in some cities with special licenses, and on certain days.  
 \*\* 4 a.m. for street bars  
 \*\*\* 3 a.m. on Saturdays  
 Source: Greater Minneapolis Convention and Visitors Association

STAFF GRAPHIC

BARS CONTINUED ON 2

# Two legislators ask publisher Maxwell to pay up on pledge

By Robert Whereatt  
Staff Writer

cus on global environmental and communications issues.

Two legislators have asked British billionaire Robert Maxwell to make good on the \$50 million pledge he made last year to help create a technical institute in Minnesota.

In a diplomatically worded letter, Reps. Richard Krueger, DFL-Staples, and Phyllis Kahn, DFL-Minneapolis, reminded the publishing baron of the pledge and said "We would like to initiate discussion of the conditions to match your \$50 million offer."

Maxwell made the commitment in June during the visit here of Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev. Both were guests of former Gov. Rudy Perpich, who proposed the institute.

Gorbachev agreed to lend his name and Maxwell agreed to donate a piece of his fortune. Maxwell's money was to be matched by \$50 million in privately raised money to establish the Gorbachev Maxwell Institute, a research organization that would fo-

But Kahn, head of a House spending committee, said the state could be in a position to offer public money as part of the match. The state finances several technical programs dealing with the environment and communications. That money and the programs it supports might be incorporated into a new Gorbachev Maxwell Institute, she said.

So far, no visible progress has been made on raising private money locally, and there has been no indication that Maxwell is moving ahead on his pledge. It generally has been dismissed as a proposal that died when Perpich was defeated for reelection last fall.

Attempts to get information yesterday on Maxwell's interest in the institute through his legal counsel in Washington, D.C., were unsuccessful.

Maxwell continued on page 1B

## Maxwell Continued from page 1B

But a representative of Perpich said yesterday that "This is definitely not a dead matter." There's still movement, said Teresa McFarland, who heads an office for Perpich in St. Paul.

"Maxwell and Perpich are still in contact about the whole institute. It's not like it's not going anywhere. Perpich and Maxwell are trying to arrange a meeting with Gorbachev."

Perpich moved to Europe earlier this month. He will represent several business and governmental interests in the field of international trade. He was in Yugoslavia yesterday but is expected back in the United States this weekend. He also works with Maxwell on some projects, though he is not under contract with him, according to McFarland.

In their letter, Krueger and Kahn say

they lead two committees that probably would have jurisdiction over the institute, so they want to talk to Maxwell, who added the New York Daily News to his empire this month.

"This is our major appropriation year, and it would be important to move forward with state appropriations at this time," the letter says. "Although Gov. Perpich was not re-elected, we have reason to believe that the current administration would support our efforts. Should we receive positive indications from you at this time, we would be able to move ahead with further discussions and an appropriation."

Krueger and Kahn said the letter is a serious attempt to get Maxwell to pay up. But Krueger joked to a reporter: "We haven't decided if we'll send him a past-due notice if he doesn't send the check."

AUSTIN DAHL  
HERALD  
Mower Co.

APR 7 1991

583

Editorials

139  
**Kahn's idea  
is prime**

State Rep. Phyllis Kahn (DFL-Minneapolis) must be feeling pretty good about now.

Two years ago she proposed lowering the voting age to 12. Her proposal never made it to a legislative hearing.

However, this year Kahn decided to re-submit the idea of lowering the voting age, with a little compromise, making the age 16.

While the Legislature won't vote on the bill, testimony from proponents of the bill was heard Wednesday by the Election Division of the House General Legislation, Veterans Affairs and Gaming Committee.

Kahn's idea is legislators would be more likely to concern themselves with issues affecting younger

citizens if those people were allowed to vote.

One representative said this version of Kahn's proposal is not getting "trivialized" as her previous attempt. It seems legislators thought 12-year-olds are too young but 16-year-olds may be getting closer to the age in which they could properly handle the privilege of voting.

Her idea is prime. Education often gets put on the back burner from legislators. It may make lawmakers nervous to have to pay attention to a group of teen-agers, but it may emphasize that it is those teens who are the country's future.

Her idea is still too new to be accepted. But at least it brings the idea forth and making a bunch of legislators jumpy can never be a bad thing.

# Genders balance bill advances

PHIL RAGSDALE STAFF WRITER

An effort to require the governor to balance the number of men and women on citizens' boards and commissions advanced to the floor of the Minnesota House of Representatives on Tuesday.

The House bill, sponsored by Rep. Phyllis Kahn, DFL-Minneapolis, was approved by the Governmental Operations Committee on a voice vote. The Senate version, sponsored by Sen. Sandra Pappas, DFL-St. Paul, has also advanced to the floor of the Senate.

Kahn said the proposal, supported by women's groups as a way of increasing women's representation on appointed boards, has been introduced before but has never advanced as far as it has this year.

Kahn cited a study by the Minnesota Women's Political Caucus showing that the percentage of women in appointive positions has increased slowly, from 31 percent of all positions in 1978 to 38 percent in 1990. The law is needed to improve progress in this area, she said.

Kahn's bill would affect the way the governor and other appointing authorities name citizens to the dozens of boards, commissions, councils and committees under the Open Appointments Law. It would require these bodies to be "gender-balanced," with equal numbers of men and women.

Under the bill, the governor could not reappoint members of a board or commission if they were the "wrong" sex. For example, if a board has too many men and a male member's term expires, the governor would have to appoint a woman, Kahn said. The bill would not require current members to resign, she said.

A spokesman for Gov. Arne Carlson said he had not heard of the bill and had no immediate reaction to it.

Iowa passed a similar law in 1987. In a letter to Pappas, Iowa Gov. Terry Branstad said the law "has provided new opportunities for women and minorities to play an increasing role in state government."

Pappas said the only concerns she heard from organizations were from female-dominated boards, such as nursing and battered women's groups. Kahn said it is possible the bill will eventually include exclusions for boards with specific technical qualifications, where it might be difficult to find qualifying members of both sexes.

Pappas said she has been surprised by the easy progress so far, and added, "I'll be shocked if it passes on the floor."

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GOODHUE COUNTY  
TRIBUNE, GOODHUE

MAY 14 1991

It's a fact!

137 508  
*From the Session Weekly*

There have been 66 female legislators since 1922, when women were first allowed to run for office. Of that number, well over half have been elected since 1977.

But one of the first female legislators, Mabeth Hurd Paige, still holds the title for the longest tenure as a female legislator. Rebuffed by the Republican Party in 1922, she ran as an independent and went on to serve Hennepin County for 10 terms in the Minnesota House.

She chaired the Welfare Committee and helped pass a law that outlawed street selling by minors.

But Paige may soon have to share her title. When Rep. Phyllis Kahn (DFL-Mpls) completes this legislative term, she will tie Paige's record.

# Kahn sues investment company

Illegal fees allegedly charged  
to pension fund in buyout

LINDA OWEN STAFF WRITER

State Rep. Phyllis Kahn, D-Tul. Minneapolis, on Wednesday filed suit against the giant New York leveraged-buyout firm of Kohlberg, Kravis, Roberts & Co.

The suit, filed in federal court in New York, alleges that KKR charged the pension funds of Minnesota and other states millions of dollars in illegal fees in connection with the 1988 buyout of RJR Nabisco. It was the largest corporate acquisition in U.S. history.

The suit — which KKR Wednesday termed “meritless and frivolous” — asks a federal judge to void the agreements that put state pension money into a \$3.6 billion investment pool used by KKR in the buyout.

The suit also seeks the return of all fees paid by investors in the pool. The complaint estimates the fees at more than \$300 million.

Neither Kahn nor the Minnesota Investment Board — which manages the \$16 billion of assets in eight state employee retirement funds — knew how much Minnesota might stand to recover if the suit were successful. Kahn said

SUIT CONTINUED ON PAGE 10

## SUIT/KKR calls action frivolous

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9

had heard one estimate of \$5 million.

The state has invested pension money in three KKR investment funds since 1984 and currently has \$170 million in KKR funds, according to Beth Lehman, the board's assistant executive director. Annual return has been about 23 percent, she said.

While the complaint says Kahn is acting on behalf of the investment board as chairman of the House panel that oversees its activities, Lehman said she and other staff members had not been consulted.

Kahn acknowledged that she took the action on her own, though she asked former Deputy Natural Resources Commissioner Steven Thorne — a pension fund contributor — to join her as a plaintiff to insure that the suit would have legal standing.

KKR, in a statement Wednesday, insisted that only the state Investment Board has legal standing

to bring such a suit. Moreover, the firm said, if the suit succeeds it will end the board's relationship with KKR, which “to date has produced approximately \$200 million in profit for the people and the State of Minnesota.”

Kahn said she was moved to act partly by a May 5 New York Times article that described how KKR converted millions of public pension dollars into leveraged buyouts, which are potentially high-yielding but risky investments. In leveraged buyouts, buyers borrow heavily to purchase a company and repay the debt by selling company assets or finding other ways to generate cash.

According to the Times report, state pension funds from Minnesota and 10 other states made up more than half of a \$5.6 billion KKR fund that was used in the RJR Nabisco deal.

Kahn said she is concerned about taking risks with retirees' pensions and angry about the general effect of 1980s merger mania

on the economic environment. She added that the RJR Nabisco investment may violate a state policy against investing in companies that are more than 50 percent dependent on alcohol or tobacco sales.

However, the lawsuit argues narrowly that KKR's ability to charge investors a variety of direct and indirect fees should be restricted under a 1948 federal law governing investment advisers.

KKR has argued that it is not an investment adviser. The firm said Wednesday it is a merchant bank that has organized a limited number of investment funds and “does not render investment advice to anyone.”

The suit says KKR took hundreds of millions of dollars in undisclosed investment banking and management fees from the companies it purchased and obtained “vast sums” through illegal profit-sharing arrangements. KKR said its fees are fully disclosed to investors.



Phyllis Kahn

# Big 'U' changes suggested

## Legislator wants Voelz to run combined program

By Curt Brown  
Staff Writer

SB

The Gophers men's and women's athletic departments should merge to save money, women's athletic director Chris Voelz should be put in charge and she should hire a new football coach quickly, an influential state legislator said Tuesday.

"Not only would this be a cost-saving effort, but it would also solve the problem for fast recruitment of a new football coach," said Phyllis Kahn, DFL-Minneapolis, who chairs a division of the House appropriations committee.

University officials have said they will wait until Rick Bay's successor as men's athletic director is chosen before hiring a replacement for football coach John Gutekunst.

Voelz balked at Kahn's idea, saying it has "terrible down sides" and would threaten to turn the female athletes into second-class citizens.

"It's unbelievable because Phyllis carries a lot of weight and a significant voice at the Legislature," Voelz said. "In the long run, this would affect the principle of equality and take away a lot of the services, advocacy, promotion and protection of women's sports."

President Nils Hasselmo received a letter from Kahn on Wednesday, his assistant, Kathy O'Brien, said late yesterday. But Hasselmo, away for Thanksgiving, won't see the letter until Saturday, O'Brien said.

Kahn, a strong advocate of female athletics, pooch-poochs the notion that the women's program would be smothered if combined with the men's. "You run that danger if you merge the women's department into the men's," she said. "But the beauty of this idea is that Chris would be in charge, so you'd be folding the men into the women and showing a serious cost-savings coordination."

Kahn suggests the move would save up to \$1 million. "Perhaps we may be able to avoid another situation of throwing away \$95,000 for the unnecessary salary of a non-coaching coach," she said, referring to the search to replace Bay.

In other words, take the money saved by making Voelz the school's one athletic director and funnel it to a football coach.

Two factors further muddle the issue:

■ The money crunch at the university and the Legislature, which — barring an override of Gov. Arne Carlson's veto — would strip the women's department of state funding.

■ And the news that Voelz might leave Dec. 7 to become executive director of the U.S. Volleyball Association, the sport's governing body that oversees both the men's and women's Olympic teams. Voelz said Tuesday she is one of two finalists.

Said Kahn: "Clearly, this new job would be more prestigious than the one she has now and could be a steppingstone to other things. If she's

having a tough time deciding, right now she realizes that after June 30 there will be no funding for women's athletics. Looking at all the serious funding problems ... it's logical to have one head of athletics."

Gov. Carlson has vetoed the entire state appropriation for women's athletics. Although there is talk that the veto will be overridden, Kahn said the women might have to depend on the men's department for funding. The women have a \$3.8 million budget, the men \$14.8 million. Combining the budgets would save money, Kahn said.

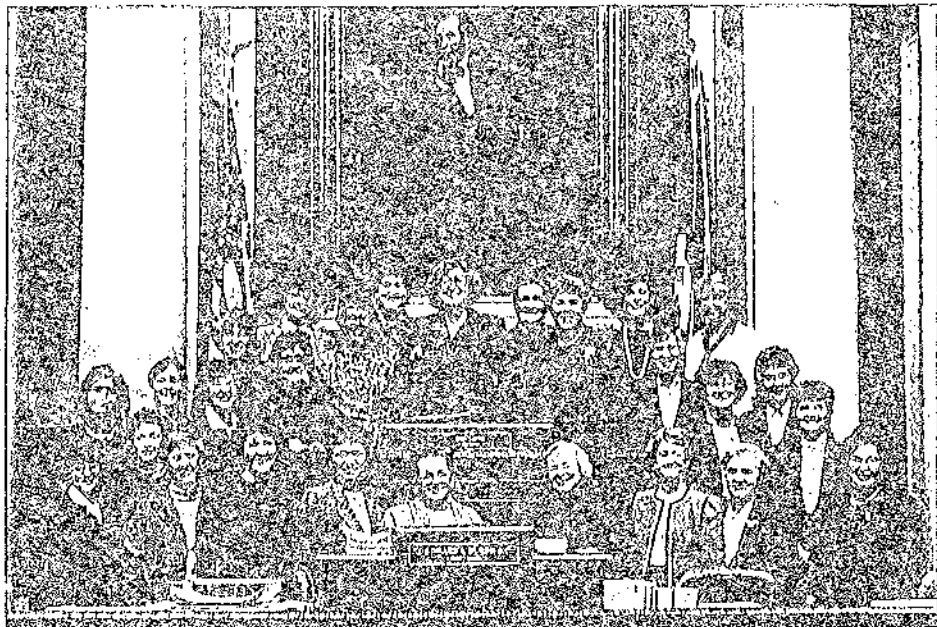
"In her mind, that's a logical progression," Voelz said. "But if you combined our budgets, we'd still be ninth or 10th in the Big Ten. If you take away the women's budget, you won't find a bottomless well on the men's side. They've been befallen with under-realized revenue, and it will take awhile to right itself."

Voelz is referring to an estimated \$180,000 shortfall caused by this season's bad football attendance, which dipped to a 20-year low.

Another factor is Title IX, which prohibits sex discrimination in education. If some women's sports are cut, corresponding men's sports also might be cut.

Said Kahn: "In a climate where the university cannot afford to maintain departments for humanities and linguistics, separate athletic departments should be considered an excessive luxury of the past."





**AMASSING POWER.** The 28 women who serve in the Minnesota House. Speaker Dee Lora is in the center.



# Veteran Rep. Kahn gets DFL nod

MSA Vice President  
Aric Nissen and a group  
for "no endorsement" put  
up five-ballot fight first.

By J.J. Thompson *MS Daily*  
*Staff Reporter* 4-6-93

State Rep. Phyllis Kahn earned endorsement Saturday at the District 59 DFL convention — but it took five ballots, and Kahn said she got the message.

"I certainly can stand before you and acknowledge receiving the message," Kahn said after getting the endorsement. "I am sorry I have offended people in the district. I will try to reach out to people more."

Critics had complained that Kahn was out of touch with her district.

Kahn, a 20-year incumbent from District 59B, which includes the Minneapolis campus, faced a challenge from a group campaigning for "no endorsement" and a surprisingly strong last-minute bid by Aric Nissen, vice president of the Minnesota Student Association.

On the first ballot, Kahn had less than half of the vote, with Nissen and "no endorsement" each having about a quarter of the 254 votes cast. Endorsement requires a 60 percent vote.

"We were ecstatic," Nissen said. "Between myself and the 'no endorsement,' we had about 50 percent."

Kahn's support crept up slowly through

four more ballots, with delegates becoming steadily more impatient.

Then Nissen, who had entered the race only the previous day, announced he was withdrawing.

"I wish I had started a week earlier, but I feel there were some issues that needed to be addressed," Nissen said.

Speaking for the "no endorsement" group, Sandy Pham then asked the delegates to endorse Kahn.



*"I am sorry I have  
offended people in the  
district. I will try to reach  
out to people more."*

58B —Rep. Phyllis Kahn  
(DFL-Minneapolis)

"I just want to say the movement to no endorsement was not out of spite, but out of dissatisfaction — extreme dissatisfaction," Pham said.

Pham's group, the Committee for Responsible Legislation, mostly formed by University students, launched its campaign about two weeks before the convention, stating they were upset with Kahn's sensationalist tactics and her lack of contact with constituents.

"Recently she's been more effective in getting tabloid-like headlines," said Pham. "Our main goal was to get her attention and to tell her there are some people in her district who are unhappy with her."

Kahn agreed they got her attention, and said she welcomes the competition. But she was upset with the methods used by the Committee for Responsible Legislation.

Although the group sent out signed letters to the 380 delegates to the convention asking

the appointment with her to discuss another topic, Pham said they did not want it to appear as if they made the appointment under false pretenses, and agreed not to discuss it.

When Kahn found out about the committee's campaign, Pham said, she called Pham several times and said they'd have a difficult time getting support from her if they continued.

Kahn said she understands some constituents are unhappy with her and will try to be more responsive. She said she learned it's better not to take a stand on an issue, but she won't stop doing that.

"I think both sides weren't happy with the tactics used," Pham said.

Pham and Nissen said they thought they were content with the results of their campaigns.

"I think she knows that if she doesn't work harder during the next two years, there will be a strong movement to oust her," Pham said.

As for Nissen, he was "pleased to have made such an impact on the district," he said.

Nissen said he had wanted to run for state representative for some time, and finally decided to when friends who were unhappy with Kahn told him he should run.

"This year a lot of issues came up and a lot of people explained to me they wanted someone else representing them besides Phyllis," he said.

# Legislators criticize U steam plant choice

By Mark Miller Staff Reporter

The University's plan to renovate the 1960s-era steam plant came under fire as legislators in Minneapolis appeared before the House Environment Committee to express their opposition to the University's plan.

Kahn introduced a bill that is opposing the renovation, which would equip the plant to use clean coal instead of natural gas.

"Heavy investment in clean coal is wasteful," Kahn said.

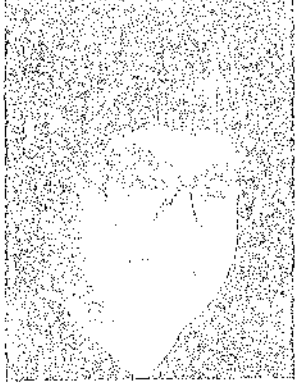
She also contested the cost and timing of the environmental impact study, suggesting that it be postponed in case her proposal is passed.

"It's a backwards part of the process and comes at an inappropriate time," she said. "The Legislature can make that decision now and save money."

Kahn also questioned the "photo finish" decision by the Board of Regents last April to accept the University's proposal for the project. She said little consideration was given to co-generation -- the generation of electricity from steam.

Facilities Management's Sue Markham disagreed: "Co-generation was not an afterthought," she said.

3-5-93 Monday



*"Heavy investment in clean coal is wasteful."*

--Rep. Phyllis Kahn (DFL Minneapolis)

Only Foster-Wheeler, a New Jersey-based energy corporation, showed interest in co-generation, Markham said.

"They had the only offer for fuel flexibility," she said.

The regents awarded the contract to Foster-Wheeler last April. The company has now

started construction on a \$100-million plant to burn natural gas and operate the plant.

The renovation, which would cost \$100 million, was approved by the Board of Regents in 1991, said Markham.

Markham said the University members' "initially held fire" opposition is being fought.

"The University doesn't want to finance a \$100-million plant to burn gas," Markham said.

She said it was important to put technology in place now to burn alternative fuels in the future.

The regents rejected in 1992 Arthur Mangan's proposal to make the plant burn natural gas.

"Why isn't the University looking at Minnesota resources?" asked Rep. Jean Wagoner (DFL - Minneapolis).

Markham said it was because of financial considerations.

"The University has looked at other alternatives," she said.

"Having reliable resources is critical" in trying to keep costs down.

Willard Munger (DFL - Duluth), committee chairman, said they will hear arguments from the two parties when they meet again Thursday.

After testimony is finished, the committee will vote on sending the bill to the House.

# Kahn seeks state tax on bookies

## Legalize, regulate gaming, she urges

GARY DAWSON CHIEF WRITER

Taxing bookies would be a good bet for Minnesota, says Rep. Phyllis Kahn, the Minneapolis DFLer who chairs the House Government Operations and Gaming Committee.

Kahn is sponsoring legislation that would give the state a healthy cut each time a sports bookmaker is beaten. She's also contemplating legalizing and taxing all sports betting, providing she succeeds in an attempt to overturn a new federal law passed in October that bans states from legalizing sports betting.

The state could collect a lot of revenue, depending on what tax rate it applies. Bookies do an estimated \$800 million to \$1 billion in business in Minnesota annually. There also is an estimated \$200 million spent on sports tipboards, parlay cards and number boards. A tax rate of 25 percent could produce as much as \$250 million annually, Kahn notes.

"The IRS taxes bookies, usually after they've been prosecuted or convicted," Kahn said. "I don't see why the state shouldn't get its share."

Tom Brownell, director of the Gaming Enforcement Division of the state Public Safety Department, says the state does much of the work for the IRS by investigating and prosecuting major bookmakers -- about 25 a year. Tax agents go after the apprehended bookies, betting records and seized cash. If the bookies haven't been paying taxes, and many of them don't, the IRS calculates what is due and collects. The state could do the same.

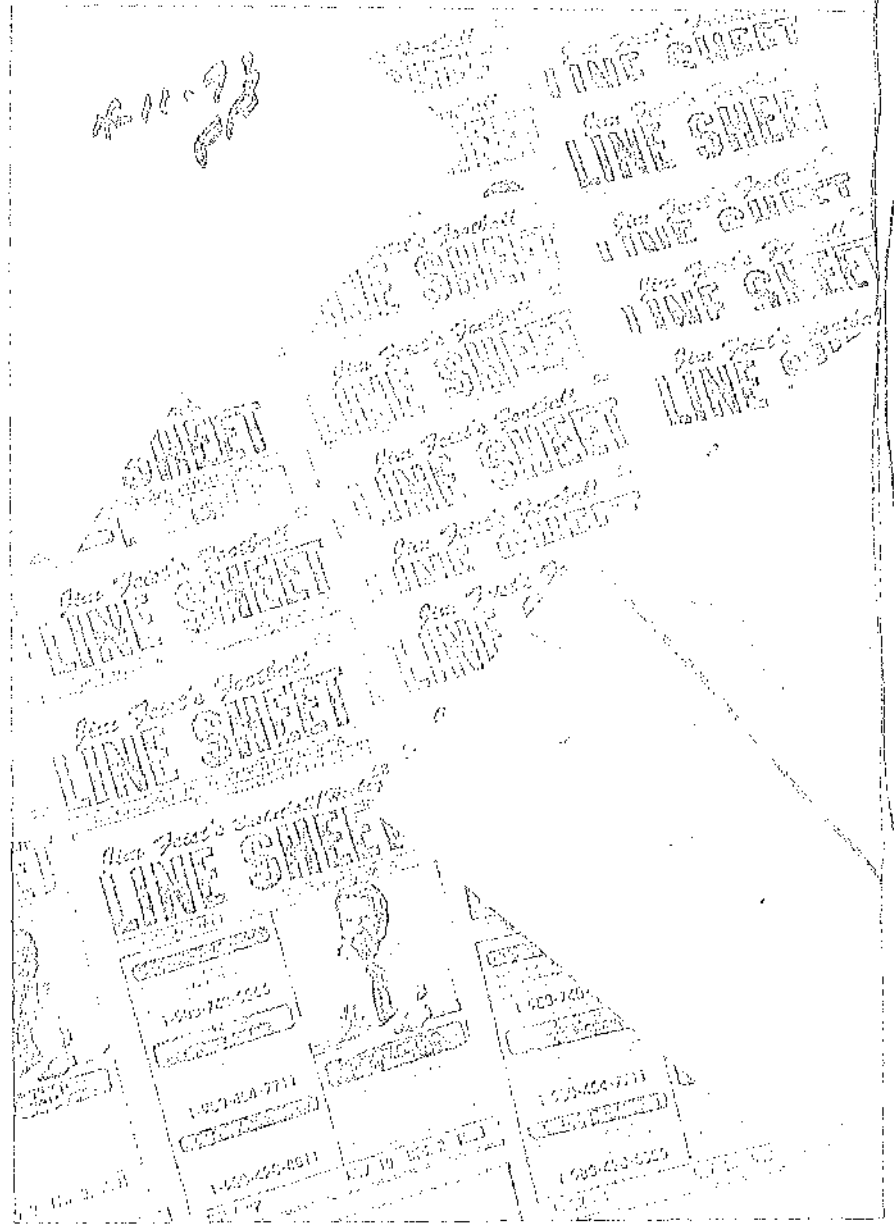
There are believed to be 496 bookmakers in the state each doing at least \$25,000 worth of business a year, including 250 in the Twin Cities metro area.

Kahn's plans don't stop there. She has a larger plan for sports betting: legalizing, regulating and taxing it.

"The state and local governments spend too much money investigating and prosecuting illegal sports gambling," Kahn said. "And all that happens is it keeps growing. Why not regulate it and tax it so the state gets some benefit and free up law enforcement personnel for other duties?"

There's just one big obstacle, and Kahn wants it removed. At the urging of the National Basketball Association and National Football League, Congress last year passed a ban on any new states legalizing sports betting.

The law, attached to an energy bill,



SCOTT TAKUSHY/HONEY BRIDES

This illegal sports bookmaking paraphernalia was seized by the Minnesota Public Safety Department.

created a monopoly in four states, including Nevada, that already have it. Kahn also has some doubts about the sincerity of the NBA and NFL in combating sports betting because illegal betting on their games is a big business.

"The federal law is unconstitutional and unfair," said Kahn, who added she was willing to allow the depressed bar and restaurant industry to participate in sports betting. She claims legalizing of gambling is a constitutional right reserved to the states and that the monopoly Congress has now handed a handful of states is unreasonable, arbitrary and discriminatory.

She has drafted a bill directing Attorney General Hubert Humphrey III to sue the federal government -- all the way to the Supreme Court if necessary -- in an attempt to have the law ruled unconstitutional.

While Brownell agrees the state should tax bookies, he doesn't agree legalizing sports betting will necessarily bring that industry under control. Illegal activity is likely to continue as well as the need for more enforcement, he said.

"It's the state's position that as far as legalizing more gambling, we ought to stop and take a look back at this point," Brownell said, noting Gov. Arne Carlson has recommended a policy study of legalized gambling and its social and economic effects.

Kahn said she may have her committee or a joint legislative study committee consider her bills and other gambling bills after adjournment and prepare a package for passage in the 1994 session. The study would include three bills that legalize video gaming in bars and restaurants.

# Students lobby to check tuition

## Tuition Rally

**WHO:**  
Minnesota State  
Legislature

**WHAT:**  
Rally to discuss proposals  
in the House and Senate,  
that would offer different  
ways to fund the University  
system.

**WHEN:**  
1 p.m. Friday

**WHERE:**  
Capitol Rotunda,  
State Capitol Building

*The rally is free and open  
to the public.  
For more info call  
625-9992.*

## Kahn says efforts can influence congressional budget proposals

By Adam Talle  
Staff Reporter

Organizers of Friday's third and final University Lobby Day at the state Capitol characterize the event as a "down to the wire" attempt to keep tuition from skyrocketing.

According to Rep. Phyllis Kahn (DFL-Minneapolis), student attendance at the Capitol during previous lobby days influenced the House and Senate tuition rate recommendations.

"Student presence was very effective this session," she said. "Students made very good cases against Gov. Carlson's tuition

proposal." *Min. Daily 4.15.93*

Legislators have said that student input influenced the House to propose a 3 percent increase in tuition, and the Senate to propose no tuition increase — both significantly lower than the governor's proposal.

University Senate Legislative Director Martin Conroy said a strong student presence at the Capitol will be a striking reminder of students' concerns.

"(The Legislature has given) students a breather for one or two years," he said. "This point in time is important because everything that's happened up to now is coming together."

Students from all University campuses will make up most of the driving force behind this Lobby Day, said Conroy.

Minnesota Student Association Forum Speaker Sandy Pham characterized the mood among Lobby Day organizers as hopeful.

"This year it feels like we can really make an impact on the Legislature," she said. "We actually feel that we can keep tuition down."

Organizers say they stepped up efforts to get University students to the Capitol for this Lobby Day. Providing free shuttle service from Coffman Memorial Union to the Capitol every hour



CONROY: Student lobbyist

Friday and offering pizza to students who make the trip will hopefully attract many students, said MSA President Ron Merckling.

# Science friction

5913

STARTRIBUNE-MAR 6 '74

## Trained in logic, Kahn has survived politics by learning to compromise

By Jim Dawson  
Staff Writer

When Yale-trained physicist Phyllis Kahn was first elected to the Minnesota Legislature in 1972, she had a problem: She thought as a scientist in a world where most colleagues thought as lawyers and business people.

Kahn was trained to use logic, to reduce big problems to smaller pieces until solutions could be found. Hers was the scientific method of problem-solving, and it required that she know everything about issues in order to deal with them.

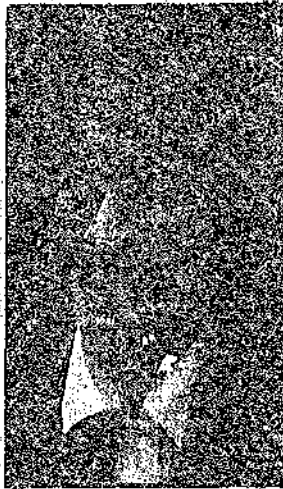
Meanwhile, her colleagues worked in a world based less on logic and reason and more on power politics, where gathering votes and supporting or opposing legislation was tied to a word that is anathema to scientists — compromise.

Kahn cornered other legislators and talked details, asked questions, explained what she had researched.

"I can remember she was frustrated as hell," said John Velin, now head of the Legislative Commission on Minnesota Resources. "They'd say, 'Don't be yakking about that, I want you to give me your vote.' She'd say, 'But I want you to understand.'"

Kahn's scientific approach was seen as "rigid and not playing the game," said Marvin Marshak, head of the University of Minnesota's Physics Department. "Phyllis was quite hated when she first started in the Legislature. Yet she's lasted. She's moved from science toward politics, yet she still has this science background."

Kahn, DFL-Minneapolis, is serving her 11th term in the House. She survived by learning to adapt, but the culture gap between those who do "science" and those who do "politics" is as large as it was back in 1972. And it's a source of frustration for scientists who watch legislative debates on such things as DNA fingerprinting, nuclear waste and artificially produced hormones in dairy cows.



Rep. Phyllis Kahn's scientific approach was seen as rigid in 1972.

# Kahn formula STARYRIBUNE--M MAY 6 '88

## Reimburse bikers for work-related miles

State Rep. Phyllis Kahn, the pint-sized dynamo who has brought Minnesota cleaner indoor air and gender fairness in school sports, now offers the state and nation another promising brainchild: the banana-yogurt formula for determining bicycle mileage reimbursement.

The Kahn formula is worthy of widespread adoption by employers who reimburse their employees for mileage expenses. It was developed by a Ph.D. biophysicist, a graduate of Cornell and Yale universities. It has proven satisfactory for many years to a large local employer -- the state of Minnesota. And its open embrace by other employers could go a long way toward encouraging more bicycle commuting throughout the state.

Math-whiz Kahn calculates the calories she burned pedaling her bike from her Nicollet Island home to the State Capitol. She then determines what quantity of bananas and yogurt -- her primary fuels -- produces those calories, and totals their price. She tosses in an extra penny per mile for bicycle depreciation and repairs -- a conservative amount, because she doesn't bike in winter and does all her own repairs.

The result is a logical, defensible cost per mile of a bicycle commute, repeatedly recognized as such by the state since she first used it in 1979. It comes to about 10 cents per mile now, Kahn reports -- a more reasonable figure than the standard auto reimbursement of 29 cents per mile sought by George Puzak of the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board for his two-wheel commutes.

A sound formula for calculating mileage should help employers nudge employees out of energy-inefficient, pollution-generating, highway-clogging cars.

The existence of a sound formula for calculating appropriate mileage reimbursement should help employers do their part to nudge employees out of their costly, energy-inefficient, pollution-generating, highway-clogging automobiles. Most employers won't directly reimburse workers for commuting by bicycle to and from home, but they could begin to pay mileage when bicycles are used for business-related travel during the workday. Employers also need to provide secure parking facilities for bikes -- as they routinely do for automobiles -- plus employee lockers and washroom facilities suited for freshening up after a summer ride.

Congress needs to do its part too. Several times over several decades, it has not acted on bills to give employers a tax deduction for bicycle mileage reimbursement, as it allows for auto mileage expenses. That legislation should move forward this year. Three years ago, by authorizing more funds for bicycle lanes on roadways, Congress made an increase in two-wheel transportation a national goal. It's a goal even more worth pursuing today.



# Carlson's jabs at Lottery raise Kahn's ire

■ Minneapolis rep says criticism is cheap political poke

GARY DAWSON STAFF WRITER

Gov. Arne Carlson's criticism of the director of the state Lottery for taking too many staff members to an international convention in Indianapolis is a "political cheap shot," state Rep. Phyllis Kahn, DFL-Minneapolis, said Friday.

Kahn, who chairs the House Governmental Operations and Gaming Committee, said it may have been appropriate for Lottery Director George Andersen to take a large delegation to the conference because the same convention will be held in Minneapolis next year.

Andersen said many of the 23 staff and Lottery Board members

spent time in Indianapolis this week gaining the detailed knowledge necessary to host a large convention.

Andersen was stunned by a critical letter the governor faxed to Indianapolis Thursday, describing as "appalling" the size of the delegation and the more than \$1,000 it cost to send each person.

Carlson said he will ask the 1995 Legislature to review the independent agency status of the Lottery.

"I think it is absolutely imperative that this agency be reined in so that there is adequate accountability," the governor wrote to Andersen. "In the meantime, I would request that you more prudently manage the financial affairs of the agency. Your judgment should be guided by the concept of public service."

"We're going to school, we have a booth at the convention and we're promoting Minnesota, hustling to get people to come to Min-

nesota next year," Andersen said. "It's imperative we be prepared and do the work that needs to be done."

Anderson estimated that 1,000 delegates from the North American Association of State and Provincial Lotteries will attend the convention in October of 1995 in Minneapolis. He said the hotel bill alone will approach one-half million dollars and the total economic benefit to the state will be two to three million dollars.

Kahn said the governor's action is the "kind of micro-management of the Lottery we really didn't want. It's a political cheap shot. If he wants to criticize the way Mr. Andersen is running the Lottery or his performance, then he ought to do it." Andersen, she said, is doing a good job of running the Lottery and producing revenue for the state. Forty percent of profits are dedicated to environmental and natural resource programs.

The legislator also said she doesn't consider going to Indianapolis much of a perk.

"Indianapolis is not exactly the junket capital of the county," Kahn said.

Noting Carlson's criticism that other state agencies have had to tighten their fiscal belts under his administration, Andersen said he spent \$7 million, or 15 percent less, on operational expenses than his statutory spending limit in the last fiscal year. That exceeded the budget-tightening of most agencies, he contended.

Carlson has clashed with Andersen before. The governor successfully intervened in 1992 to stop the Lottery Board from giving Andersen a \$44,500 pay bonus, which amounted to more than half his salary. The Legislature subsequently repealed the board's bonus authority but gave Andersen a pay raise.

## Lawmaker

# lobbies for sports betting

590

ST. PAUL (AP) — Minnesota should legalize betting on sporting events so the state would get a cut of the estimated \$800 million spent annually by Minnesotans on illegal sports betting, a DFL lawmaker says.

Rep. Phyllis Kahn said legalizing betting on sports would not lead to more gambling, because everyone who wants to bet on sports can already do it, even though it's illegal.

"If there's gambling going on, I'd like to see the state get its cut," the Minneapolis lawmaker said.

Kahn's proposal isn't likely to become law soon. Congress in 1992 outlawed sports gambling in states where it wasn't already legal. But Kahn has asked the Minnesota attorney general's office to look into a suit against the federal government.



# INSIDETALK

A collection of news, information and observations from the halls of government.

STARBUCKS, APR 24 '93

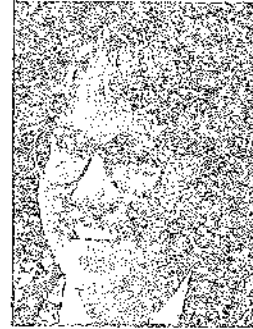
## Better brushed off than flamed

Rep. Phyllis Kahn, DFL-Minneapolis, thought she'd try out her e-mail skills with a message to the top: an invitation to President Clinton to go jogging when he visits the Twin Cities today.

59B

"I thought that doing it by computer would get a faster response," Kahn said. And it did. She got a presidential brushoff just one day later. "Boy, did I get blown off," she said, laughing. What she got was an e-mail form letter thanking her for being one of 475,000 presidential e-mailers. The unkiindest cut of all? The response was addressed to "auto-respond."

"I think that's the e-mail equivalent of 'occupant,'" she quipped.



Rep. Phyllis Kahn asked the president to go jogging but got an internet brushoff.

# Bill targets gambling with welfare money

STARTRIBUNE-S JAN 20 '78

By Rob Hotakainen  
Star Tribune Staff Writer

Minnesotans on welfare would find it harder to get cash at casinos, racetracks and bingo halls under a bill that won early support in the Legislature Friday.

The measure would penalize cashing a welfare check at a gambling establishment or getting access to such money through automated teller machines (ATMs) there. Under the bill, state officials could reduce future benefits to anyone by an amount equal to what was cashed or withdrawn at a gambling site. The new law would apply to any establishment that derives more than half of its gross revenue from gambling.

"We're not preventing people who are on public assistance from gambling," said Rep. Phyllis Kahn, DFL-Minneapolis, the bill's chief sponsor. "We're just insisting that there be a small intervention of reality before they do it."

Although the bill clears a House subcommittee, it could vi-

olate federal law, according to legislative analysts. Federal law apparently has no provision allowing the state to cut welfare grants based on where a check is cashed.

But when Rep. Steve Dehler, R-St. Joseph, questioned whether such a law would be constitutional, Kahn said she was confident it would be. If necessary, she said, Minnesota could apply for a waiver from the federal law.

In Hennepin and Ramsey counties, welfare benefits are now paid through an "electronic benefits transfer" system. Under the system, welfare payments are deposited into an account, and individuals can withdraw the money from ATMs.

In December, the Star Tribune reported that hundreds of thousands of taxpayer dollars meant to provide food, clothes and housing for the poor are being wagered on blackjack and in slot machines. The newspaper reported that welfare recipients from Hennepin and Ramsey counties are withdrawing benefits from casino ATMs at a level of more than \$400,000 per year. In September, there were 769 transactions at Mystic Lake Casino in Prior Lake alone.

The newspaper's findings were part of the debate Friday before the House Committee on Government Operations Gambling Division, which passed the bill on a unanimous vote. Kahn said that while the amount of money being withdrawn at casinos is relatively small — \$39,000 per month in the two counties — public money is still being spent for a purpose that lawmakers did not intend.

Kahn told the panel that she has heard concerns that her bill is another form of "bashing people" on welfare, but she said she has always been a strong supporter of public assistance. She said that casinos thrive on an "absence of reality" and that her proposed law would help, even if it only forces welfare recipients to go next door to cash their checks or to use a cash machine.

"We're taking a very small step to put a very small barrier in front of the people who are using public assistance funds for gambling," Kahn told the subcommittee.

In addition to the possible constitutional barriers, enforcing the law could be a headache for state employees. Barb Anderson, who oversees the cash-card sys-

tem for the Department of Human Services, said employees would have to go through checks manually to determine whether they had been cashed by welfare recipients at casinos. Since the newspaper published its story, Anderson said, the department has been considering whether to block access to electronic benefits at cash machines in casinos.

"That would cover half the problem," Kahn responded.

Rep. Mark Olson, R-Big Lake, asked Kahn if she had considered preventing welfare recipients from doing any gambling, but Kahn said she preferred her narrower approach. She referred to Olson's suggestion as a "slippery slope."

All tribes that run casinos already have restrictions on their check-cashing policies, said Larry Kitto of the Minnesota Indian Gaming Association.

"It's not in their interest, and it's not their desire, to encourage people on welfare to come into their establishments and spend their meager earnings," Kitto told legislators. But of the cash machines, he said: "That's a system that's impossible for the tribes to police, even if they wanted to."

598

# Kahn proposes measure to kill three projects along riverfront

## U's steam plant, shredders would be affected

PIONEER PRESS, JUL 2, 1978

DENNIS LIEN, STAFF WRITER

**S**aying now is the time to consider stricter land-use regulations along the Mississippi River in the Twin Cities, a Minneapolis legislator has introduced a bill that would put the brakes on three controversial riverfront

### WHAT'S NEXT

Sen. Larry Pogemiller, DFL-Minneapolis, plans to sponsor a similar bill in the Senate.

projects.

State Rep. Phyllis Kahn said the legislation is needed to protect the river from environmental pollution and to promote development that's consistent with long-term goals for the river corridor.

The bill would prohibit issuance of permits for two large metal shredding machines in Minneapolis and St. Paul and expansion of a coal-fired steam plant at the University of Minnesota.

Neighborhood residents have contended the shredders are too noisy and would

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## BILL

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produce too much dust. Meanwhile, environmentalists and some faculty oppose the decision by the University of Minnesota's Board of Regents.

"It seems to me the Legislature ought to take the policy that we should reclaim the river from these types of things," said Kahn, a DFL lawmaker. "It should show that there is a better alternative."

Sen. Larry Pogemiller, DFL, Minneapolis, plans to sponsor similar legislation in the Senate.

The three projects are at different stages of development.

Last summer, the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency completed an expanded environmental review of a proposed metal shredder called a Kondrator in North Minneapolis. The review generally found no major environmental impacts. But the mayor, city council,

and park and recreation board, among others, maintain the review was insufficient. The Pollution Control Agency's board will consider issuing permits as early as next month.

The city of St. Paul, meanwhile, is going over a less detailed review of another proposed metal

sought from the Pollution Control Agency.

Because this is a short legislative session, it's unclear how receptive lawmakers will be. "It's going to be much easier to kill something than pass anything," Kahn conceded.

The bill can't wait until next year, she and Pogemiller said, because some or all of the projects could be under way by then. "The timing is such that we have to move this session or we will have lost the opportunity," Pogemiller said.

He said the legislation makes land use along the riverfront a higher priority.

"Particularly heavy industrial users on the riverfront don't make any sense now, so we want to avoid them," he said. "This is not an attack on the people who own those things. It's more a question of what type of riverfront, in the long term, are we going to have."

Pogemiller said the legislation also is important for cities elsewhere in Minnesota that are struggling with riverfront development issues.

shredder on the banks of the river, the river and a riverfront development board oppose the project.

Earlier this month, the university's board of regents voted to expand its coal-fired steam plant near the Stone Arch Bridge in Minneapolis. A permit is being

**"It seems to me the Legislature ought to take the policy that we should reclaim the river from these types of things."**

REP. PHYLLIS KAHN  
OF MINNEAPOLIS

59B

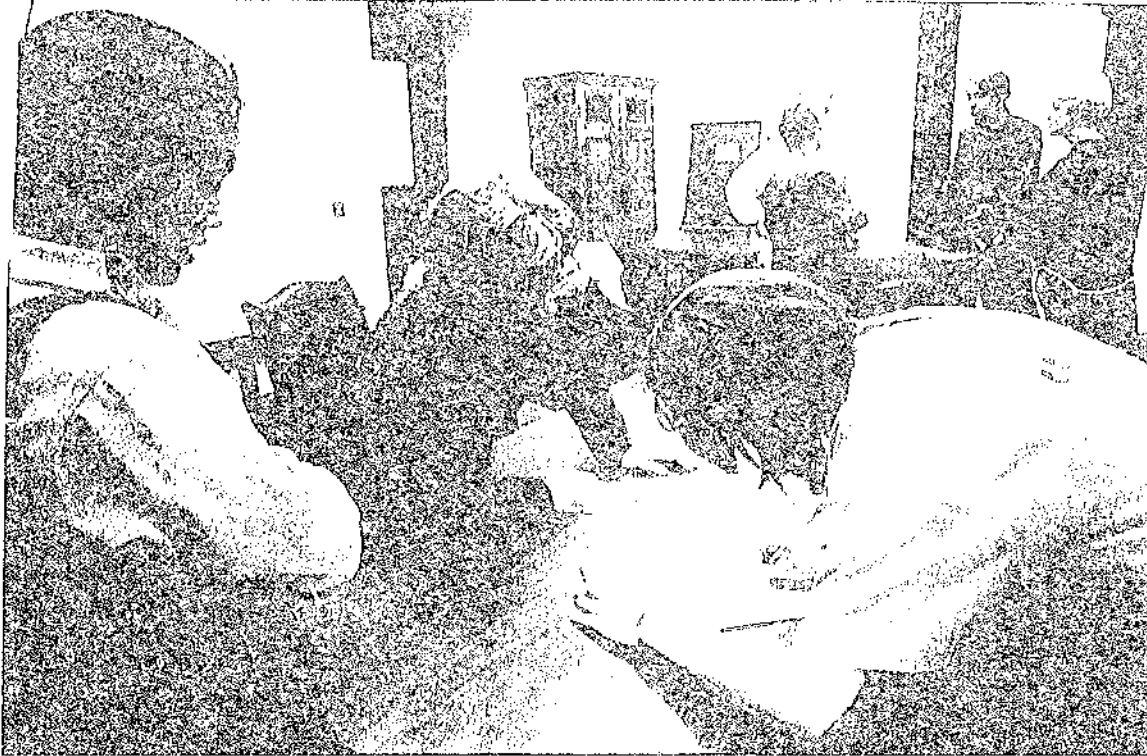


Photo For The Daily/Kenel Sato

Rep. Phyllis Kahn, DFL-Minneapolis, exchanges numbers with Minnesota Student Association Vice President Rebecca Mathern after a meeting between MSA members and state legislators Tuesday night in the DFL caucus room at the state Capitol. They expressed their satisfaction with the increasing presence of student lobbyists at the Capitol.

# Kahn praises efforts of U's student lobbyists

Kirk Baruth  
Staff Reporter

4/3/96 Sun Daily

With the 1996 session of the Minnesota Legislature drawing to a close, Rep. Phyllis Kahn, DFL-Minneapolis, called an 11th-hour meeting Tuesday with some of her most ardent political supporters: University students.

Kahn, whose district includes the University, asked Minnesota Student Association President Matt Musel to invite students to join her, along with Rep. Alice Johnson, DFL-Spring Lake Park, for an informal round-table discussion about the legislative year. Johnson is an influential member of the House Education Committee. The two representatives were joined by House colleague Richard Jefferson, DFL-Minneapolis, whose district is near Kahn's.

Musel convened a group of seven students, mostly MSA members, including his vice president, Rebecca Mathern. The group met for nearly an hour.

The conversation turned quickly to a discussion of the fate of the University's General College.

Many of the students had also attended the MSA Forum meeting earlier in the day at which administrators delivered differing reports about the proposed closing of General College. The students expressed frustration about the fact that some administrators seem to want to open a dialogue on the subject while, they say,

University President Nils Hasselmo seems set in his decision to recommend the school's closing.

"From President Hasselmo ... we are all getting the impression that the decision has been made and that this is the recommendation that goes to the regents," said Helen Phin, who has been at the forefront of students' lobbying efforts at the Legislature this year.

Kahn agreed with the students, saying a recent conversation she had with W. Phillips Shively, provost for Arts, Sciences and Engineering, left her with the impression that the proposition to close General College is "on the table." She said everyone she's heard from since then has also recommended closing the college.

After touching on topics ranging from tuition to work study to reciprocity with Wisconsin, the conversation turned back to General College. The students and politicians discussed the misconceptions that many people have about the school's mission.

"The idea that General College is only remedial is, I think, a really wrong idea," Kahn said.

Everyone present agreed that University students have increased their presence at the Capitol and their influence with legislators in the last year.

"When you come over, you are what we call 'real people,'" Jefferson said.

Kahn praised the students' attempts to invest in "human capital," as opposed to University lobbyists who seem only to be interested in money and buildings.

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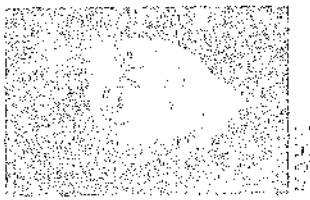
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# Kahn ready to raise taxes to support U

By Bob Schuchman  
The University of Minnesota is ready to raise taxes to support the university, according to a statement issued by the university's president, Robert Kahn, today.



KAHN

Other business employees from making decisions at the workplace. "I've been on the line and other bills named Kahn, "Kahn approved during the 1986 election. She is a very proud of her record as a legislator and there is nothing wrong with starting a career for an undergraduate.

University funding is very important to Kahn. She fought against the closing of General College and has called for more funds to be appropriated to the University. "I'm a strong supporter of education," Kahn said. "Whatever need for the University is public money to pay for it."

Kahn said she is willing to vote for higher taxes if it leads to more funding for the University. "I have never run on a program of decreasing taxes," Kahn said. "I don't believe we are overtaxed."

After the 1970 national census, Kahn said she

district lines were redrawn in 1972. Kahn said the newly drawn district, which still stands today, fits her well.

"I would be being in a district that was very good for a liberal person to run in," Kahn said.

Among Kahn's recent bills was a plan to reduce the voting age from 18 to 16. She said it is a reasonable position. Even though it would require a constitutional amendment.

This bill will call attention to the fact that children are not getting their dues in the political process," Kahn said. "If we are worried about them being irresponsible, why do we let them vote?"

Kahn is a former University professor in bio-physics and genetics. She received her masters degree in public administration from Harvard University. She is married with two children and lives in Nicolet Island.



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# Kahn opposes tenure 'tinkering'

Chris Vetter  
Staff Reporter

Rep. Phyllis Kahn, DFL  
Minneapolis, said the Board of Regents should leave the University's tenure code alone.

If reelected on Nov. 5, Kahn said she will make sure that University concerns in general, and tenure specifically, are given high priority at the Capitol. Kahn has represented district 59B, which includes the entire Minneapolis campus except for Middlebrook Hall, for the past 24 years in the state Legislature.

"I am a strong opponent of tinkering with the tenure program," Kahn said. She said she hopes the Legislature will work to keep the current tenure system in place during its next legislative session, which begins on Jan. 7, 1997, she said.

"I've spoken with most of the

University area legislators, and they are very concerned with what the regents have done."

What they have done, Kahn said, is steered the University down a dangerous economic path. "It's a real mistake for the regents of the University of Minnesota to head in this direction," Kahn said. "The regents don't seem to understand the basic tenets of capitalism. If they offer a bad market, the good professors will go to a better market."

The regents' proposed revisions to the University tenure code last month would make it easier for tenured professors to be laid off during times of restructuring. The revisions would also put into place a system to deal with professors who fail to show "a proper attitude of industry and cooperation." A faculty proposal in June included a tougher faculty post-tenure review process,

but said nothing of stronger layoff authority for administrators.

Kahn is a former University professor in biophysics and genetics, and her husband Donald is currently a professor in the math department.

Kahn joins a growing list of influential members of the University community who oppose the regents' proposal, a list which includes University President Nils Hasselmo and Regent Jean Keffeler, who released a letter Tuesday stating her belief that the regents should rescind their proposal.

Rep. Becky Kelso, DFL-Shakopee, who chairs the University of Minnesota Committee in the House, has also said she is hopeful the regents will drop their demands. But, Kelso said, she hopes something stronger than the faculty proposal is ultimately ratified.



# Veteran Kahn coasts to a victory

## Longtime incumbent finishes an easy race

Democratic State Rep. Phyllis Kahn wasn't particularly worried Tuesday night about winning her 13th term to the State Legislature.

Kahn, who represents District 59B, which includes the West Bank Campus, sailed to an easy victory over Republican challenger Tom Gromacki and Reform Party candidate Alan Shilepsky.

"I think people have been satisfied with my record and what I've done, and I think I've connected well with the voters in this district -- and the results will show that."

Neither Gromacki nor Shilepsky presented much of a challenge, Kahn said.

"Anyone who thinks the prime issue is to bring God and Christ to campus is ... totally out of touch with the district," she said of Gromacki. Kahn said Shilepsky is "basically just a disgruntled guy."

Among the major issues Kahn

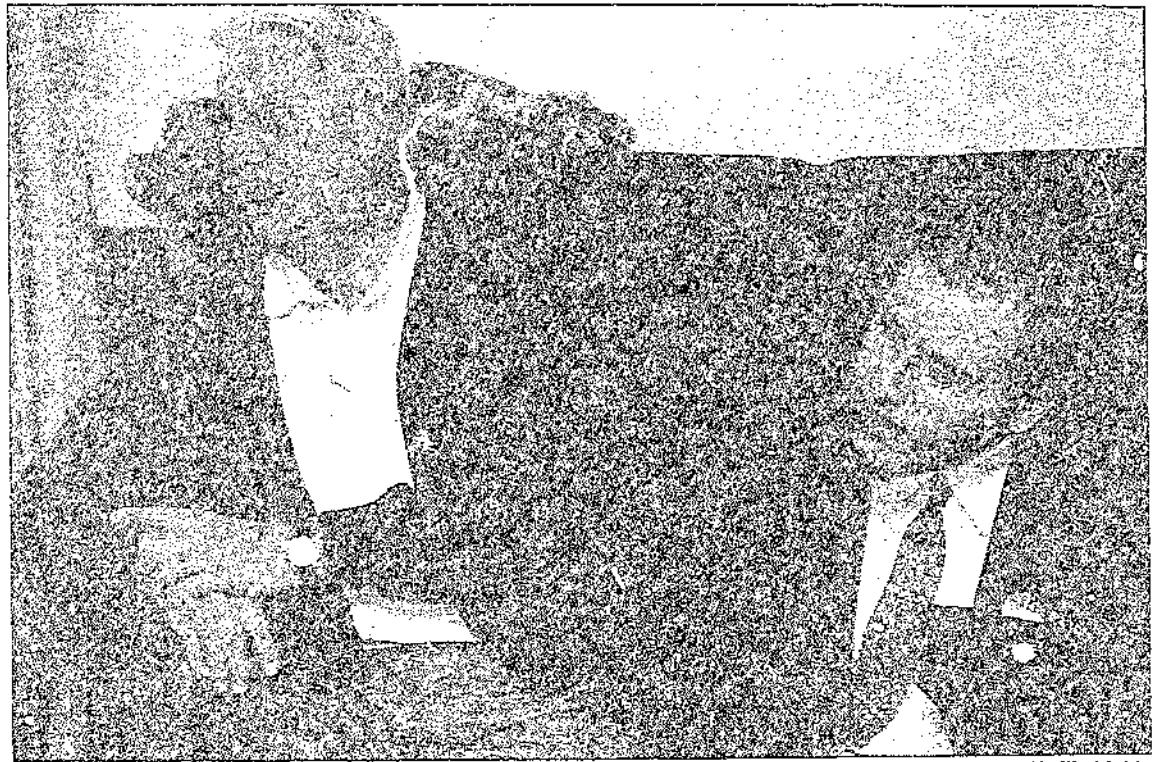
has pledged to help solve during her new term are the University's tenure battle and the controversial steam plant renovation. She also said she hopes to influence the upcoming Board of Regents elections and the search for a successor to University President Nils Hasselmo.

Kahn has called on the regents to resign en masse because of what she says is their bungling of the tenure issue. She said a vacant board would be better than the current board. "Worse than (the regents') lack of leadership has been their leadership," she said.



KAHN

— Joel Sawyer



Photo/Caille Lipkin

College of Liberal Arts junior and District 59B State House of Representatives candidate Tom Gromacki, right, peeks at the television to watch coverage of the 1996 election. Republican supporters and candidates, including Bruce Harpel, left, were joined Tuesday night by Gromacki at the home of election judge Wayne Johnson in northeast Minneapolis.

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# Kahn says citizens should own Twins

## Suggests alternative to stadium deal

Tracy Ellingson  
Staff Reporter *(7200)*

✓ Rep. Phyllis Kahn, DFL-Minneapolis, is expected to introduce a bill today that would give Minnesota residents full ownership of the Twins baseball team.

Kahn, who is an opponent of Gov. Arne Carlson's recommendation that the state use tax dollars to build a new baseball stadium, said Thursday that she would reconsider supporting state funding for the stadium only if the state would be allowed to buy the team from its current owner, Carl Pohlad. Purchasing the team would allow the whole state to benefit, rather than just Pohlad, Kahn said.

The bill calls for the state to purchase the Twins, who have been in Minnesota since 1961, and then resell shares of the team to the community. The ownership would follow the same model Wisconsin uses with its pro football team, the Green Bay Packers.

Pohlad, who has owned the team since 1984, and Carlson have discussed selling 49 percent of the team to the public, leaving Pohlad with 51 percent ownership, and using tax dollars to buy the new stadium.

But Kahn, whose district includes most of

the Minneapolis campus, told members of the U-DFL at a meeting Thursday night that buying the stadium without the team is unwise because it does not ensure that the Twins, the source of profits, will stay in Minnesota.

"The immediate issue is that you get the blackmail over and done with," Kahn said. "The Gophers don't threaten to move because we own them."

"Owning the stadium is a really rotten deal," Kahn continued. "Owning the team is a really good economic deal."

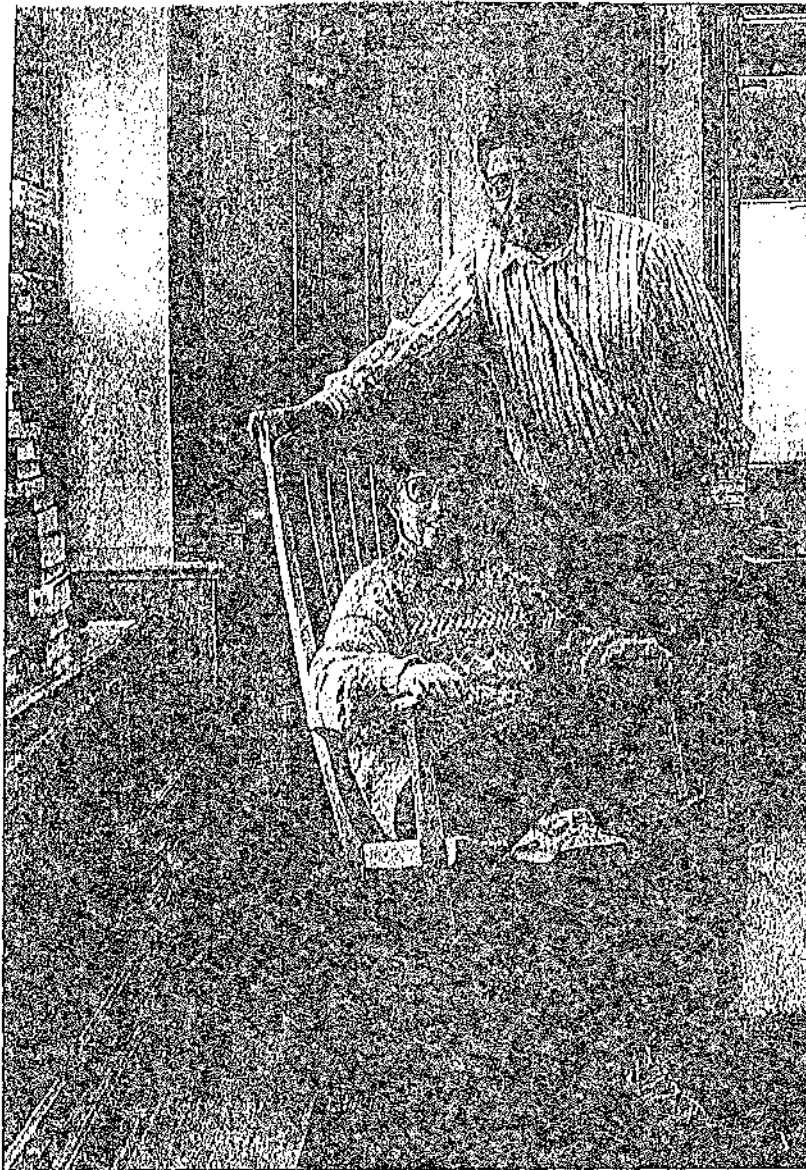
✓ Sen. Ellen Anderson, DFL-St. Paul, who plans to introduce the same bill Monday in the Senate, agrees with Kahn and has also said that the state would benefit more from owning the team than it could from owning only a stadium.

"(Buying the stadium) is basically only a good deal for the owners of the Twins," Anderson said. "They would basically get all the advantages and the profits, and we would get this building without a guarantee that we'd have the team. And the team is where the profits are."

Anderson added that Minnesotans who disapprove of using tax dollars to buy the

D See KAHN page 4

June '97  
Law + Politics



PHOTOGRAPH BY LARRY MARCUS

### Don and Phyllis Kahn

#### Don + Phyllis Kahn

Like most long-married couples, Don and Phyllis Kahn finish each other's sentences. They also speak for each other, and in an eerie twist on tradition, answer questions in unison, as if their brains were hot-wired together.

They met while students at Cornell University and married in 1956, before their senior year.

It was a partnership of like minds. Phyllis, raised in Brooklyn, and Don, in Queens, both excelled in math and science. Phyllis eventually got her Ph.D. in biophysics, and Don earned his in mathematics.

They both pursued East Coast academic careers for a time, until Don accepted an offer to teach at the University of Minnesota.

It was the early 1970s. Phyllis, working as a non-faculty professor at the university, was frustrated with

what she saw as an unfair academic system. "I started paying attention to what my status was and what was the status of others," she says. "I filed a discrimination complaint, and things rapidly went from bad to worse."

Her frustrating university experience led Phyllis to political activism. A longtime Democrat, she joined Minnesota's women's political caucuses, and in 1972, was elected to her first term in the state House of Representatives. "I was a victim of my own rhetoric," she jokes.

This sudden turn of events would have turned most traditional 1970s households on their ears. But in the equality-minded Kahn home, it was just life as usual. "There was a real surge of women being elected then," Don recalls. "Phyllis was part of that first wave."

A two-career couple, Don and Phyllis were well accustomed to

divvying up the duties connected to raising their two preteen children, so when Phyllis decided to take on her legislative duties full time, the transition went smoothly.

"My mother was a psychologist," Don says. "So I was raised in a family where both parents work. It was never an issue for me. It was just the way things were."

Phyllis found her calling in politics, surviving her share of tough challenges and grueling elections to become one of the senior members of the state's governing body. Through it all, as Phyllis' political star ascended, Don has taken a decidedly low-key approach to his wife's celebrity.

That doesn't mean, however, that Don stays out of his wife's career to the point of invisibility. There are occasions when, in the role of friend and helpmate, he feels compelled to respond to charges leveled at Phyllis by her opponents.

"I don't know what a supporting role of a husband in politics ought to be," he says. "Sometimes a particularly obnoxious character will harass Phyllis at a convention, and I'll feel compelled to step in and talk to him. But generally, we try to stay out of each other's way."

Years from now, when Don and Phyllis finally decide to hang it all up and start their retirement, they will have already picked out the spot

chuckles Phyllis, only half joking. "I'd love to be ambassador to Papua New Guinea."

"The ambassador's residence is the size of a ranch house," adds Don. "I don't think there is a whirlwind social life, but it certainly would be a great adventure."

### Likes and dislikes

Like: Running and biking scene. Open political dialogues. Art and theater scene.

Restaurants (particularly as compared to 20 years ago). City is clearly in good economic shape as shown by low vacancy rate. Concern for kids, i.e., passage of school referendum.

Don't like: Xenophobia of many residents. Lack of good shopping (for food, for example) in many neighborhoods. Smugness (residents, politicians, press), as shown by constant references to "quality of life." Number of restaurants that close by 9 p.m. Insensitivity of car and bus drivers to bikes. Worship of car. Lack of sufficient alternative transport. Indoor baseball. Preoccupation with professional sports. NWA's domination of air transportation.

P.S. Like: The university as an intellectual force in the city. Dislike: The way the university runs over little people and neighborhoods.

**State Rep. Phyllis Kahn, DFL-Minneapolis.**



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# Tough love

START TRIBUNE-W DEC 11 '97

## is the law in this legislator's garden

By Connie Nelson  
Star Tribune Staff Writer

State Rep. Phyllis Kahn (DFL-Minneapolis), is a gardening gadfly.

Like the diminutive dynamo herself, her garden is nothing if not provocative.

Visible from halfway down the curving street on Minneapolis' Nicollet Island, her overzealous garden garners second looks and elicits comments from neighbors and strangers who stroll the urban island.

Huge sprays of obedient plant stray into the sidewalkless street. Angel's trumpet crowd the hand-laid limestone paths, and raspberry canes reach out to scratch those who would enter the extravagant garden unaware. Sunflowers tower, orange cosmos creep and huge, heavy-headed Annabelle hydrangeas stand ready to assume control.

Kahn's garden is unabashedly abundant, prolific, profuse. It's a garden with a point of view, taking both sides of the yard plus a big chunk out of the middle. Her copious but compact garden doesn't just surround the Victorian-era house she shares with her husband, Don, it threatens to overwhelm it.

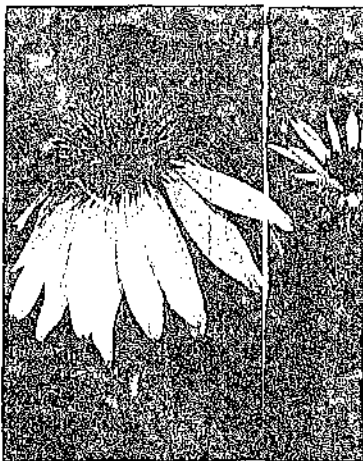
Planned, planted and maintained with a mix of diligence and disregard, hers is a Darwinian garden where only the fittest flora survive.

Kahn calls it her "bug garden."

"If you're not tough, you can't make it in this garden," she said. "I do a little bit of moving around to help things along, but you gotta be tough. If you need a lot of care, you're not going to make it in this garden."

Of course, this garden didn't happen by happenstance. It was the product of planning and political intrigue.

When friend Liz Anderson, a state government administrator, lost her job in a change of administration, she went back to school to earn her degree in landscape architecture. At the time, the Kahns had just bought their home, which required such extensive renovation that the yard was laid to waste. The laid-off administrator-cum-landscaper went to work. And in the midst of a Re-



Hardy purple coneflower is one of Kahn's perennial favorites.

publican administration, the Kahns' very democratic garden grew.

"Everything was planned," said Kahn. "Every flower was planned. It was planned to go with the house and my lifestyle. It was planted to be able to take neglect."

Of course, even the best-laid plans of legislators and landscapers often go astray. And in the five years since it was sown, many of the plants in Kahn's garden have grown their own way. The digitalis has disappeared, the monarda continually threatens to take over.

But that doesn't mean that Kahn has abandoned the original plans. Every spring, she hauls out the rain-splattered drawings and notes the substitutions and additions she and nature have made.

Instead of being offended by the changes in the garden, designer Anderson views them as a natural evolution, a ripening, and applauds Kahn for the way in which she has cared for a garden of her own.

"It's a tumble of color and a tumble of combinations intended to spill out all over the place," said Anderson. "It was designed to be her and she has gar-

dened it to be her."

Though Kahn despairs of how little time the legislature leaves her to devote to her garden, it's not as if she's laissez-faire about her plot.

On the contrary, Kahn gardens hard when she gardens. She does her own prep work, weeding and harvesting. She seeks out unusual annuals and perennials and has managed to find exotic varieties of vegetables, including bright purple 'Neon' eggplant and cold-weather-resistant 'Muscovite' tomatoes. She even starts many of her most-prized plants from seed she has harvested.

"I do dare to do some of that," she admits, "but it means I may be planting at 1 or 2 in the morning."

Though she may be gardening at night, Kahn is not in the dark when it comes to growing things. The Harvard-trained physicist was born and bred in Brooklyn, N.Y., but she was raised raising plants right across the street at the Brooklyn Botanical Garden.

"I probably took more horticulture classes than a kid who grew up in the country," she laughed.

Kahn earned her green thumb early and kept gardening until a family, a career and shady yard in Prospect Park thwarted her growing ambitions. It wasn't until 1992, when she and her husband moved to their sun-drenched lot on Nicollet Island, that she returned to her early love.

That the oft-frenzied Kahn, a marathoner and avid biker, would

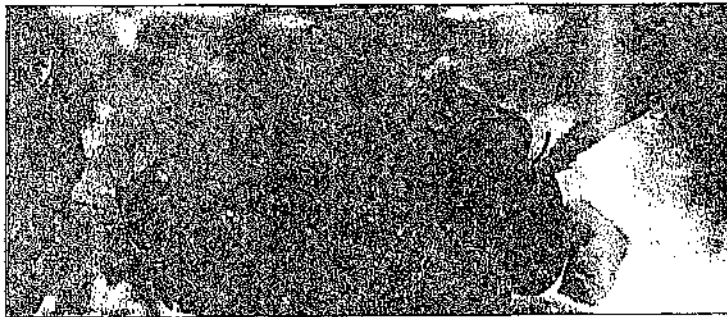
immerse herself in the comparatively composed pastime of gardening might come as a surprise to coworkers and constituents. But the 13-term representative somehow manages to put as much passion and purpose into her garden as she has her legislation.

"I try to have as many things as possible have a purpose," she said.

In her garden, she has plants that attract butterflies and plants that feed the birds. She has plants that yield the produce that lines her kitchen counter and plants that produce the fruit that fills her pantry. She has plants that bloom at night (when she's most often home), plants that smell good and, of course, plants that look good. But above all, she has plants that take good care of themselves.

As an engineer of notable legislative (such as the Clean Indoor Air Act) and notorious bills (such as the bid to give teens the right to vote), Kahn has experienced success and failure. And it's clear she sees a measure of both in her self-sustaining garden.

"The garden does get a lot of neglect," she sighed. "Whenever I visit a well-tended garden I kind of cringe. I probably wouldn't mind a team of gardeners working on it. But it's such a complicated garden, I can't weed it myself without pulling out something that I didn't want to pull out. And people have the impression that it's abundant and it's a real successful kind of garden — for me."



### Gardening tips from Phyllis Kahn

➤ **Weed with caution.** "When you find something and you don't know what it is, only pull half of it. In case it wasn't something you shouldn't have pulled, you still have half of it left."  
➤ **Consider hiring a professional garden planner,** especially if you're just getting started or working from the ground up. If you can't afford to go with a pro or prefer to strike out on your own, be sure to think the whole thing through

rather than go at it plant by plant.  
➤ **Trade plants and pass along seeds.** "I like the idea of continuity," said Kahn. "I like passing things along and giving things away." A cutting from a simple hosta — transplanted from her husband's grandmother's garden and growing in their daughters' garden — helps keep the Kahns connected.  
➤ **Plant what you like.** Though a

lack of space and sun prevents Kahn's asparagus from producing enough to harvest, she lets it grow, considering it not a vegetable but a decorative plant.  
➤ **If your space is limited, try square-foot vegetable gardening.** Using the square-foot planting method, Kahn has managed to pack more than a dozen different kinds of greens, 14 varieties of tomatoes, eggplant, peppers, tomatillo and zucchini

into two raised beds.  
➤ **If you want unique annuals and perennials and produce that you can't pick up at your typical farmers' market, start from seed.** Exotic and unusual seeds are available through catalogs and at many local nurseries.  
➤ **Be open to advice from other gardeners.** Listen and learn from their experience. Said Kahn: "I take advice from anyone who will give it."



Star Tribune Photos by John Croft

Annabelle hydrangeas are one of the fittest flora that thrive in Kahn's garden.

*Editor's note: The temperate months are those many of us live for. Even if we enjoy a crunchy walk on a bright winter day, we always enjoy a glimpse of summer past for a promise of summer to come. Last summer, we visited several gardens nominated by gardeners and their friends so that we may bring you those glimpses throughout the darker months. Here is one in our ongoing series.*

# 'ello?' care for a Parliament, gov'nah

## Kahn's bill would turn Legislature into Euro-style body

BY JOHN YEWELL  
Staff Writer

If Rep. Phyllis Kahn gets her way, your next vote for governor could be your last.

Kahn, a Minneapolis DFLer, introduced a bill Monday that would end direct elections for governor and other state constitutional officers and bring a parliamentary system to Minnesota. House File 3543 would create a unicameral Legislature starting in January 2003 that would choose the governor, who could then appoint his own cabinet.

The system would mimic parliamentary systems in Europe. In Britain, the leader of the victorious majority party automatically becomes prime minister. In France, the prime minister is appointed by an elected president, but by tradition he is a member of the majority party in the parliament. Both countries have bicameral legislatures, but with upper houses that serve as rubber stamps for actions of the lower house.

Kahn said she conceived the idea of a parliamentary system as a natural extension of the idea of a unicameral Legislature.

"If you want to move to a unicameral Legislature with greater efficiency, to make things run with more cooperation, this is a much better way to go," said Kahn.

Moving to a parliamentary system with a

unicameral Legislature would effectively end divided government, where the administrative and legislative branches were controlled by different parties. It would also give voters more incentive to vote for a party rather than individuals. Once in power, a party would have virtual free reign to carry out its policy priorities. Elections would take place a maximum of four years apart, but could be called sooner by the governor.

Kahn says that despite the fact that people would lose the right to vote for governor, their vote for the policies of one party over another would actually gain in importance.

"I'm not a fan of divided government," said Kahn. "Your independent vote for what kind of government you want is more important."

Kahn introduced a similar bill in 1994. That version was a more direct imitation of the British system, even calling for the creation of a House of Lords in Minnesota.

House Minority Leader Steve Sviggum, who had not read the bill, did not mince words about his opinion of its intent.

"I'm appalled," said Sviggum, "that we would even consider taking away the people's vote for governor." Sviggum said he supports a unicameral Legislature for its cost savings and greater accountability, and

Parliament continued on page 3

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## Parliament

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sees no advantage to a parliamentary system — not even the prospect of Republican party control of the government.

"I won't tell you that divided government is all that bad," said Sviggum. "There is some balance that's important and necessary."

One of the casualties of a parliamentary system is the traditional system of checks and balances in the relationship between the three branches of government. A parliamentary system effectively eliminates one branch, the executive, by making it an arm of the legislative branch.

"We would have fewer checks and balances," said Sviggum. "A unicameral Legislature alone does not call for that."

But Rep. Alice Hausman, DFL-St. Paul, a co-author of Kahn's bill as well as a strong proponent of a unicameral Legislature, said Monday that disillusionment with government is so deep she thinks

*"We would have fewer checks and balances. A unicameral Legislature alone does not call for that."*

House Minority Leader  
Steve Sviggum

now is a good time to discuss all the alternatives, and that states like Minnesota can serve as laboratories of democracy.

"I'd like to get all the ideas out there," said Hausman. "I think the idea of a parliamentary system is very complementary to the unicameral idea. It just takes it one step further."

Kahn's bill would place the measure on the 1998 ballot. It is not expected to get a hearing this session.

# Bill would increase taxes on cigarettes

Smoking ban in  
bars to be debated

STARTRIBUNE-M FEB 25 '98  
By Robert Wherast  
Star Tribune Staff Writer

Cigarettes would become more expensive, and bars, one of the last bastions of smokers in Minnesota, would become smoke-free under a bill that is scheduled to be considered in a House committee Thursday.

Its sponsor, Rep. Phyllis Kahn, DFL-Minneapolis, said that while she does not expect a smoking ban in bars to become law this year, she wants to start a debate on the issue because Minnesota is lagging in protecting nonsmokers.

"We're not doing anything that hasn't been done by other states or other localities," she said of the sweeping bill.

Even the proposed tax increase alone, which has a better chance of passing, could be a shock for smokers.

Turn to CIGARETTES on A6

CIGARETTES from A1

## Kahn says Minnesota tobacco laws lag behind other states'

The state tax on a pack of cigarettes would increase 56 percent, from 48 cents to 75 cents. There is also a federal tax of 24 cents.

Kahn was a leader behind the 1975 Minnesota Indoor Clean Air Act, an industry-shaking law that eventually turned most public places into smoke-free zones. Now, she said, it's time to do more.

"We're falling behind other states," she said.

But critics of the proposal said it is too broad, too soon and too discriminatory against smokers.

John Berglund, executive director of the Minnesota Licensed Beverage Association, said Minnesota should wait and see how a no-smoking ban in California bars is working.

Kahn's bill was introduced only two weeks ago, relatively late in the session. But tobacco lobbyists were to meet tonight to plot possible strategies to defeat it.

### The bar ban

The bill would require bars to have designated nonsmoking areas that are physically separated from smoking areas. A total ban on smoking in bars would be imposed in August 1999.

Until then, bar employees would have the right to refuse to work in a smoking section.

The proposed restrictions would not sit well with the 1,600 members of the bar industry, Berglund said.

California banned smoking in bars last year. There have been reports of noncompliance, lack of enforcement and a falloff in busi-

ness, he said.

"Before we do anything in Minnesota it would make sense to review the California experience to see what the pluses and minuses are."

Berglund acknowledged that restaurants made similar pleas when they were forced by state law to provide designated areas and then physical barriers for non-smoking diners.

Restaurants survived nicely, he said, but "it was market-driven, as more people requested non-smoking. . . . You can argue that a bar setting is distinguishable from a restaurant, which is why bars were excluded to begin with."

### A big tax bite

As for the tax increase, a spokesman for Philip Morris said it picks on smokers, forcing them to shell out more money at a time when the state is awash in surplus revenue.

Kahn said her proposal is revenue-neutral because it also would reduce the medical provider tax from 1.5 percent to 0.5 percent. All health care providers now pay a gross-revenue tax that helps fund MinnesotaCare, the subsidized state health insurance program.

Cutting the provider tax might find favor with Gov. Arne Carlson.

"We haven't staked out a specific provision on this bill, but we're more likely to support a cigarette tax if it replaces other taxes, which this one does," said Valerie Gunderson, a spokeswoman for the governor.

Kahn said the tax increase,

which would push state and federal taxes to 99 cents a pack, would discourage some young people from smoking or cause some to quit.

"This is a win-win from our point of view," said David Renner, lobbyist for the Minnesota Medical Association. "Physicians have never liked the provider tax. We've also been strong supporters of increasing the tobacco tax as a way to decrease smoking."

Minnesota would have the sixth highest cigarette tax in the nation (up from 17th) according to Brendan McCormick, a spokesman for Philip Morris.

"We don't believe it's fair to single out smokers for a tax increase to pay for programs that would benefit large portions of the population," he said.

Kahn said the bill, indeed, singles out smokers who may, in general, be poorer than nonsmokers.

"It's a good health effect," she said of her bill. "It if means that poorer people stop smoking, it's probably even a better effect on the public health budget."

### No littering

The bill also would make it an offense to toss a cigarette butt on the ground, a street or highway. Doing so already is part of the general littering law, but people don't realize it, Kahn said.

"Just go outside and count them," she said, referring to dead butts at entrances to public buildings.

### How to get involved

#### Cigarette bill hearing

Kahn's bill, House file 3693, is scheduled to be heard in the House Tax Committee today from 10 a.m. to noon in Room 200 of the State Office Building. No vote is expected.



# 2 DFLers break ranks in race for treasurer <sup>85</sup>

■ **Kahn, Greiling** <sup>(598)</sup>  
**support proposal  
to abolish office**

PIONEER PRESS OCT 22 '98

TOM COLLINS STAFF WRITER

**T**wo Democratic Minnesota lawmakers broke party ranks Wednesday to support Reform Party candidate Jim Dunlop for state treasurer. Dunlop, they say, is the only candidate who would dismantle the office they consider wasteful and irrelevant.

Representatives <sup>Phyllis</sup> Kahn and <sup>Mindy</sup> Greiling, the author of a bill that allows voters to decide on Nov. 3 whether they want to eliminate the treasurer's office, believe Dunlop will fulfill a campaign promise to dismantle the office.

Greiling, who had supported DFL-endorsed Betsy O'Berry for treasurer before she lost in the primary, believes Dunlop is the most qualified to serve as treasurer. Dunlop was formerly deputy treasurer.

Greiling, a Roseville DFLer, said she fears the proposal to eliminate the treasurer's office in 2003 might lose due to lack of interest "and this is one way to draw attention to it."

"The office now is nothing more than a bureaucratic function that

could be handled by the Department of Finance, the way (former Treasurer) Bob Mattson ran it when he was in Florida."

Dunlop said that if he gets the job and the ballot amendment passes, he would abolish the office in two years or less. The endorsements of Kahn and Greiling and an editorial endorsement of his campaign by the Pioneer Press "clearly show that those who understand state government and watch it every day know the treasurer's office should be abolished and that I am the one to do it."

**DFLer Carol  
Johnson and  
Republican State  
Rep. Kevin Knight  
are campaigning to  
keep the office as a  
"watchdog" of  
taxpayers'  
interests.**

The other two major candidates in the race, DFLer Carol Johnson, who is an aide to outgoing Treasurer Michael McGrath, and Republican State Rep. Kevin Knight, are campaigning to keep the office as a "watchdog" of taxpayers' interests.

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MINNESOTA DAILY  
(UNIVERSITY OF  
MINNESOTA)

MINNEAPOLIS, MN  
FRIDAY 30,000  
OCT 23 1998

# Confident Kahn relying on legislative record to win House election

*Editor's note: This story is the last of three profiles on the candidates for state Legislature in District 59B. Next week, the Daily will profile the nine candidates for governor.*

**Coralie Carison**  
Staff Reporter

59B  
120000



✓ Phyllis Kahn didn't burn bras, but the feminist has scorched each of her rivals for her seat in the state Legislature for the last 26 years.

With only 12 days left before the election, her race is heating up as the women's advocate prepares to defend her post representing the University-based district for the 14th time.

This time, the gray-haired grandmother faces two University students vying for the seat. Republican Robert Fowler, a 22-year-old law student, and communications senior Eric Hanson, 24, an independent candidate, both covet her office.

But the former University research staffer said she's not worried. Kahn, 61, has captured at least 63 percent of the vote in each of her elections since 1974.

In addition, District 59B — which includes the East Bank of the Minneapolis campus and the surrounding student-saturated neighborhoods — naturally swings to the left politically. About 70 percent of the district votes Democratic in any given election, said Sally Todd, 60, Kahn's campaign manager.

Rather than traditional hand-shaking and baby-kissing campaign techniques, Kahn said she plans to win the election on her reputation. She's served her constituents, she said, and they'll remember at the voting booth.

"That's not campaigning; that's serving in office," Todd said.

Kahn has passed plenty of bills for her constituents to remember.

B See KAHN page 9

# Kahn pushed for women's health care issues at state level

KAHN from 1

B

She authored the Minnesota Clean Air Act of 1975 which prohibits smoking in public buildings and numerous bills increasing opportunities for women in sports.

## Hear her roar

Kahn spent the first 27 years of her life on the East Coast. Born and raised in Brooklyn, N.Y., she earned a bachelor's degree in physics from Cornell University and a doctorate in biophysics from Yale in 1963.

She and her husband, Donald, moved to the Twin Cities two years later and both started working at the University, he as a math professor, she as a research assistant in genetics and cell biology in the cancer research center.

Kahn said the moving trucks hadn't even pulled into her Minneapolis duplex before she started helping out local political grassroots groups by handing out civil rights literature door-to-door.

While she participated in civil rights and anti-war activism even before coming to the University, Kahn said she was always on the periphery of the movements, a marcher but not a leader.

All that changed in 1971. Kahn wrote a letter to The Minnesota Daily advocating abortion rights. Through an extended printed debate, Kahn met other activists for the cause.

As her involvement escalated, Kahn climbed the steps of the state Capitol for the first time to lobby legislators for women's health issues.

"I really knew what this one was about," said Kahn, who experienced discrimination at the University.

Less than a year after her initial trip to the Capitol, Kahn won her district's election and entered the same doors as a legislator. Only one woman served in the House in 1971, but during the next session Kahn was one of six women to invade the legislative chamber. Since then the proportion of women in office has steadily risen, she said; today 36 of the 134 representatives are women.

"They were trailblazers," said legislative colleague Karen Clark, DPL-Minneapolis, 53. "She has opened doors that might not have been opened for a long time."

Kahn said everything changed in the House during her first year in office. The Democrats gained control of the House and Senate, so there were new leaders and committee chairs. She said that helped the new women.

"I think that's what made it less

of a traumatic change," Kahn said.

Kahn said her male colleagues continued addressing the full chamber as "gentlemen." In response, the women took turns reminding the room of a rule against offensive language in debates.

During her first session, Kahn co-sponsored the Equal Rights Amendment Bill, one of the first state-wide discrimination policies in the nation. She also engineered the passage of two anti-war resolutions, a difficult task for any representative, especially a freshman.

Kahn resigned from her University position after a year of working two jobs, citing time restraints and sex discrimination.

She filed a lawsuit against the University in 1970, claiming the University refused to allow her to receive research grants in her own name, instead using a male "figure-head" name. She maintained that the University did not have a commitment to affirmative action for women.

Five years later, when Shyamala Rajender sued the University for discrimination, Kahn intervened on the Rajender's behalf. After Rajender won her case, Kahn settled her own dispute out of court for about \$20,000. After settling legal dues, Kahn donated her reward to women's and other charities.

In the House, Kahn continued her crusade for women's rights — from allowing women to keep their maiden names to accruing money for battered women's shelters — but focusing on the sports arena. She authored numerous bills expanding women's athletic

opportunities, both regulatory and funding sports facilities. Her legislation is largely responsible for the advent of women's hockey in Minnesota high schools and at the University, she said.

"What we've done, essentially over time, is introduce a new sport for women," Todd said.

During the hockey season, Kahn hits the ice herself. She coaches hockey clinics for girls and organized a legislative "social" league for elected officials, staff and families. The league is for women and men who understand the concept of social competition, she said. And while they've never turned away a female player, she's had to give a few men the boot.

Kahn doesn't stop with hockey, either. She's an avid bicyclist and inline skater; she even ran the Twin Cities marathon earlier this month.

## 26-year legacy

While Kahn concentrated on abolishing sex discrimination in Minnesota law, she said she is not a one-issue politician.

Kahn said she has improved the overall quality of life for students. Dubbed the "Patron Saint of Bicycles," she has worked to create and maintain bike paths and to give bicyclists the rights of a motor vehicle.

Stemming from her scientific background, Kahn also delved into environmental initiatives. As a member of the legislative commission for Minnesota resources, Kahn said she has been instrumental in

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See KAHN page 13

# Legislator upholds votes amid criticism

KAHN from 9

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including city problems in environmental concerns.

"The urban forest is a very important forest to maintain," Kahn said adding that she provided funding for urban gardening and tree preservation projects.

Though not on the High Education committee, Kahn said she's supportive of University funding issues and financial aid programs.

Twenty-six years of legislation also gives Kahn's opponents a rip field to attack, but Kahn said she stands behind her votes. For example her adversaries often bring up her bill which reduces the voter age to 12.

"The serious reason behind this is that the needs of children are continuously ignored in the political process," she said.

Kahn compared them to the elderly, who make up a powerful special interest group.

"The elderly vote more than any other group and children can't vote," Kahn explained.

Challengers often accuse Kahn of ignoring her district — sometime with force. Six years ago Aric Nissen made such a claim when he competed with Kahn for the Democrat Farmer-Labor endorsement. Kahn won, but it took five ballots for her to rack up the 60 percent majority.

But Kahn cites the problems as purely political and defends her responsiveness.

"It was just a false charge," she said.

# Kahn captures 14th term as district 59B representative

**Kelly Hildebrandt**  
Staff Reporter

Once again, Phyllis Kahn, a 26-year incumbent, ran away with the state House of Representatives seat for District 59B.

Kahn, a Democrat and former University research staff member, has consistently won as an incumbent with at least 60 percent of the vote.

At press time, Kahn had 59 percent of the vote with three of 16 precincts reporting. Her opponents, Republican Robert Fowler, a 22-year-old third-year University law student, had 27 percent of the vote while independent candidate Eric Hanson, a 24-year-old mass communications senior at the University, had 12 percent of the vote.

"I feel fine," Kahn said, adding that she now needs to find out if she will be a majority or minority in the Legislature.

Kahn said she will work to get a more comprehensive smoking bill which will ban smoking in all work places, along with bars and restaurants.

In the long term, she will focus on global warming and work to start decreasing the use of carbon monoxide.

"When you're kind of expected from the start it doesn't have as much excitement," Kahn said.

Kahn is currently on the House Governmental Operations Committee and will continue to work computer glitches facing the year 2000. The committee is also addressing the constitutional amendment on the ballot this election to abolish the state treasurer's office.

Kahn has implemented many bills during her stay in the House. She authored the Minnesota Clean Air Act of 1975, which prohibits smoking in public buildings, along with many bills to expand women's athletic programs.

Fowler said he would have considered 35 percent vote a victory, adding that he lost votes because a lot of people voted anti-establishment.

Fowler said he will now focus on school, which has been put on the back burner for the election.

"I'm ready to do this all over again," Fowler said. He will review this year's campaign to determine what needs improvement when he runs for District 59B again in 2000.

Hanson plans to graduate in the spring and may possibly enter another election in the future.

"I'd have to say win, lose or draw, I'm ecstatic with everything that's happened," Hanson said.

He decided to campaign less for himself and more for Reform Party gubernatorial candidate Jesse Ventura in the last weeks before the elections because he thought it would make more of a difference.

The Legislature creates public policy in areas such as crime prevention and education. They also elect members to the University Board of Regents. There are 134 representatives in the state House.

District 59B encompasses the University East Bank and the surrounding areas, which are highly populated by students.

MINNESOTA DAILY  
(UNIVERSITY OF  
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MINNEAPOLIS, MN  
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# Industrial hemp gains in appeal marketplace

59B

■ Yet some say crop poses societal risks

LESLIE BROOKS SUZUKAMO

STAFF WRITER PIONEER PRESS MAR 4 '99

The walls and racks of "Sativa's Closet," a k a "The Hemp Store," are filled with merchandise that would make a hippie happy.

As the name implies, it sells all things hemp, using the less-potent variety of cannabis sativa, better known as marijuana. There are linen-soft hemp shirts and jeans; tough hemp Adidas tennis shoes; hemp-infused shampoo; hemp seeds for eating with helpful recipes in cookbooks. There is even a snowboard made with hemp fiberboard leaning against the display window.

Once, stores like Sativa's Closet were found only inside the counterculture. But this one is located in the Mall of America, just a few doors down from Nordstrom. It's a sign of how industrial hemp — which has been illegal to grow in the United States since 1937 — has made its way back into the mainstream.

And if Senate Majority Leader Roger Moe and Rep. Phyllis Kahn have their way, these and many other products would be made of hemp grown in Minnesota.

Both legislators are sponsoring bills to legalize the growing of industrial hemp to give struggling Minnesota farmers an alternative crop to sell to overcome low commodity prices that are threatening their survival.

The hemp grown would have less than 1 percent of THC, or tetrahydrocannabinol, the psychoactive chemical that gets marijuana users high. Illegal marijuana can contain up to 20 per-

## HEMP

CONTINUED FROM 1B

cent THC.

Moe and Kahn have tried twice unsuccessfully twice before to get hemp legalized, and got as far as the governor's office last year, where then-Gov. Arne Carlson vetoed it.

But new Gov. Jesse Ventura has indicated that he favors hemp. The legislators also point to stores like Sativa's Closet and other developments — from its adoption by fashion designers like Armani to its use by automakers like BMW — that show hemp is fueling a growing appetite for more environmentally friendly products.

But the bills face stiff opposition in the Republican-controlled House. The federal government would also have to consent, and the White House and Drug Enforcement Agency are opposing similar efforts under way in other states, including Wisconsin, North Dakota, Kentucky and California, to make hemp an alternative crop.

Larry Jones, a 47-year-old farmer from Glenwood, Minn., who wandered into Sativa's Closet one day last week with his wife, Melissa, can't wait to put a few acres into the ground.

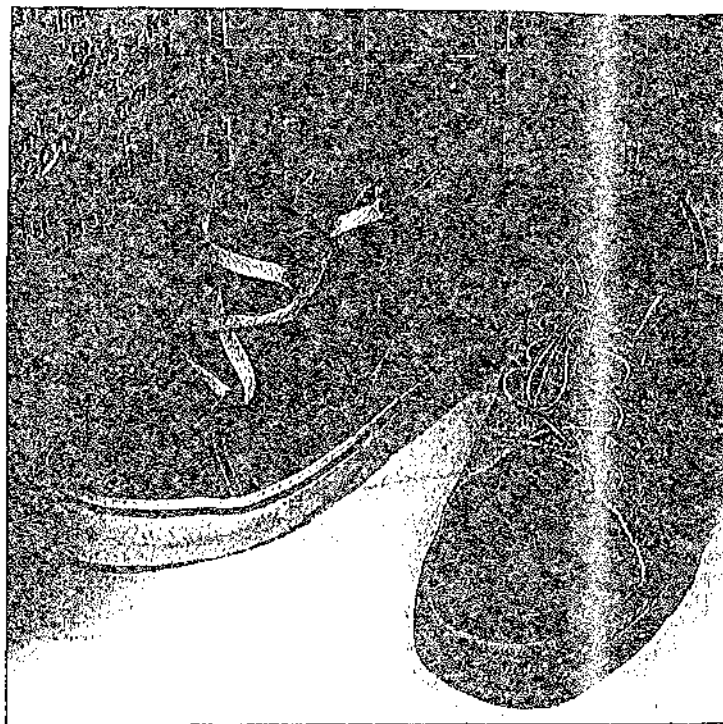
"I'm not a (marijuana) smoker," he said. "I'm a farmer who would like to make some decent money. I grow soybeans, corn and pigs — which you know what happened to us this year," he said, alluding to low pork and grain prices.

Store manager Sam Baxter nods at the couple when they leave, saying Jones "is typical of the farmers who come here."

Baxter, whose sister Carolee Baxter owns the 1½-year-old store, said it is only an unfounded fear of legalizing marijuana that keeps domestically grown hemp products from making their way to the public. The hemp in his products is grown in more than two dozen countries in Europe and Asia.

"My joke is, if they're carrying it around in little plastic bags, it's probably not hemp. If it's a shirt, it's probably hemp," Baxter said.

Moe, the DFL leader from Er-



SCOTT YAKUSHI/PIONEER PRESS

Products sold at Sativa's Closet include these shoes. The hemp in the store's products is grown in more than two dozen countries in Europe and Asia. Industrial hemp's proponents — including store owner Carolee Baxter and her brother Sam, who manages the store — see it as a useful alternative crop.

skine in hard-hit rural northwestern Minnesota, is encouraged by the new hemp products.

"There appears to be a considerable market, and it's growing," he said.

Moe's bill passed last week out of the Senate Agriculture Committee and could come up for a floor vote by the whole Senate today, he said.

Kahn, DFL-Minneapolis, noted that Canada last fall harvested its first industrial hemp crop in 60 years. She said the Canadian program requires farmers to have clean police records, plant at least 10 acres and register the locations.

But the moves to legalize hemp raise concerns among drug-treatment experts like Carol Falkowski, a senior research analyst for the Hazelden Foundation in Center City, Minn.

The problem, she said, is not that people will get high smoking

the low-THC hemp, but that it is indistinguishable from its more potent cousin and could serve as a cover for illegal cultivation — a worry that hemp supporters scoff at.

She also worried about trends that show more children nationwide and in Minnesota smoking marijuana last year. More people are showing up in Twin Cities treatment centers for marijuana abuse than cocaine now, half under the age of 18, she said.

Jeannette McDougal, president of the anti-drug group Drug Watch Minnesota, calls legalizing hemp "a foot in the door" for legalizing marijuana.

McDougal questioned the plant's marketability, saying that it is heavily subsidized in Europe.

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There's good science and bad science and a whole range of science in between. It's not easy to sort it out, especially in the context of debating public policy.

## Kahn helps develop guide to good public science

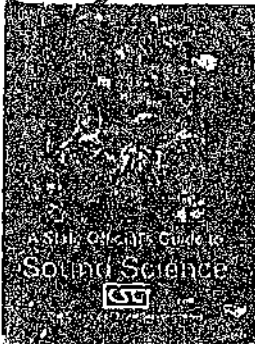
St. Paul Legal Ledger

596

BY JOHN FISHER

Editor

9.30.99



Contrary to what we've been hearing for the past 500 years, scientists of the late 15th century had pretty well settled the round Earth/flat Earth argument. By 1492 almost every reputable scientist knew it was round.

So it turns out that all those stories we've heard about Christopher Columbus and Queen Isabella aren't exactly true, either. The legend is based on bad history — and bad science. Some royal mathematician apparently miscalculated the diameter of the globe, causing a serious

underestimation of the distance to India, giving the queen cause to believe that a voyage of exploration seeking a westward route to India had a reasonable chance of success.

But Isabella probably never would have financed the sailor's expedition had anyone calculated the true distance from Europe to Asia. No sailing vessel of the time could have been provisioned for such an extended journey; none could have reached Asia by sailing west.

It all worked out, of course, when Columbus blundered into the Americas. A handy interruption stretching almost from the south pole to the north pole, the American land mass would have been extremely hard to miss.

Rep. Phyllis Kahn, a Minneapolis DFLer who earned a Yale Ph.D. in biophysics, heard that story from Isaac Asimov and likes to use it to illustrate the importance of science in public

policy. Kahn says there's good science and bad science and a whole range of science in-between; and it's not easy to sort it out, especially in the context of debating and making public policy decisions.

Because of her scientific background and interest in promoting good science, the Kentucky-based Council of State Governments (CSG) recently asked Kahn to serve on its Sound Science Advisory Board. And that 14-member national advisory panel has just published the results of its work: *A State Official's Guide to Sound Science*.

The 28-page report aims to help state officials make better use of scientific evidence to make informed decisions, Kahn says. Gov. Jesse Ventura's office and all 201 members of the Minnesota Legislature have received a copy of the report — and she hopes they take the time to read it.

"We face more and more science issues all the time," she said in an interview this week. "But most legislators, most elected officials, aren't scientists; and there's a real deficit of science-trained staff."

Lawmakers routinely are asked to use scientific evidence as they debate policy areas, Kahn said. For example, a scientific component can easily be found in debates about agriculture, economic development, environmental protection, education, energy, health care, human services, telecommunications, law enforcement and criminal justice.

"Often times, the existence of conflicting scientific evidence can become the final reason for an official to choose the most politically acceptable conclusion," Kahn said.

She said lobbyists and advocacy groups are notorious for claiming to offer scientific evidence to support their positions. But scientific evidence can be easily and purposefully muddled

Kahn continued on page 2

Continued from page 1

to lead lawmakers to draw a particular conclusion.

"Lobbyists for industry have used this technique for years," she said. "They'll come to a committee hearing and say, 'This is so enormously complex that you can't possibly understand.' And legislators, who aren't trained scientists, tend to believe it."

Kahn said she's fond of quoting a noted authority on state science policy who once wrote: "State and local governments employ science and technological knowledge in much the same way as the American populace employs the English language — on a daily basis, unquestioningly and at less than technically attainable standards of performance."

In *Sound Science* the CSG advisory board offers a quick refresher course on basic scientific principles, including a guide for asking the right questions when expert witnesses are testifying about a complex scientific subject. It lists useful "warning signs of questionable scientific studies" and offers hints on "dealing with scientific uncertainty."

Kahn says the report goes directly to the heart of a representative democracy: the principle of informed consent, which insists that government may act only with the consent of the governed. "But how do you deal with informed consent in a scientifically illiterate population," Kahn asks.

The report doesn't ask state officials to be trained scientists. But they do need to be "discerning consumers of science [who are] able to recognize a quality product. ... They need to know what to ask of the experts."

Kahn says recent political history offers some good illustrative case studies of state law being heavily reliant on scientific testimony. For example, the debate a few years ago over dairy cows that had received the controversial bovine growth hormone generated a huge controversy about labeling dairy products. The scientific evidence indicated conclusively that milk products from treated animals was "indistinguishable" from the milk from untreated cows. "There's absolutely no difference," Kahn said. But it's also true that dairy herds that are treated with the growth hormone "also require a large level of antibiotic treatment."

So while there's no scientifically provable difference between treated and untreated milk, consumers should have the right to know whether a large dairy herd has been subjected to massive doses of antibiotics.

"The issues get muddled," Kahn said. "You just don't get the whole truth all the time. We're not always told the truth about certain things."

The storage of low-level radioactive waste is another good example, Kahn said. "Low-level radioactive waste is probably

the safest thing you can put anywhere," she said. But conflicting scientific testimony, along with an ideologically divided political debate, created so much confusion about that issue that the public concluded that neither the government nor the scientists could be trusted to make a valid decision on the matter.

"The truth is, people trust science as long as they agree with it," Kahn said. "If science conflicts with their beliefs, then there's even a dislike of trying to get new and better evidence" that might contradict their beliefs. One state legislator, Kahn said, objected when the Pollution Control Agency published warnings about potentially dangerous mercury levels in fish living in certain Minnesota lakes. His reason? It might make people stop coming to Minnesota on fishing trips. Kahn said it was as if the legislator was thinking: Never mind the potential health danger to anglers who eat fish they catch, why go looking for trouble?

"I think states and the nation as a whole have lost valuable time finding solutions to public policy challenges, because we have hidden behind conflicting data in order to avoid difficult decisions," Kahn said. "If the public and their officials were better versed in the fundamentals of the scientific method and scientific uncertainty, we could

make decisions more rationally and in less time."

*Sound Science*, according to its authors, is an attempt to sort through scientific information "to distinguish the good from the bad and the relevant from the distracting." It also represents an attempt on the part of the CSG to shift public policy debate away from emotionalism and anecdotal evidence and toward a more scientific approach.

Kahn said she was selected to participate partly because of her scientific background and her liberal politics. She was there to balance a study that was heavily loaded with what she called "some of the bad guys" representing industry groups and organizations. Outside funding for the study and resulting report was provided by the American Crop Protection Association, American Petroleum Institute, Chemical Manufacturers Association, Procter & Gamble, Philip Morris and Wyeth-Ayerst Laboratories. The advisory board included several representatives from those industry groups, as well as academic experts and state legislators.

Kahn said she believes the resulting report is not only fair and balanced, but will provide a useful resource "to help decision makers navigate their way through complicated scientific data."

Copies of *A State Official's Guide to Sound Science* may be obtained from the CSG Web site: [www.csg.org](http://www.csg.org).

**"How do you deal  
with informed  
consent in a  
scientifically illiterate  
population."**

**Rep. Phyllis Kahn,  
DFL-Minneapolis**



STARTRIBUNE—OCT 22 '99

## Parliamentary system bill proposed

Rep. Phyllis Kahn joined the debate over a one-house Legislature Thursday, announcing that she will go a step further and push a bill that would create a parliamentary system.

Kahn, DFL-Minneapolis, said her proposed constitutional amendment would, if approved by voters, eliminate one house of the Legislature and the executive branch of government.

Her bill would:

➤ Replace two houses with one house of 135 members.

➤ Require members of the one-house Legislature to elect a chief executive or governor, much as the British House of Commons selects a prime minister.

➤ Establish a legislative term of office of up to four years. The governor could call an election of all legislators any time, but would have to do so at least once every four years.

➤ Have the governor serve at the pleasure of the Legislature.

"I think the current unicameral proposals being floated by the governor and others amount to mere tinkering with our system," Kahn said.

"We can eliminate lengthy campaign seasons, and legislators could force changes of leadership through a vote of no confidence.

"If the arguments that unicameral advocates make about the elimination of conference committees and the duplication of efforts have any value, they are even better addressed by the parliamentary system," said Kahn. "Under the parliamentary system, there would not even be horse trading be-

Briefs

59B

tween the executive and legislative branches, nor would you have the executive branch and the legislative branches duplicating efforts in the creation of a budget."

No state has a parliamentary system. Nebraska has a one-house Legislature, but the governor is elected by the people and heads the executive branch of government.

— *Robert Whereatt*



# 59B Phyllis Kahn

STARTRIBUNE FEB 18 '00

## *Outrageous, offbeat, sometimes right*

State Rep. Phyllis Kahn has a simple way to gain attention for her ideas: Be outrageous. Challenge others' practicality. Don't worry if one offbeat idea goes nowhere; another can take its place. And so things went in recent days. The governor may want a unicameral Legislature, she said, but let's not stop there — go whole hog to a parliament. If the Minnesota Twins and pitcher Brad Radke can't reach a contract, the state should ante up \$2 million or more as a subsidy to keep him here.

Impractical, sometimes off-the-wall suggestions are nothing new for the Minneapolis DFLer. Let 12-year-olds have the vote, Kahn once proposed. Convert Minnesota's 87 counties into 10. The community should own the Twins. Bars should stay open after 1 a.m. to keep drunken drivers off the road when other drivers are out. University regents should resign, she once said, over football failure.

Even those who disagree with her say Kahn is smart. In fact, she's got a Ph.D., in biophysics, from Yale, and a

master's degree in public administration from Harvard. She's had many good ideas, too. She authored Minnesota's pioneering Clean Indoor Air Act. She has been a forceful advocate on women's issues, particularly gender equality in school athletics. Most recently, she was a leading proponent for creating a women's think tank. Legalizing hemp production, something she advocated years ago, is now being studied seriously. A State Office Building workout room that some criticize merely represents, she points out correctly, a health and productivity practice used by business. And lowering the voting age to age 16, something she now proposes instead of 12, is an idea shared in the past by former U.S. Rep. Tim Penny, now a U.S. Senate candidate.

To predict what will come next from the 27-year state legislator would be foolhardy. The only safe prediction is that Kahn will say and propose more. If it's outrageous or impractical, it may also well be something Minnesotans need to hear.

# Kahn to propose casino at airport

1-5

59B

Only travelers could gamble under the bill, which would yield money for state.

STAR TRIBUNE MAR 9 01  
By Robert Whereatt  
Star Tribune Staff Writer

State Rep. Phyllis Kahn, who earlier this year proposed legislation that would legalize betting on professional sports in Minnesota, plans to introduce a bill Monday to build a casino at the Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport.

Only travelers would be allowed to gamble, according to the legislation. They would have to produce airplane tickets that are valid within 12 hours on either end of the flight to gain admission to a casino. "I think it's a great source of money, and a great source of money from non-Minnesotans," Kahn, DFL-Minneapolis, said Thursday.

She said many of the travelers would be non-Minnesotans. The money would go to the state's general fund and to the Environmental Trust Fund, where Lottery proceeds now go.

Why a casino at the air-

port?

For one thing, Kahn said, it wouldn't compete with American Indian casinos for Minnesota gamblers. For another, "it's a progressive tax on stupidity, rather than a regressive tax on stupidity because it targets people who have enough disposable income to fly," she said.

Some locations at the airport already sell pulltabs, and the Minnesota State Lottery sells scratch-off tickets and Powerball tickets at a booth and in vending machines there.

Lottery Director George Andersen said the airport is the Lottery's second-best venue for ticket sales.

"They have 10,000 employees there. That's a city," he said. While air travelers also buy Lottery tickets, Andersen said, "We believe that a significant amount, if not a majority, are from local employees, but we've never done a study."

It was Kahn's legislation in the 1990s that opened the airport doors for Lottery ticket sales. Until then, only pulltabs could be purchased, the profits of which went to the Airport Foundation, a nonprofit organization that provides services at the airport.

**Indians opposed**

Although Kahn says an airport casino catering only to travelers wouldn't compete with Indian-owned casinos, John McCarthy, executive director of the Minnesota Indian Gaming Association, said his organization will oppose it.

"It's an expansion of gambling and we're opposed to an expansion of gambling," he said. "Any expansion of gambling is competition. Where does it stop? If this is approved, what's the next step? It all leads eventually to neighborhood gambling, gambling in every venue in Minnesota."

McCarran International Airport in Las Vegas has banks of slot machines in public areas for travelers and non-travelers.

Kahn said the concept for her bill is the Schiphol International Airport in Amsterdam, the Netherlands. According to the airport's Web site, travelers with boarding passes can enter that casino.

Dave Dombrowski, deputy executive director of labor and governmental affairs for the Metropolitan Airports Commission, was unaware of Kahn's bill.

"We'll be interested to see



Rep. Phyllis Kahn says it could be a "great source of money."

the bill when Representative Kahn introduces it, and Representative Kahn always has interesting bills," he said.

He agreed with Kahn that many of the potential customers of a travelers-only casino would be non-Minnesotans. About 50 percent of passengers are making connecting flights, he said, and many of those flights are from out of state.

Kahn should be able to get a hearing on her bill.

Rep. Jim Rhodes, R-St. Louis Park, is a cosponsor. He also is chairman of the House Governmental Operations and Veterans Affairs Policy Committee, which has jurisdiction over gambling legislation.

Rhodes said he has talked to Kahn about holding hearings on this bill and other bills dealing with casino gambling at a series of committee meetings around the state this summer. That would mean no vote on the bill this session.

The sports wagering bill sponsored by Kahn was introduced last week and referred to a House committee.

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# Twins plan clears <sup>x-4</sup> House committee

*Measure calls for community ownership of the team*

STAR TRIBUNE, FEB 26 1992  
By Conrad deFiebre  
Star Tribune Staff Writer

51B

A plan for community ownership of the up-for-sale Minnesota Twins passed a House committee for the first time Monday, setting the stage for floor votes in both the House and Senate.

"It's the only thing that's going to pass this year," said House sponsor Phyllis Kahn, DFL-Minneapolis. "It can't do any harm, it might do a lot of good, it doesn't cost any money and most people like it."

Her bill was first introduced five years ago, but languished without a House hearing until Monday, when the Governmental Operations and Veterans Affairs Committee sent it to the floor on a lopsided vote.

It doesn't directly address calls for a new Twins stadium, but Kahn said it could allow that debate to proceed without the threat of the team being relocated or eliminated through Major League Baseball's contraction plans. "It takes the wheels off the team," she said.

It would set up a process for

a tax-deductible gift of the team by owner Carl Pohlad to a non-profit entity and its subsequent stock sale to local investors, including fans who could buy a limited voice on the future of the franchise for as little as \$100 a share.

More significant outlays would come from a managing partner who could own up to one-quarter of the team and at least 55 other investors who could buy up to 5 percent each.



Rep. Phyllis Kahn said her bill "might do a lot of good."

Dave St. Peter, the Twins' senior vice president of business affairs, said Pohlad and the team remain "open to some form of community ownership," but added: "I'm not sure we're going to have time for this particular plan to proceed."

He also said the team has "serious concerns about any bill that addresses community ownership without addressing a ballpark and the long-term revenue challenges facing this franchise."

The plan mirrors the community ownership models of teams such as the football Green Bay Packers, the basketball Boston Celtics and the

baseball Arizona Diamondbacks and Montreal Expos, Kahn said. It would meet Major League Baseball's requirements because it rules out public ownership, she added.

Kahn's bill calls for the governor and the Metropolitan Sports Facilities Commission to negotiate to advance the plan. If community ownership became a reality, the managing partner and the so-called Class A stockholders would control the team, but it would require an 80 percent vote of the Class B \$100-a-share investors to move or disband it.

Kahn suggested that serious investors and Twins fans alike would flock to the plan, the former because baseball franchise prices have consistently outperformed the stock market, the latter for sentimental value.

"It's a market test of community support," she said. "But this could solve the problem of birthday presents for dads and brothers and sons for years to come."

A similar bill sponsored by Sen. Ellen Anderson, DFL-St. Paul, is awaiting action on the Senate floor.

— Conrad deFiebre is at [cdefiebre@startribune.com](mailto:cdefiebre@startribune.com).

# Making the wish of an organ donor into a promise

A bill in the 518  
Legislature would  
make the checkoff on  
a driver's license  
legally binding and  
help grieving families  
honor the decision.

whether a loved one who  
just died becomes a donor.

That long-held practice  
may be about to change. A  
bill skimming through the  
Legislature would make a  
donor decision expressed on  
a license legally binding, no  
matter what the family  
wants. If the bill passes, Min-  
nesota would become the

15th state with such a law.  
The trend shows how  
organ-procurement organi-  
zations across the country  
are becoming more asser-  
tive as the demand for life-  
saving organs continues to  
rise while the number of  
donors stays fairly con-  
stant. The groups are bol-  
stered by a growing ethical

consensus in medicine that  
the wishes of the deceased  
should be honored, even  
though the next of kin have  
the legal right to make deci-  
sions about the body.

**ORGANS confusion on A18:**  
— When families do  
know the wishes, they  
usually say no.

## ORGANS from A1 Minnesota has one of highest rates of donations

In fact, experts say, families usually follow the wishes of their dead loved ones, if they know what they are, and are often relieved by clarity in a time of terrible confusion.

"It made it so much easier for us, knowing what her wishes were," said Wes Witkowski of Clearwater, Minn., whose daughter, Jessica Witkowski, age 20, became an organ donor last August after she died in a car accident.

Officials at LifeSource, Minnesota's organ-procurement organization, do not expect that the new law would significantly increase the number of organ donors, about 150 a year. Families rarely refuse if a driver's license identifies the deceased as a donor, they said.

But people who check that box on the license application have a right to know that it means something, said Susan Gunderson, chief executive officer of LifeSource.

"Even if one more person becomes a donor, that can save six people's lives," she said.

If the law passes, it would become binding Aug. 1. The proposal, sponsored by Rep. Phyllis Kahn, DFL-Minneapolis, has been passed by committees in both houses, but has not yet been voted on.

### A crude instrument

The donor section on the driver's license application and renewal form reads: "I have made the decision to make an anatomical gift. I want my license to show I consent to be a donor." The same question is on motorcycle, chauffeur and state identification applications as well, and if a "yes" is given, that is indicated on the back of the license.

The organ-donation check-off has been an option on Min-



Chris Zuppa/Star Tribune

Wes Witkowski says his daughter Jessica's wish to be an organ donor comforted him. On Aug. 11, 2001, he, his wife, Joanie, left, and daughter, Sara, 18, buried Jessica in Sauk Rapids.

nesota license applications for decades, and something like it is on license applications in every state.

For a number of reasons, though, it has been an imperfect tool for organ and tissue donation.

Many assume that it's binding when it's not. Nor is a license always conveniently at hand when a family is asked about donation as their loved one lies in an intensive-care unit, LifeSource officials said.

He and his wife, Joanie, can't forget the irony in how she died, they said. She had always been afraid of driving, but finally got her permit when she was 20.

A week before she was scheduled to take the driver's license test, she asked her mother about organ donation, and they talked about the application form and what it meant.

On Aug. 4 she was driving with her boss and some friends when she ran a stop sign on a rural road in Mille Lacs County. Their car was struck by another vehicle coming from the other direction. She was the only one seriously hurt.

She was taken to North Memorial Hospital in Robbinsdale, and after four days was declared brain dead. A coordinator from LifeSource asked

the Wittkowskis if she had ever talked about organ donation.

"You are so emotionally and physically drained," Wittkowski said. "I can see now, how a family would say, 'Get away from me.' And then that would be the end of it. There would be no donation."

On the other hand, he said, he believes it is vitally important for someone who wants to donate to have that wish honored.

### Saying 'no' to death

Only, more often than not, Gunderson said, no one knows what the deceased person wanted. When families don't know, they usually say "no," organ-donation experts said.

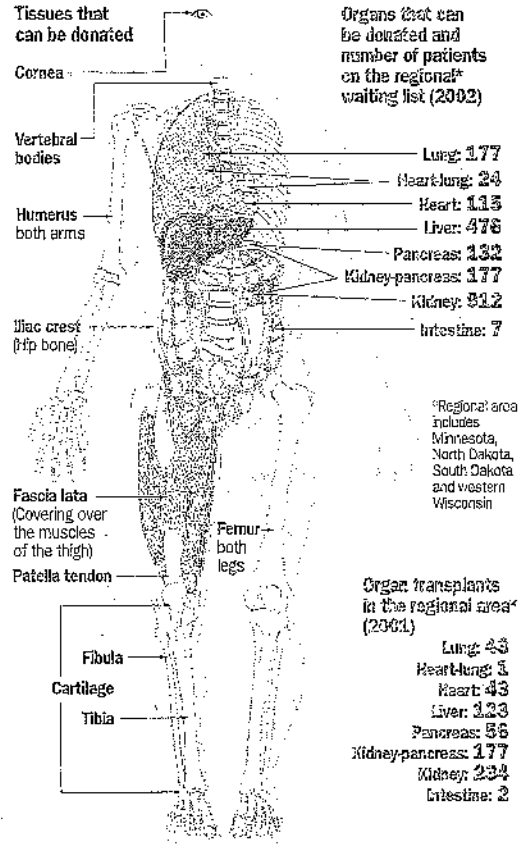
"I think a lot of families are not saying 'no' to donation, but are saying 'no' to death," said Helen Leslie, executive director of Virginia's organ-procurement organization, LifeNet. "It's a bad time."

Virginia implemented a law similar to the Minnesota bill. "And we have not had the first complaint," she said.

Virginia has had an increase in donors in the past year, but it's not clear what's driving it, she said. The number of organ donors increased 17 percent,

## Hundreds wait for donation

A number of bone and tendon tissues as well as six organs can be donated at death to those who need them. Tissue is processed into medical products. But organs are increasingly in demand, and the waiting list gets longer each year.



Source: Lifesource, American Red Cross

Star Tribune/ Ray Grumney

from 82 to 96. The number of tissue donors, who are always greater in number, increased by 43 percent, she said.

Since the law took effect, the local tissue bank and LifeNet coordinators have been much more aggressive in getting that information directly from the Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles, she said. In the past, there was no point in getting the answer because it was always the families that decided anyway, she said.

LifeSource officials in Min-

nesota said they are already discussing ways to get driver's license information directly from the Department of Public Safety database instead of relying on the plastic license card.

Other states are using license databases to build donor registries that can be accessed quickly and easily by organ-procurement organizations.

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# Kahn's bill would eliminate state's No. 2 job

STAR TRIBUNE JAN 1 4 05

Gov. Tim Pawlenty's decision to give Lt. Gov. Carol Molnau a second job — as transportation commissioner — has inspired some legislators to attempt to scrap the No. 2 position altogether.

Rep. Phyllis Kahn, DFL-Minneapolis, introduced a bill Monday that would let voters decide whether to amend the Constitution to abolish the office. She considers the post unnecessary.

"The only important function for the lieutenant gover-

nor is to sit waiting for the governor to drop dead," Kahn said.

If the Legislature goes along, the statewide vote would occur in 2004 and a successful push would do away with the office at the start of the next gubernatorial term in 2007. Kahn's bill would put the secretary of state next in the line of succession.

Kahn said the state would save \$78,197 for the lieutenant governor's salary along with whatever it costs to run the office. (The budget for the lieutenant governor isn't clear be-

cause it is rolled into the operating budget of the governor's office.)

— *Associated Press*

# COMMENTARY 59B

## We don't want to miss the forest for the trees Letting Minnesota Conservation Corps expire would be short-sighted mistake

*St. Paul Legal Ledger 66 2-6-03*



*Rep. Phyllis Kahn*

To anyone who thinks cutting spending is an easy exercise, I want to relate the story of a little known part of the state's Department of Natural Resources, the Minnesota Conservation Corps or MCC. (Disclaimer: This program dates to 1981, when I was

chair of the House Appropriations Division covering the DNR and my enthusiasm and strong support for this program were critical to its early success.)

The MCC had a historical predecessor, the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) of the 1930's who planted trees, cleared trails and constructed buildings for the Department of Conservation (predecessor to the DNR.) We can thank them for many enhancements we all enjoy in our state parks and forests. Of course the less visible legacy of this is the constructive influence of the lives of the young men saved from the effects of the depression with very little money and hard work.

The 2001 budget for MCC was about \$3.8 million with about \$2.5 million in state appropriated funds and \$1.3 million in grants and fee for service contracts. In this budget cutting cycle the DFL Senate voted to continue the program though the biennium; the Republican House voted to eliminate and the compromise was to continue it for one year, meaning that this summer would end a 21-year history. This is despite reports attesting to the cost-effectiveness of this program.

What does MCC do in its subprograms? I visited one of the crews from the Summer Youth Residential Program, an eight week residential program for kids 15-18. The particular crew was working at Carlos Avery Wildlife Refuge with a nonprofit group, the Wildlife Science Center, to rebuild and relocate wolf pens. Another youth program is devoted to Youth in Natural Resources, giving kids (with an emphasis on females and persons of color) the opportunity to explore career paths in this alternative not usually open to them. MCC has also pioneered programs for hearing disabled having on site interpreters for mixed groups.

One of the most important linkages is the Young Adult Program (ages 18-25) with its association with AmeriCorps, the national service movement. MCC

*Besides the 'do good for the future' stuff like tree planting and trail construction, the MCC trains and equips members for immediate disaster response with local crews stationed throughout the state to serve as first responders and statewide crews activated for large disasters including floods, fires and tornadoes.*

”

young adult crew members get an AmeriCorps benefit of a \$4,750 education award for 1700 hours of service. The MCC has been the largest AmeriCorps group in the state. If you checked the AmeriCorps Web site you see our own administration extolling the virtues of this activity while they have initiated the MCC demise.

Besides the "do good for the future" stuff like tree planting and trail construction, the MCC trains and equips members for immediate disaster response with local crews stationed throughout the state to serve as first responders and statewide crews activated for large disasters including floods, fires and tornadoes. In 2000 MCC corps members were first on the

scene at Granite Falls and Comfrey hitting streets equipped with chain saws to make way for the emergency response vehicles.

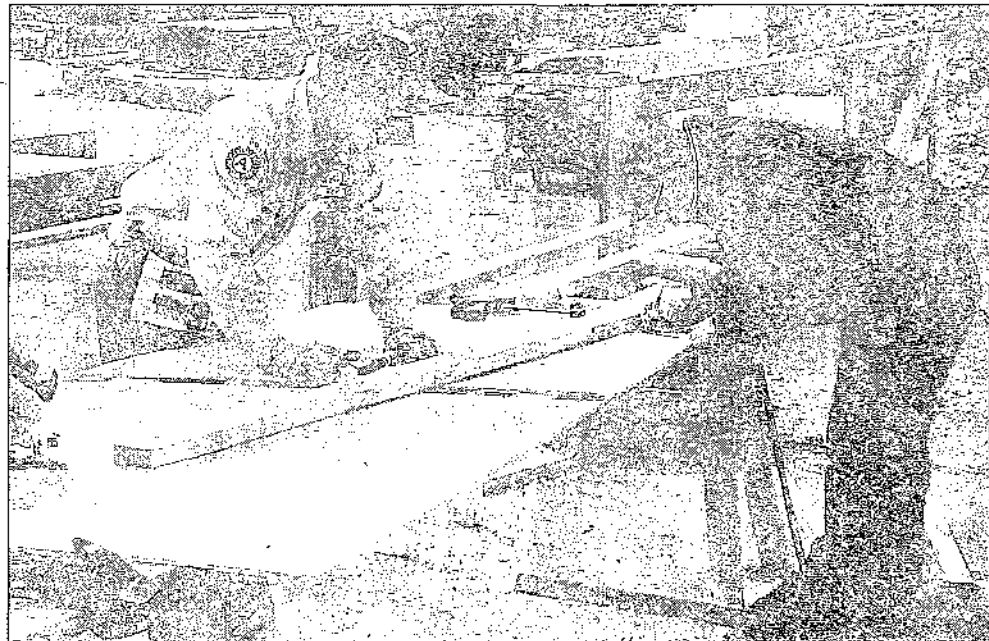
Back to the intangibles attested to since 1930 by former CCC members.

The engagement of youth and young adults for service in the form of hard physical work in the outdoors gives not only training and lifetime skills development but a sense of pride in their hands-on work to preserve the states natural resource treasures. I remember being in Itasca State Park with former Republican senator and banker Harn Ogdahl who was bragging about his days in the CCC, pointing with pride to a particular set of trees.

How did this terrific group get the ax? Then-Gov. Jesse Ventura sent instructions to all departments to use these priorities in cutting budgets: 1) eliminate entire programs; 2) look for efficiencies; 3) use across the board cuts as a last resort. The Commissioner passed this instruction on to his division heads who did what bureaucrats do best, and that is protect their turf. Unfortunately MCC, although it worked with many parts of the department, was in the central support area, has a very small regular state employee staff and didn't fall into anyone's turf protection orbit. None of its positives (cost-effectiveness, long-term intangible benefits, service to non-profits and localities in distress) could outweigh this philosophy of protect your own in budget axing.

We do have another executive-legislative budget session before next summer, so maybe they can be saved. But, we will need a change in attitude to do state budgeting with a more nuanced approach to the values supplied by government, remembering that money collected through taxes paid supports programs like MCC.

*Rep. Phyllis Kahn, DFL-Minneapolis, represents House District 59B and serves on the Environment and Natural Resources Finance and State Government Finance committees.*



The Minnesota Conservation Corps has helped build and maintain trails and other facilities in the state's parks for more than two decades. The corps faces potential elimination this year, however, as the Legislature voted last year to fund it only through 2002. Despite the state's budget woes, MCC supporters hope to restore funding for the program before this summer. (Submitted photo)

Elc. 2004 A34

# Suit seeking early council elections in Minneapolis

By Jill Burcum  
Star Tribune Staff Writer

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STAR TRIBUNE JUL 26 '03

A group of Minneapolis residents led by DFL state Rep. Phyllis Kahn filed suit Friday to force Minneapolis officials to hold City Council elections before the next scheduled municipal race in 2005.

At the heart of the lawsuit is the redistricting of City Council wards done after the 2000 census. The group isn't challenging the newly drawn wards. Rather, it claims that without an election before 2005, the redistricting leaves some voters underrepresented or not represented at all by council members.

"Everybody in Minneapolis . . . is entitled to a representative, and now we have at least two wards that don't have anybody," said the plaintiffs' attorney, Alan Weinblatt. "We are asking the court to set a new election. If Minneapolis won't do it voluntarily, we'll ask the court to do it."

Minneapolis' election director, Susanne Griffin, said Friday that she hadn't seen the suit and couldn't respond to the issues it raises.

Cities are required to redraw ward boundaries after a census is done to reflect population changes, Weinblatt said. The last council election was held in 2001 before the redistricting.

The redistricting left the newly drawn Third and Eighth Wards without City Council representatives, Weinblatt said. He said it also created a situation where council members elected from some of the old wards were now representing too many people.

He cited the Second and Sixth Wards, saying that people living there "don't have an equal voice in the governance of the city of Minneapolis."

Kahn referred requests for comment to Weinblatt. But she added that she was frustrated that previous attempts at resolving the issue were unsuccessful.

59B

1200DU



MINNESOTA DAILY  
(UNIVERSITY OF  
MINNESOTA)

MINNEAPOLIS, MN  
THURSDAY 42,000  
APR 14 2005

CHARLIE KNUTSON, DAILY

Two unidentified men exchange money for Minnesota Twins tickets Friday evening across the street from the Metrodome. Rep. Phyllis Kahn, DFL-Minneapolis, has authored a bill that would repeal a state statute that makes scalping illegal.

# Kahn aims to legalize ticket scalping

Ticket scalping is illegal in Minnesota, and results in a misdemeanor.

59B

BY BRADY AVERILL  
baverill@mndaily.com

Across the street from Huberts Bar and Restaurant on Sunday night in Minneapolis, a half-dozen ticket scalpers held

Twins tickets high in the air. They promised a good deal.

The tickets were going for less than face value. It was a slow night, scalpers said, even with Johan Santana pitching. They said they sell tickets at a price the market demands.

But scalping tickets in Minnesota is illegal.

Dan Romig, a University alumnus, knows firsthand. He said he's been arrested a few times for scalping tickets to pro-

fessional athletics events.

"Sadly, it should not be part of the job. But in reality, unfortunately, it is part of the job," he said.

Rep. Phyllis Kahn, DFL-Minneapolis, said she wants to change that.

Kahn has authored a bill that would repeal the state statute that makes scalping legal.

The practice is legal in some states, but in Minnesota it's a misdemeanor. People found

guilty can be punished with up to 90 days in jail and/or a \$1,000 fine, said Raymond Cantu, an assistant attorney for the city of Minneapolis.

Kahn said the bill has been held over for possible inclusion in the omnibus public safety bill.

If repealing the law is too

See TICKETS Page 13A  
The current statute has been on the books since 1963.

(Back)



# Tickets

from page 1A

drastic, Kahn said, she would be OK with reducing ticket scalping to a petty misdemeanor.

Lawmakers, ticket scalpers and law enforcement workers have varying opinions on the bill.

At the heart of the issue, Kahn said, the bill would allow law enforcement workers to better allocate their time to stopping crimes such as robbery and rape instead of arresting ticket scalpers.

For Romig, he said it's a matter of the state's restraint of trade law. According to the statute, the law prohibits using monopoly power over trade to affect competition or price control.

Minneapolis law enforcement said the issue is about regulating legitimate ticket sales and allocating police

officers' time.

## The law

The current statute prohibits scalpers from selling tickets at a price above face value.

One provision prohibits reselling a ticket that has conditions restricting its transfer.

This sometimes includes language restricting transfer of ownership on the back of the ticket, said a House researcher.

Rep. Kahn said that since 1913, ticket scalping has been illegal in Minnesota.

The current statute has been on the books since 1963. It was enacted a few years after professional sports teams arrived in Minnesota.

In 1961, both the Twins and Vikings formed professional teams in the state.

## Not the first time

This isn't the first time Kahn has pushed for the bill.

She first got the idea during the 1987 Major League Baseball World Series.

"The state of Minnesota is the criminal in this affair."

## DAN ROMIG

University alumnus and ticket scalper

She said that she was "totally appalled" when 15 Minneapolis Police Department officers arrested 30 scalpers while there were 300 other crimes reported that day.

Arresting ticket scalpers, she said, is a waste of police resources.

If ticket scalping was reduced to even a petty misdemeanor, she said, there wouldn't be this "incredible waste of police resources." But, she added, it's a petty half-step.

Kahn said she always buys tickets from sources other than the box office.

## A scalper's qualm

Scalping tickets is a part-

time gig for Romig. He said that he has scalped tickets for "quite a long time" for all sports.

He said his problem with the statute is not being arrested for scalping; he has a lawyer on retainer. Instead, he said what bothers him is his belief that the scalping law and the free restraint of trade law contradict each other.

By prohibiting scalping, the state is allowing monopolies to exist.

"The state of Minnesota is the criminal in this affair," he said.

Romig has lobbied for Kahn's bill before, but he said he won't this time.

"There will be no vote on it," he said. "It won't be taken up, and that's OK."

He said Kahn is "fighting an uphill battle" to get the bill passed. The Legislature, he said, has more important things it should deal with than the scalping law.

## Law enforcement's role

For more than a decade, Lt. Kim Lund has worked for the Vikings as security in the ticket booths when she's off duty.

Lund, a police officer in the Minneapolis Police Department's 4th Precinct, said she sees scalpers all the time.

She said police officers have always tried to stop ticket scalping when there are enough officers on duty.

"It's one of those things that are lower on the priority lists



CHARLIE KNUTSON, DAILY

An unidentified man holds up a homemade sign Friday evening outside the Metrodome before the Minnesota Twins home-opening game. The current state statute prohibiting scalping has been on the books since 1963, two years after the Vikings and the Twins formed in Minnesota.

when we're so low on the manpower as it is," she said.

She usually arrests scalpers when they're selling tickets above face value. But often, she said, scalpers have received the tickets for free and are reselling them. In that case, she said, selling them at any value is illegal.

One problem with ticket scalping is overlooked, she said.

She said 10 percent of tickets scalped end up being stolen tickets.

She said people will come up to her who are "very irate" because they think they bought

the ticket legitimately from a scalper.

"The Vikings cannot back a ticket that was bought at (the intersection of) Eighth and Chicago," she said.

Scalpers have even contacted her, she said, because they don't want to push stolen tickets.

Lund said she is not in favor of the bill because she does not believe it regulates which individuals are selling tickets.

Whether police are enforcing the law or the bill repeals the law, she said scalping is a "business that will probably always be there."

# Law fixes insurance glitch for military

PIONEER PRESS MAY 21 '05

A law that took effect Friday allows active-duty military members to suspend MinnesotaCare health insurance when they are called up for duty and restart the coverage later without waiting.

Military members also wouldn't see increases in their MinnesotaCare premiums because of combat pay and other extra military income.

Such pay isn't taxed by federal or state authorities, but had been used to recalculate premiums for the state-run health program.

Rep. Phyllis Kahn, DFL-Minneapolis, said a constituent who was in the National Guard prompted the bill, which Gov. Tim Pawlenty signed Thursday.

The National Guard member ended up paying MinnesotaCare premiums for himself and his family while serving in Kosovo, even though they were simultaneously covered by military insurance, because they faced a six-month wait before they could rejoin the state program.

Their MinnesotaCare premiums also ballooned when his active-duty military income was counted.

—Associated Press

I46.29 N8 M60

# If the Twins ever go, their name will stay



• That's part of the legislation authorizing two stadiums. So is language to help neighbors of the projects and promote diversity.

STAR TRIBUNE MAY 27 '06

By CONRAD deFIEBRE • cdefiebre@startribune.com

If at the end of a future baseball stadium stare-down the Twins pack up and leave Minnesota, they won't take their name with them. It's in the law that Gov. Tim Pawlenty signed Friday to build a \$522 million ballpark in Minneapolis.

Safe from the Las Vegases of the world as well are the Twins logo, colors, history, records, trophies and memorabilia, all of which would become property of the state of Minnesota should

the team ever move or be dissolved.

Rep. Phyllis Kahn, a baseball fan who grew up in New York, pushed for the unusual provision after noting with horror a 50th anniversary celebration of the Brooklyn Dodgers' 1955 World Series championship — held 2,800 miles from Flatbush in Los Angeles, the Dodgers' home since 1958.

"The column in the New York Times about it had ... 'Shanda,' which is Yiddish for 'shame,'" said Kahn, DFL-Minneapolis. Not coincidentally, Los Angeles also is the desert home of a basketball team called the Lakers — the former Minneapolis Lakers of the NBA, which moved west long before legislators thought of team nicknames as public property.

**Stadiums continues:** Twins legislation also lays out a way for possible community ownership. **B5**



Star Tribune file

## Legislation covers team name, hiring practices

### ◀ STADIUMS FROM B1

The mark of Kahn shows up elsewhere in the ballpark legislation, too. If the Pohlad family ever tries to sell the Twins, a community ownership corporation would get the right of first refusal on the deal.

Under a Kahn amendment to the ballpark bill, the governor and Metropolitan Sports Facilities Commission would be required to attempt to recruit a private managing owner who would contribute at least one-quarter of the team's purchase price. A few other investors could control up to 5 percent of the team apiece, but at least 50 percent would be offered to the general public, with no single owner in that group allowed to hold more than 1 percent.

"It would be a true market test of community support for the Twins," Kahn said. "People would be asked to put their money where their mouth is."

A three-fourths vote of all shares would be needed to dissolve the team or move it from Minnesota.

The 22-page ballpark bill,

HF 2480, also includes affirmative action provisions for hiring and contracting with minority group members and women, in an amendment attached by Rep. Keith Ellison, DFL-Minneapolis.

"Best efforts" by stadium officials are required, including a contract with an employment firm, "preferably minority owned," and a job fair advertised at the Minneapolis Urban League, Sabathani Community Center, American Indian Opportunities Industrialization Center, Youthbuild "and other such organizations."

Those hired must be paid "prevailing wages" required on state building projects, which can be up to 30 percent more than private market rates.

Another clause requires that construction and management contracts for the ballpark include "women and people of color" in the work forces as well as programs for small local businesses and minority-owned businesses to participate.

Among other "extras" in the stadium legislation passed this session:

• Minnesota State High School League playoff games got an exemption from state ticket taxes. About \$530,000 in annual savings to the league will go to a fund to promote extra-curricular activities, especially by footing needy students' athletic fees.

• The Twins will lose the Minneapolis amusement tax exemption they enjoy at the Metrodome once they move to the ballpark. The tax bite on fans is pegged at \$3 million a year, replacing city parking revenues at the Dome that go for traffic control and police services on game days. Parking at the ballpark will support a fund for Interstate Hwy. 394, which dead ends near the ballpark site.

• Minneapolis also stands to collect \$5 million from an eventual sale of the Metrodome property to be used for future infrastructure costs at the 20-acre site. A long-range plan calls for housing there, although Vikings owner Zygi Wilf suggested this week that the team might stay in a renovated Dome.

• Another \$5 million from a Metrodome sale is earmarked

to Hennepin County for its ballpark capital improvement reserves. The rest of the proceeds, which by some estimates could total tens of millions of dollars, would go toward a new Vikings stadium.

• An exemption from state sales taxes on construction materials will cut about \$10.8 million from the cost of building the ballpark. A similar provision in the University of Minnesota football stadium legislation will save \$5 million.

• Both stadium bills authorize liquor licenses for concessions.

• As part of the Gophers stadium legislation, the university will contribute \$1.5 million to a permanent fund to mitigate the effect on surrounding homes and businesses.

• Kahn, whose district includes the university campus, got an item in the Gophers bill, too. It bars the university from acquiring by condemnation a historic fire station owned by an architectural firm that sits next to the stadium site.

✓ P119.14

# Light pollution could be dimmed, energy saved, if House bill passes

STAR TRIBUNE MAR 27 '07

A proposal that would encourage cities and counties to restrict outdoor lighting to reduce "light pollution" and save energy is under consideration in the Minnesota House.

The legislation calls for a model ordinance that local governments could use in adopting codes restricting lighting for private property, outdoor advertising, gas-station canopies and public streets, sidewalks and alleys.

"We're just trying to make it easier for cities to do it," said Rep. Phyllis Kahn, DFL-Minneapolis,

sponsor of the bill.

It also would require restrictions on outdoor lighting funded by the state, such as highway fixtures maintained by the Department of Transportation. Exceptions could be made for safety, temporary nighttime work and emergencies.

The bill says one of its purposes is to "preserve the night environment." Rep. Joyce Peppin, R-Rogers, asked Kahn how she defined that.

"It's the ability to see stars and not have glare in your eyes," Kahn replied.

PAT DOYLE

# The Forum

Date: Thursday, May 10, 2007  
 Location: FARGO, ND  
 Circulation (DMA): 54,044 (119)  
 Type (Frequency): Newspaper (D)  
 Page: C5  
 Keyword: Minnesota State Legislature

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# West Central TRIBUNE

Date: Thursday, May 10, 2007  
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 Keyword: Phyllis Kahn

Minnesota  
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## Democratic lawmaker says she'll continue to seek cuts in governor's 'bloated' administration

By Mike Longaecker  
 mlongaecker@wctrib.com

ST. PAUL — A leader of a Democrat-controlled committee said she will continue seeking cuts in Republican Gov. Tim Pawlenty's administration — even after the governor vetoed a bill chopping funding.

The administration was targeted for cuts in a bill funding state government because it has become bloated, said Rep. Phyllis Kahn, co-chairwoman of the state government finance conference committee.

Pawlenty nixed the committee's compromise bill on Monday, noting that it would have simultaneously expanded funding for the Minnesota Legislature while cutting jobs in his administration.

"It doesn't make sense for the Legislature to increase their budget by 19 percent while eliminating dozens of state agency employees who help manage several thousand employees," said Pawlenty spokesman Brian McClung.

The bill would have scaled back Pawlenty administration funding by \$7.3 million. Those cuts were slated to come from deputy commissioners, assistant commissioners and other political appointees.

Funding for the Legislature would have increased almost \$24 million from current levels under the vetoed bill.

Future administration cuts considered by the conference committee may be less prescriptive, Kahn said.

Remaining administration-level positions would have received the same 3 percent pay increase as other state



Kahn



Kubly

offices under the bill.

Sen. Gary Kubly serves on the conference committee and said some top-level hirings smacked of cronyism. Several of the jobs have been filled by former Republican legislators, he said.

"Why weren't these people needed before?" Kubly, DFL-Granite Falls said. "I think he's got as many assistant commissioners as anybody's ever had."

McClung said "a handful" of former Republican lawmakers comprise administration employees.

"The people who are serving in these posts have a variety of experiences, including legislative service," McClung said. "Since our agencies work with the Legislature, you'd think current legislators would find that background useful."

Kubly and Kahn, DFL-Minneapolis, called the Legislature's funding increase reasonable. The bulk of funding goes toward critical technology upgrades, they said.

"We have computers crashing all the time," Kahn said.

She said many legislative areas receiving a funding bump under the bill "have been starved in recent years."

McClung said Pawlenty remains "hopeful that they'll craft a bill that we can sign."

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# L84 A push to make lieutenant governor's post history

Rep. Phyllis Kahn says the secretary of state could take over. But Lt. Gov. Carol Molnau says her position is necessary.

By CONRAD deFIEBRE  
cdefiebre@startribune.com

STAR TRIBUNE JAN 22 07

Do the names Alphonso Bar- to, Frank A. Day and John L. Gibbs ring a bell?

Probably not. All were lieutenant governors of Minnesota, and, like most who have held that office, they have long since been forgotten in the mists of history.



Phyllis Kahn

Nine of the state's 45 executive second bananas, however, are better remembered because they later rose to the top spot — most recently C. Elmer Anderson, Karl Rolvaag and Rudy Perpich.

If Rep. Phyllis Kahn has her way, the office of lieutenant governor itself would be relegated to history. The Minneapolis DFLer is again pushing to abolish the office and place the secretary of state first in succession to the governor.

"The most important aspect of the job is sitting around and waiting for the governor to die," Kahn said.

Office continues: Secretary of state isn't in the loop, Molnau says. B2 ▶

# Kahn bill proposes making the office of lieutenant governor history

OFFICE FROM B1

"We just don't need it. It was proven by the current governor when he appointed his lieutenant governor to one of the most important positions in the state."

Kahn was referring to Carol Molnau, who was elected in November to a second term as lieutenant governor and spent most of her first term tending her appointive duties as commissioner of transportation.

Not surprisingly, Molnau is no fan of the Kahn initiative, even though it couldn't take effect until Molnau's current term expires in four years. Molnau argues that the lieutenant governor's close ties to the governor's office uniquely qualify him (or her — the job has been held by women since 1983) to take over the reins if needed.

"The secretary of state has very little access to the day-to-day operations of the state," Molnau said. "If the governor

« THE MOST IMPORTANT ASPECT OF THE JOB IS SITTING AROUND AND WAITING FOR THE GOVERNOR TO DIE. WE JUST DON'T NEED IT. »

DFL Rep. Phyllis Kahn of Minneapolis

dies or is incapacitated, goes to jail or higher office, you usually don't have a lot of time. You need someone who can hit the ground running."

And lieutenant governors get plenty of practice at the helm, she said, filling in on chores such as greeting and sending off troops or signing extradition papers when the governor is away.

### Constitutional issue

Eliminating the lieutenant governor's office and its



Lt. Gov. Carol Molnau would not lose her job.

\$78,197 annual salary would require a constitutional amendment passed by a majority of voters in a statewide election. First the House and Senate would have to approve putting the question on the ballot.

"If we put it on the ballot, I can't believe it wouldn't pass," Kahn said, although she added that legislative approval is much more doubtful.

Still, all the same steps occurred in 1998 when the office of state treasurer was abolished, also with Kahn as a leading proponent. But that involved a job that had become so inconsequential that Robert Mattson, a DFL treasurer in the 1980s, spent his first eight weeks in office in Florida.

Kahn's latest bill would put the secretary of state — now DFLer Mark Ritchie — first in line to succeed the governor, but she says it's not a ploy to sidestep the Republican Molnau. No change would occur until after the next election for governor, secretary of state and other statewide offices in 2010.

And the last time Kahn proposed putting the secretary of state at the head of the line of succession, in 2003, the post was held by Republican Mary Kiffmeyer.

"There's no way to guarantee any partisan advantage," Kahn said. "A constitutional amendment is forever. It's going to work different ways at different times."

### More duties in other states

Not all states have lieutenant governors. Three states designate the secretary of state, a job that usually entails tending elections and business filings, as the governor's backup. In five states the president of the Senate gets that distinction.

Some states assign their lieutenant governors by law to run certain agencies. In Indiana, the No. 2 job has 42 statutory functions, including heading five state departments. In 25 states, lieutenant governors preside over the Senate and can cast tie-breaking votes.

In Minnesota, the only formal duties of the lieutenant governor are to fill in for or succeed the governor. It's been that way under the state Constitution since 1858. "I think the people of the state were right the first time," Molnau said.

But Kahn, a longtime champion of women's rights, is pressing on to get rid of a job that's become a preserve of female politicians. "It doesn't help women to have a job that's irrelevant to the workings of the state," she said.

# 48.6E House approves stem cell measure

## State funds allowed for research efforts

By Jeremy Olson

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PIONEER PRESS MAY 8 '08

A bill clarifying that the University of Minnesota can use state taxpayer funds for embryonic stem cell research gained House approval Wednesday.

Rep. Phyllis Kahn, DFL-Minneapolis, said state law currently doesn't specifically prohibit taxpayer funding for the controversial research, but she wants to send a clear message of support to U scientists.

"It's a big positive step for the state to take affirmative action" on this issue, Kahn said.

The stem cell bill approved 71-62 by the House is somewhat different from the Senate version passed in that chamber last year. House and Senate leaders will need to resolve those differences and return the unified bill for a final vote before it reaches the governor's desk.

Gov. Tim Pawlenty has opposed unrestricted research with embryonic stem cells, which are derived through the destruction of human embryos. A spokesman said Wednesday that Pawlenty will veto Kahn's bill.

Stem cells are the so-called master cells that produce other cells in the body. While stem cells found in adult bone marrow and umbilical cord blood have already been developed into treatments, some researchers believe that embryonic stem cells have even greater potential and can provide extraordinary clues about human development.

Supporters argue that many embryos are left over from the process of in vitro fertilization and that using them for research would be preferable to discarding them.

President Bush limited federal

While stem cells found in adult bone marrow and umbilical cord blood have already been developed into treatments, some researchers believe that embryonic stem cells have even greater potential.

funding in 2001 to stem cell lines that had already been created at that time. U researcher Meri Firpo said those cell lines — some of which she created — were derived with older methods and have less potential to lead to new discoveries and therapies.

In the lack of clear state guidance, the university has applied those federal restrictions to state funding for embryonic research.

Firpo works with federally approved and privately funded stem cell lines in her diabetes research.

Republican lawmakers offered amendments during Wednesday's debate that would have steered the bill toward favoring adult stem cell research. Rep. Laura Brod, R-New Prague, said the divisive political debate over stem cell policy is behind the times, because researchers are finding more and more discoveries with adult stem cells.

"We don't have to have this be a wedge issue anymore," she said. "Science has outpaced politics in this case."

Pawlenty sent a letter to the Legislature in February encouraging support for adult stem cell research, stating that it creates "ample opportunity to work toward lifesaving cures without crossing moral and ethical boundaries."

# Women clean up in the House

The women's liberation movement was in full swing by 1972, and Minnesota politics reflected that when five women were elected to the state House that year — the most in a single election up until then. The five were DFLers Linda Berglin, Phyllis Kahn and Joan Growe and Republicans Mary Forsythe and Ernee McArthur. Berglin was elected to Senate in 1980, where she remains. Growe went on to become Minnesota's secretary of state from 1975 to 1998. Kahn still serves in the House.



Ernee McArthur



Joan Growe



Mary Forsythe



Linda Berglin ✓



Phyllis Kahn ✓



59B

## Profiling the Legislature

An ongoing series about lawmakers in Minnesota



# Rep. Phyllis Kahn

A pioneering woman in Minnesota politics, the longtime DFLer likes to push the envelope, including when running marathons

BY FRANK JOSSI  
Special to Capital Report

In 1972 in a laboratory at the University of Minnesota, Phyllis Kahn was lost in thought as she peered into a microscope at a DNA specimen. A colleague interrupted her research to say the dean wanted to see her in his office, immediately.

Kahn responded, typically, that she would get there later.

When she arrived in the dean's office, he informed her that a grant application she'd written for cancer research would initially only be funded for a year rather than two years, as Kahn had been expecting. Frustrated by the discrimination she found in academia and encouraged by a small but growing coterie of feminists advocating for gender equity in Minnesota, Kahn decided on the spot to run for the state House.

"I thought I have to face these guys in the Legislature, not from the lab," she says. "I had been thinking about running but had decided against it. Then in that one day I changed my mind and decided to run."

She ran that year and won — and has been the House representing Minneapolis as a DFLer ever since. Now, Kahn, 71, is the second-longest-serving legislator in the House.

The diminutive, feisty, chicken-raising, marathon-running grandmother with trademark large square glasses has become somewhat of an icon in Minnesota politics. Never shy about her accomplishments, her resume lists 36 laws she authored involving health, the environment, women's rights, economic security and government reform and what she dubs "quality of life" issues.

In person, Kahn is engaging and extremely confident. A few years ago at a hearing of a Metropolitan Council subcommittee, a member asked Kahn whether she knew anything about a particular part of a land planning law under discussion at the time. Her response was "Yes, I know something about the law — I wrote it."

After a long discussion over ice tea about her career, Kahn points to yet another achievement she wanted to mention — the fact she holds the best time for running marathons in the Legislature. Nobody there, not even Sen. Scott Dibble DFL-Minneapolis, has yet matched Kahn's time.

Still, her colleagues would never describe Kahn as a braggart, because she's come by her accomplishments honestly, and by hard work. And though four other women joined Kahn in being elected to the House in 1972, only one other woman was serving in the Legislature prior to that.

Kahn made her influence known quickly. In 1975, she led the fight to pass the Minnesota Clean Indoor Air Act, the strongest legislation in the nation at the time to regulate indoor smoking.

Around the same time, Kahn and some of the other pioneering women in state politics formed the Minnesota Women's Political

*"Phyllis plays chess while other legislators play checkers," says House Minority Leader Marty Seifert, R-Marshall, in a nod to his DFL colleague's legislative strategy. She's a professional at placing laws, sometimes controversial, into omnibus legislation in hopes they will slip under opponents' radar, a strategy that has worked from time to time, Seifert says.*



Caucus, which helped elect women and pass legislation involving gender equity, abortion rights and violence against women.

Still, Kahn's career prior to politics pointed to a life as a scientist rather than as a legislator. Born in Brooklyn, New York, her father, Isaac, was a family physician and her mother, Myrna, taught high school biology — among her students was Sen. Norm Coleman. "The one redeeming factor I can say about Norm Coleman is that she taught him high school biology — not civics or political science but biology," Kahn says, still exhibiting a New York accent.

In 1957 Kahn received a degree in physics from Cornell University and five years later earned her Ph.D. in molecular biology from Yale. She did post doctoral research at Yale and Princeton. During that time she moved to Minneapolis where Donald, her husband, had gotten a job offer to teach mathematics at the University of Minnesota.

Kahn found work as a research associate at the university in the Department of Genetics and Cell Biology. In applying for grants, she had to use the name of a male professor because a woman researcher would never have gotten funded. Such sexism was not new — one professor at Cornell wrote in a recommendation that Kahn was unsuited for any work except being a housewife.

"The appalling thing about that is if he had ever been in my house he would have seen I was totally unfit to be a housewife," she says with a smile.

At the university she began writing letters to the Minnesota Daily on the issue of abortion. Pro-choice activists contacted Kahn and they proved her a gateway into politics. She helped found the local chapter of the National Organization of Women and the women's caucus around the same time she filed a discrimination complaint against the university.

"Then things got significantly worse for me," Kahn says of her U of M career. Still, she stayed at the university until 1974, studying recombinant DNA at a time when that field was in its infancy.

Does she regret leaving science? "I don't miss being a lab scientist because, as I tell people, I can't sit still long enough," she says.

Truncating 36 years of legislative victories is difficult, but Kahn pulls out a few she's proud of in the 1970s — the indoor air act, legislation allowing a woman to keep her own name after marriage and gender equity in athletics in Minnesota prior to the federal Title IX legislation.

In later decades she helped get greater funding for parks and recreation facilities and trails (especially for the Metropolitan Regional Parks), money for battered women's shelters, improved nuclear safety, privacy laws regarding genetic testing and funding for the Mill City Museum in Minneapolis. As the House representative for one of the most liberal districts in the state — neighborhoods including the University of Minnesota, Augsburg College and Prospect Park — she can pick controversial issues and focus in on them.

"Phyllis plays chess while other legislators play checkers," says House Minority Leader Marty Seifert, R-Marshall, in a nod to his DFL colleague's legislative strategy. She's a professional at placing laws, sometimes controversial, into omnibus legislation in hopes they will slip under opponents'

radar, a strategy that has worked from time to time, according to Seifert.

"She really pushes the envelope, too, on laws," he says, pointing to an attempt to allow first cousins to marry (based on input from her Somali constituents) and to give 16-year-olds the right to vote. Seifert recalls Kahn telling him she was going to push for giving 12-year-olds the vote "but then she told me 'I'm won't do that because I'm a moderate.'"

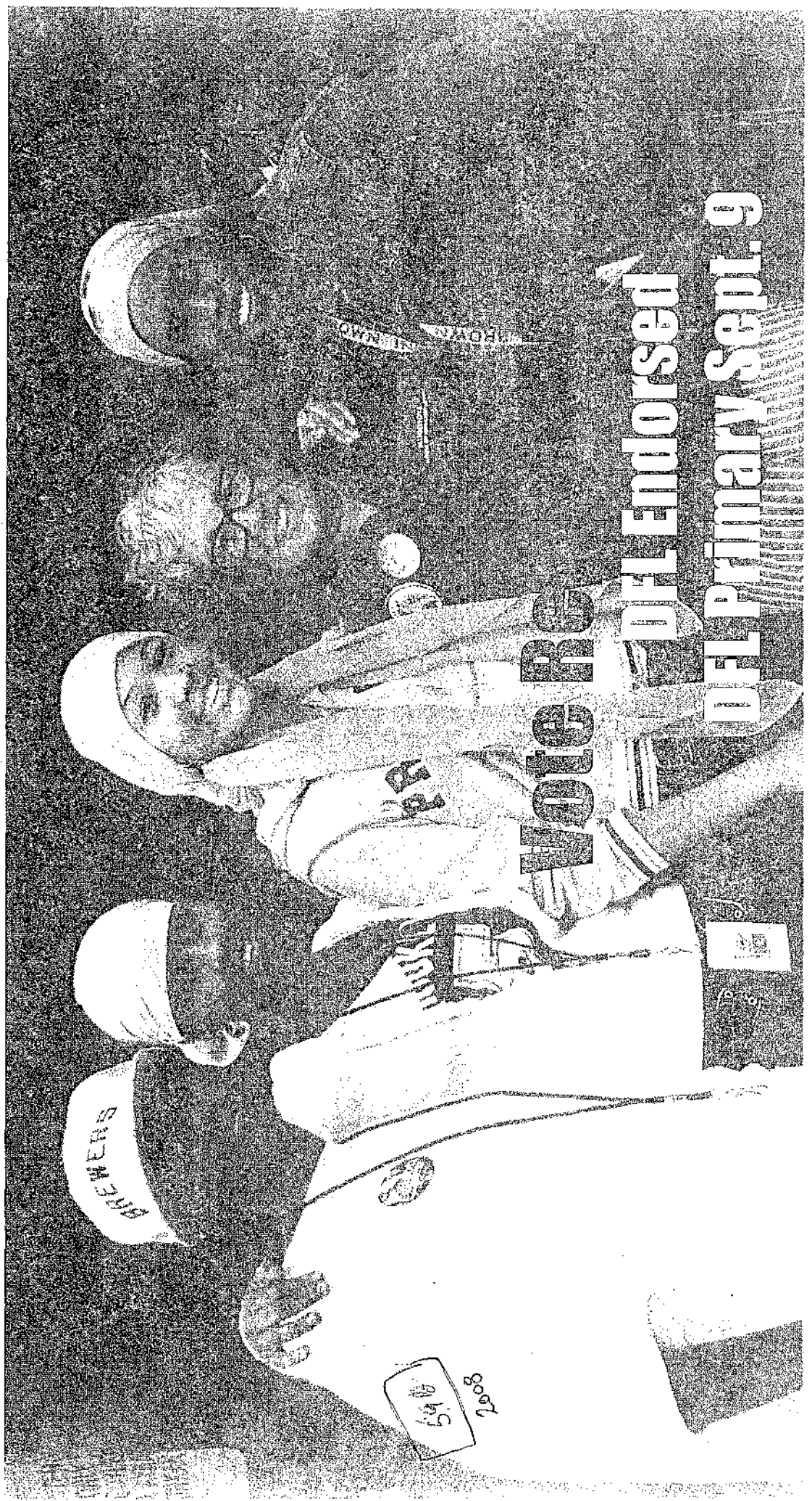
In addressing Kahn's influence, Seifert calls her a "gradualist" who understands that starting small can lead to more expansive social change; he points to the indoor smoking bill in the 1970s as a primary example. That bill led to further smoking restrictions, up to and including the statewide ban on indoor smoking that passed last year, he says.

Despite being on the opposite side of the fence on most legislation, Seifert concedes to learning a great about "the parliamentary trade" from watching Kahn at work — a woman whose legislative career began the same year he was born.

Which makes Seifert about the same age as her own kids.

Kahn's daughter, Tamara, lives with her husband and family in Oregon's wine country. Her son, Jeremy, works in the computer industry and lives with his wife and family in Montreal.

Lately, Kahn has been training for the Twin Cities Marathon this fall. "I ran the Honolulu marathon a while ago and I read the next day in the paper a woman 80 years old came in an hour ahead of me, and that was a bummer," she says. "Then I met a woman 10 years younger than me who finished 10 minutes slower. That made me feel better."



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## Rep. Phyllis Kahn wants everyone to have the opportunities they need to succeed.

As our state representative she has worked for better schools for our children, expanded transit so people can get to their jobs and access to health care so people can get help when they are sick. Vote for Phyllis so she can continue this important work for us.

### Vote for Rep. Phyllis Kahn

For more information go to [www.phylliskahn.com](http://www.phylliskahn.com) or contact Phyllis at 612-378-2591 or [phyllis@kahnline.com](mailto:phyllis@kahnline.com).

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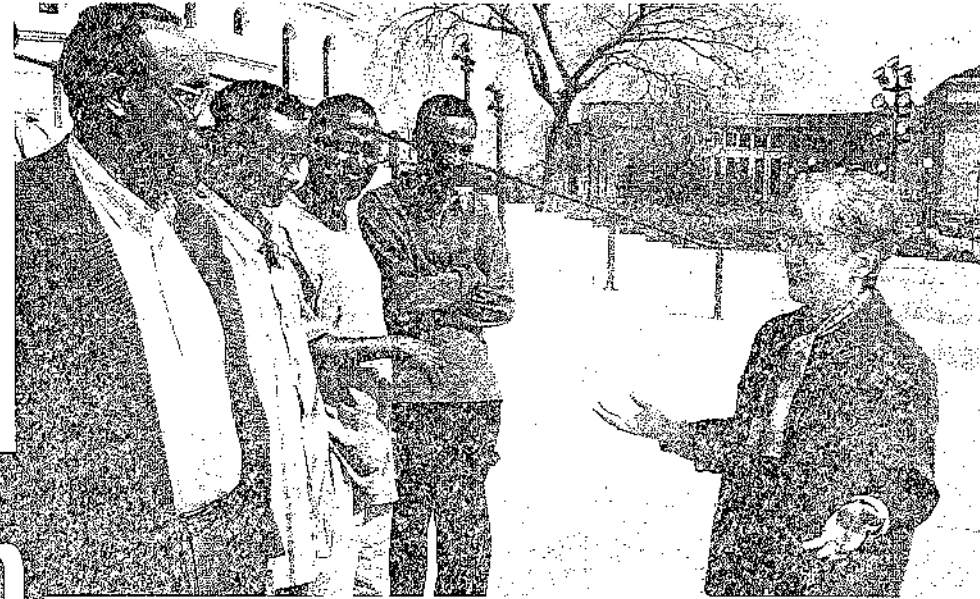
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You can register at your polling place on Election Day with a valid government-issued photo ID with your current address. If the ID has a former address, bring the ID and your current utility bill or someone who is registered to vote in your precinct to say where you live.

## Vote Sept. 9

from 7 a.m. – 8 p.m.  
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# State Rep. Phyllis Kahn storms dorms for DFL

BY KARLEE WEINMANN  
kweinmann@mindaily.com

With a three-hour permit and Students for Barack Obama volunteers in tow, state Rep. Phyllis Kahn took to University of Minnesota residence halls Tuesday night.

The four met at Coffman Union, and Kahn, whose district covers the Minneapolis campus, had a suitcase full of campaign mailers rolling behind her.

Her mission was clear: Secure as many college-age votes for the DFL ticket as she could. As indicated by the suitcase full of campaign mailers rolling behind her, she'd done this before.

Since her first run for office in 1972, Kahn has campaigned on campus. Over the years, she's seen the general political persuasion of students shift and evolve,

► See **KAHN** Page 10A

Kahn believes it's especially important for students who are being educated at a public institution to get out and vote.

most recently, sharply to the left — in line with Kahn's own views.

"In this district, we don't ever want anyone to run to the left of us," she said.

About 10 times during this landmark election season alone, Kahn said, she's visited student housing complexes and noticed decidedly Democratic support.

Aggressive grassroots campaign efforts, including repeated on-campus door-knocking trips during U.S. Rep. Keith Ellison's 2006 bid, marked the beginning of the latest leftward shift, Kahn said.

As the volunteers doled out pro-Democrat brochures and pamphlets Tuesday evening and charted their route from Middlebrook Hall to Yudof and Comstock halls, they reminded each other that Election Day was looming.

"On Nov. 5, I get to sleep," said University sophomore Reilee Doane-Arkulary, a Students for Barack Obama officer who's organized Kahn's residence hall campaign trips this fall.

But until then, Doane-Arkulary and Kahn agreed, it's important to mobilize and expose as many students as possible to

DFL literature and information to educate them on the party's candidates and stances on key issues.

On their Tuesday night run, Kahn and the volunteers reached an estimated 1,500 people, Doane-Arkulary said.

"We think the pieces of [campaign literature] we're handing out are really good in terms of bringing the names in front of people again," Kahn said. "Every time you do that, you're supposed to run a campaign as if you're always 1 percent behind."

Even signs proudly taped to students' doors plastered with her opponent's picture didn't stop Kahn. If a door didn't have a "no political knocking" sign, she was ready to go.

When she goes door-to-door in the neighborhoods, she'll knock as long as there are fewer than three Republican candidates' signs in the yard.

Overall, at least on Tuesday evening, students who answered their doors received Kahn well.

Only one told her he had committed to her Republican opponent, Ole Hovde. One challenged her on the politics behind The Clean Water, Land and Legacy Amendment, for which she was advocating.

One, when she realized who Kahn was, retrieved a recently received letter from her grandfather that mentioned the legislator.

It's clear that Kahn, after nearly 40 years in state government, is known better off campus — "because I've been around," she said. But still, during each campaign cycle, she visits the residence halls and greets student-constituents.

"My name is Phyllis Kahn and I'm your state legislator," she says. And more important to her than promoting her brand of politics is ensuring



(over)



that students vote — period.

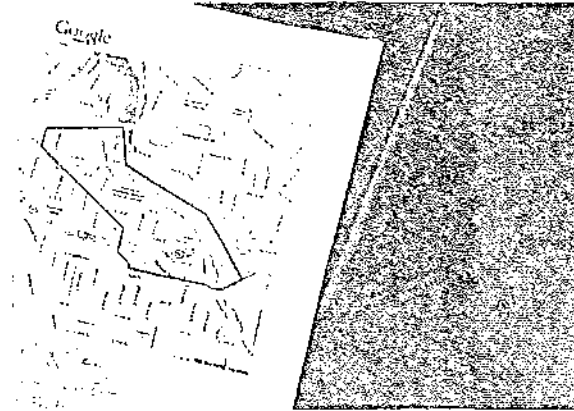
"I always tell people, 'You're being educated at a public expense,'" she said. "You really do have a responsibility to vote ... even if it's not for me."

And even after 19 campaign cycles, it's still important to Kahn to hit campus. Especially with a week to go before Election Day, reaching as many voters as possible is important.

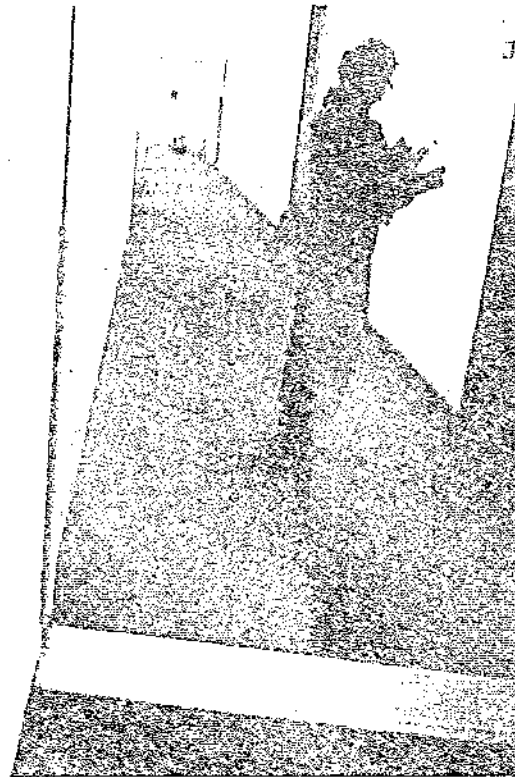
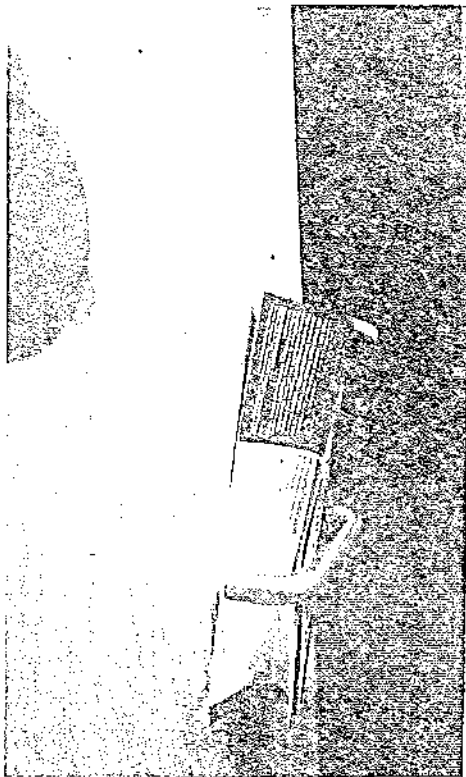
At about 9:15 p.m. Tuesday, the team wrapped up its work at Middlebrook. Doane-Arkalary questioned whether the time remaining until the permit expired at 10 p.m. was enough to tackle another residence hall.

There wasn't time to head to both Yudof and Comstock halls as planned, but Kahn was committed to visiting one of them.

"We have so little time left" before the election, she said. "When we still have almost an hour to go, the thought of not doing it is too much."



A map shows different polling places for students next Tuesday. Kahn strongly believes, "You have a responsibility to vote ... even if it's not for me."



JULES AMEEL, DAILY

Kahn places her information in the doors of Yudof Hall residents. It took her and her team less than 30 minutes to do this to every door in the building.

