

CHILDREN'S DEFENSE FUND  
ACTION COUNCIL

# 2007 Minnesota Legislative Scorecard

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# 2007 Minnesota Legislative Scorecard

**M**innesota children can't vote or speak up for themselves. It is incumbent upon adults—policy makers and citizens alike—to ensure the health, safety and well-being of Minnesota's 1.2 million children.

We know that every dollar invested in our children comes back to our state many fold. That is why the Children's Defense Fund Action Council (CDF Action Council) produces an annual scorecard to inform citizens about how policy makers vote for and work on behalf of children.

The key votes used in the 2007 legislative scorecard were cast during a session marked by progress for children, but also one that left key investments and systemic changes on the table.

The scorecard highlights six key votes for representatives and five key votes for senators. The bills cover a range of issues important to Minnesota children, including health care coverage; early care and education; healthy environments; and minimum wage. Revenue-related bills that determine the budget parameters for legislators are also included.



Health care coverage is a key indicator of child well-being. That is why the Children's Health Security Act (CHSA), developed and pushed as a top priority by CDF Minnesota, is a centerpiece of this scorecard. The measure provides a solution to the current broken health care system. It would ensure that all children—including the 85,000 uninsured children and tens of thousands more who are underinsured—have access to health care coverage, no matter where their parents work or how much they earn.

During the session, the CHSA moved through the legislative process, passed the House of Representatives and, while it was not enacted, the effort behind it resulted in 35,000 uninsured children gaining access to health coverage.

The 2007 legislative session also brought progress in other key areas for children including making child care more affordable—so that hard working parents can enter and remain in the work force without worrying about the safety and well-being of their children—and increased investment in other early education programs.

Selecting votes for a scorecard is often difficult. Large omnibus bills contain hundreds of provisions, so a vote for or against a particular bill does not always tell the full story. In addition, many of this year's budget bills, including the important Health and Human Services bill, were vetoed by Governor Pawlenty. In order to reach an agreement between the legislature and governor, the amount of investment included in the final Health and Human Services (HHS) bill was significantly scaled back, and that meant fewer provisions to benefit children. For that reason, the CDF Action Council includes the vetoed HHS bill in its scorecard.

This scorecard is part of CDF Action Council's ongoing policy analysis and advocacy for children. **The scores should not be interpreted as an endorsement of—or opposition to—any legislator.** CDF Action Council's primary goal is to educate the public and provide a voice for children to ensure that they are a top priority as lawmakers debate hundreds of policies each year. This scorecard is a tool for child advocates to help lawmakers

understand the impact of their votes on Minnesota children and their families. CDF Action Council encourages you to use this document to let your lawmakers know what you think about their votes for Minnesota's youngest residents.

## Legislative Children's Champions

CDF Action Council is proud to announce the third annual Legislative Children's Champions. Legislative Children's Champions are legislators who have gone above and beyond in their support for the well-being of Minnesota children. The 2007 Champions were selected based on their unwavering votes on behalf of children and commitment to ensuring all children have access to affordable, quality health care coverage. See page 12 for more detail on the 2007 Legislative Children's Champions.

## U.S. Congressional Scorecard

The 2007 Congressional Scorecard will be released in early 2008. To find out how your U.S. Representative and U.S. Senators voted on key issues in 2006 visit the CDF Action Council website by going to [www.childrensdefense.org](http://www.childrensdefense.org).

For more information on the scorecard or the 2007 Minnesota legislative session, contact Carole Spektor at 651-855-1188 or [spektor@cdf-mn.org](mailto:spektor@cdf-mn.org).

# Why These Votes Are Important

**R**esearch has repeatedly shown that every dollar invested in children comes back many fold to our communities, our schools, our society, and our economy. With that in mind, CDF Action Council chose these votes to highlight in this scorecard.

## Health Care (Senate Vote 3; House Votes 1, 2 & 4)

Health coverage is a key indicator of child well-being. Unfortunately, Minnesota has seen its children's uninsured rate rising since 2001. There are now an estimated 85,000 uninsured children in the state. Uninsured children are much less likely than children with insurance to get key preventive checkups, immunizations, and necessary medical care. Children with coverage have fewer long-term health problems, do better in class and miss less school. They also will perform better in the work force. Investing in children's health produces significant long-term savings in productivity to the health care system and contributes greatly to the overall health of the state.



## Early Care and Education (Senate Votes 2, 3 & 4; House Votes 2, 4 & 5)

Research consistently shows that quality early childhood programs improve school readiness. A study published in August 2007 in the *Archives of Pediatric and Adolescent Medicine* supports previous research showing increased educational attainment for children who participated in high quality early care and education programs. The study also found benefits lasting into adulthood such as higher rates of health insurance and full-time

employment, and less need for public assistance. It also found lower rates of criminal behavior and depression.

## Minimum Wage (Senate Vote 1)

Family economic security is central to children's ability to thrive. Children who live in poverty are more likely to suffer from poor health, to develop behavioral problems, to become teenage parents, and to fall behind in or drop out of school. A living wage is critical to economic security. A parent who works full-time earning the

current minimum wage earns just below \$12,800 annually, far below the federal poverty line for most families (e.g., the poverty line for a family of four is \$20,650).

## Revenue (Senate Vote 2; House Vote 3)

Funding in areas that benefit children and their families, such as child care and health care, has been cut in recent budget sessions. Investing early in children has continuously produced positive long-term results. Increasing the resources available to invest in children's health care coverage, early care and education, and other areas that benefit children and their families is important to Minnesota's future.

## Clean Air—Freedom to Breathe Act (Senate Vote 5, House Vote 6)

Secondhand smoke is the leading cause of preventable death in the United States. Infants and young children are especially susceptible as their lungs are still developing. In addition, pregnant women who are exposed to secondhand smoke are more likely to have lower birth weight babies.

# 2007 Senate Votes

## Vote 1: Minimum Wage Increase



SF 875, authored by Senator Ellen Anderson, would increase the minimum wage required to be paid by large employers from \$6.15 per hour to \$6.75 per hour in 2007 and \$7.75 per hour in 2008. The minimum wage required to be paid by small employers would increase from \$5.25 per hour to \$5.75 per hour in 2007 and \$6.75 per hour in 2008. The legislation would also require annual inflation increases for the minimum wage and consumer protections. SF 875 *passed* on the Senate floor 40 to 23 (SF 875 was not enacted into law; only the Senate voted on the minimum wage bill in 2007). *Senate Journal*, page 2459, April 23, 2007.

CDF Action Council Position: **Support**

## Vote 2: Early Education Funding & Revenue Increase



SF 1611, authored by Senator Leroy Stumpf, established a prekindergarten education scholarship to increase access to quality early childhood settings for 3- and 4-year-olds. The scholarships, intended to improve school readiness, would be awarded based on income. The funding mechanism, also included in the bill, would be revenue generated from adding an additional income tax bracket. This legislation also provided funding increases for K-12 and higher education. The bill *passed* on the Senate floor 35 to 29 (provisions of the scholarships were enacted as part of the final Health and Human Services bill, the additional tax bracket was not enacted into law). *Senate Journal*, page 1927, March 31, 2007.

CDF Action Council Position: **Support**

## Vote 3: Health and Human Services Conference Committee Report



SF 2171, authored by Senator Linda Berglin and Representative Thomas Huntley, is the agreement reached between the House and Senate by the Health and Human Services Conference Committee. This bill included provisions of the Children's Health Security Act, which would significantly increase access to health care coverage for children by making coverage more affordable and removing cumbersome eligibility rules and administrative barriers. The legislation also included funding for early care and education including reduced parent co-payments for the Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP), new funding for a pilot project to increase access to quality care for CCAP families and new funding for home visiting targeted at increasing school readiness for high-risk children. The bill also included numerous other provisions that benefit children and families such as funding for crisis nurseries and food shelves as well as provisions that eased food support reporting requirements. The bill *passed* 47 to 19. *Senate Journal*, page 3710, May 7, 2007.

**SF 2171 was vetoed by Governor Pawlenty on May 8, 2007.** *The final HHS bill, with reduced spending, includes fewer provisions to increase access to and affordability of health care coverage for children and no funding increase for crisis nurseries and food shelves; the early care and education provisions and eased food support reporting remained in the final legislation.*

CDF Action Council Position: **Support**

## Vote 4: Final E-12 Education Funding



HF 2245, authored by Senator Tarryl Clark and Representative Mindy Greiling, includes increased funding for early education including Head Start, Early Childhood Family Education and School Readiness, restoring each of the programs to funding levels prior to budget cuts in 2003. The bill *passed* 51 to 15. *Senate Journal*, page 6035, May 21, 2007.

CDF Action Council Position: **Support**

## Vote 5: Freedom to Breathe



SF 238, authored by Senator Kathy Sheran and Representative Thomas Huntley, will eliminate the hazards of secondhand smoke in most enclosed spaces by prohibiting smoking in essentially all indoor public places, places of employment, and public transportation beginning October 1, 2007. The bill *passed* 43 to 21. *Senate Journal*, page 3954, May 11, 2007.

CDF Action Council Position: **Support**



# 2007 House Votes

## Vote 1: Children's Health Security Act Amendment



The Children's Health Security Act, which was included in the House Health and Human Services Omnibus bill (SF 2171), would ensure all children have access to quality, affordable and comprehensive health care coverage.

Amendment SF2171-A62 would have removed the Children's Health Security Act from SF 2171 and used the money allocated for the Children's Health Security Act to provide health care coverage for only 13,000 children, utilizing the remainder of the funds to eliminate a generic drug dispensing fee. While the broken health care system and rising costs – including prescription drugs – need to be addressed, taking money intended for children's coverage to address other health care issues is not a solution. The amendment *failed* 44 to 86. *House Journal*, page 4247, April 20, 2007.

CDF Action Council Position: **Oppose**

## Vote 2: Health and Human Services Funding



SF 2171, the House Omnibus Health and Human Services bill, authored by Representative Thomas Huntley, included the Children's Health Security Act, which would ensure all children have access to quality, affordable

health care coverage as well as increased funding for the Child Care Assistance Program to increase access to and affordability of child care for low-income working families. The bill *passed* 86 to 45 (increased child care funding and provisions of the Children's Health Security Act were included in the final Health and Human Services bill). *House Journal*, page 4315, April 20, 2007.

CDF Action Council Position: **Support**

## Vote 3: Omnibus Tax Bill



HF 2362, the House omnibus tax bill authored by Representative David Dill, would have generated additional revenue for the state, by adding an additional income tax bracket. The bill *passed* 74 to 59 (the additional income tax bracket was not enacted into law). *House Journal*, page 4843, April 27, 2007.

CDF Action Council Position: **Support**

## Vote 4: Health and Human Services Conference Committee Report



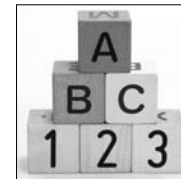
SF 2171, authored by Senator Linda Berglin and Representative Thomas Huntley, is the agreement reached between the House and Senate by the Health and Human Services Conference Committee. This bill included

provisions of the Children's Health Security Act, which would significantly increase access to health care coverage for children by making coverage more affordable and removing cumbersome eligibility rules and administrative barriers. The legislation also included funding for early care and education including reduced parent co-payments for the Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP), new funding for a pilot project to increase access to quality care for CCAP families and new funding for home visiting targeted at increasing school readiness for high-risk children. The bill also included numerous other provisions that benefit children and families such as funding for crisis nurseries and food shelves as well as provisions that eased food support reporting requirements. The bill *passed* 82 to 44. *House Journal*, page 6112, May 7, 2007.

SF 2171 was vetoed by Governor Pawlenty on May 8, 2007. *The final HHS bill, with reduced spending, includes fewer provisions to increase access to and affordability of health care coverage for children and no funding increase for crisis nurseries and food shelves; the early care and education provisions and eased food support reporting remained in the final legislation.*

CDF Action Council Position: **Support**

## Vote 5: Final E-12 Education Funding



HF 2245, authored by Senator Tarryl Clark and Representative Mindy Greiling, includes increased funding for early education including Head Start, Early Childhood Family Education and School Readiness, restoring each of the programs to funding levels prior to budget cuts in 2003. The bill *passed* 94 to 36. *House Journal*, page 7557, May 21, 2007.

CDF Action Council Position: **Support**

## Vote 6: Freedom to Breathe



SF 238, authored by Senator Kathy Sheran and Representative Thomas Huntley, will eliminate the hazards of secondhand smoke in most enclosed spaces by prohibiting smoking in essentially all indoor public places, places of employment, and public transportation beginning October 1, 2007. The bill *passed* 81 to 48. *House Journal*, page 6581, May 11, 2007.

CDF Action Council Position: **Support**

# Minnesota Senate Scorecard 2007

Senator	District	Hometown	Vote 1 Minimum Wage	Vote 2 Early Ed/ Revenue Increase	Vote 3 HHS Bill (Conference Committee Report)	Vote 4 Final E-12 Education Bill	Vote 5 Freedom to Breathe	Rating
Anderson, Ellen R. (DFL)	66	St. Paul	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Bakk, Thomas M. (DFL)	6	Cook	+	+	+	+	-	80%
Berglin, Linda (DFL)	61	Minneapolis	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Betzold, Don (DFL)	51	Fridley	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Bonoff, Terri E. (DFL)	43	Minnetonka	+	-	+	+	+	80%
Carlson, Jim (DFL)	38	Eagan	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Chaudhary, Satveer S. (DFL)	50	Fridley	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Clark, Tarryl (DFL)	15	St. Cloud	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Cohen, Richard J. (DFL)	64	St. Paul	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Day, Dick (R)	26	Owatonna	-	-	-	-	-	0%
Dibble, D. Scott (DFL)	60	Minneapolis	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Dille, Steve (R)	18	Dassel	-	-	+	+	+	60%
Doll, John P. (DFL)	40	Burnsville	+	-	+	+	+	80%
Erickson Ropes, Sharon L. (DFL)	31	Winona	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Fischbach, Michelle L. (R)	14	Paynesville	-	-	-	+	+	40%
Foley, Leo T. (DFL)	47	Coon Rapids	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Frederickson, Dennis R. (R)	21	New Ulm	-	-	+	-	+	40%
Gerlach, Chris (R)	37	Apple Valley	-	-	-	-	-	0%
Gimse, Joe (R)	13	Willmar	-	-	-	+	+	40%
Hann, David W. (R)	42	Eden Prairie	MV	-	-	-	-	0%
Higgins, Linda (DFL)	58	Minneapolis	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Ingebrigtsen, Bill G. (R)	11	Alexandria	-	-	-	-	-	0%
Johnson, Debbie J. (R)	49	Ham Lake	-	-	-	-	-	0%
Jungbauer, Michael J. (R)	48	East Bethel	-	-	-	+	-	20%
Koch, Amy T. (R)	19	Buffalo	-	-	-	+	-	20%
Koering, Paul E. (R)	12	Fort Ripley	-	-	+	+	-	40%
Kubly, Gary W. (DFL)	20	Granite Falls	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Langseth, Keith (DFL)	9	Glyndon	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Larson, Dan (DFL)	63	Bloomington	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Latz, Ron (DFL)	44	St. Louis Park	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Limmer, Warren (R)	32	Maple Grove	-	-	-	+	-	20%
Lourey, Tony (DFL)	8	Kerrick	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Lynch, Ann (DFL)	30	Rochester	+	-	+	+	+	80%
Marty, John (DFL)	54	Roseville	+	+	+	+	+	100%

**Key:** "+" means the member voted with the CDF Action Council position; "-" means the member voted against the CDF Action Council position.  
 "MV" means the member missed the vote; missed votes are not used in calculating the legislators' percentages.

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Metzen, James P. (DFL)	39	South St. Paul	+	+	+	+	-	80%
Michel, Geoff (R)	41	Edina	-	-	-	-	+	20%
Moua, Mee (DFL)	67	St. Paul	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Murphy, Steve (DFL)	28	Red Wing	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Neuville, Thomas M. (R)	25	Northfield	-	-	-	-	-	0%
Olseen, Rick E. (DFL)	17	Harris	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Olson, Gen (R)	33	Minnetrista	MV	MV	-	-	-	0%
Olson, Mary A. (DFL)	4	Bemidji	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Ortman, Julianne E. (R)	34	Chanhassen	-	-	-	-	-	0%
Pappas, Sandra L. (DFL)	65	St. Paul	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Pariseau, Pat (R)	36	Farmington	-	-	-	-	-	0%
Pogemiller, Lawrence J. (DFL)	59	Minneapolis	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Pretzner Solon, Yvonne (DFL)	7	Duluth	MV	+	+	+	+	100%
Rest, Ann H. (DFL)	45	New Hope	+	-	+	+	+	80%
Robling, Claire A. (R)	35	Jordan	-	-	-	+	+	40%
Rosen, Julie A. (R)	24	Fairmont	-	-	+	-	+	40%
Rummel, Sandy (DFL)	53	White Bear Lake	+	-	+	+	+	80%
Saltzman, Kathy L. (DFL)	56	Woodbury	+	-	+	+	+	80%
Saxhaug, Tom (DFL)	3	Grand Rapids	+	+	+	+	-	80%
Scheid, Linda (DFL)	46	Brooklyn Park	+	MV	+	+	MV	100%
Senjem, David H. (R)	29	Rochester	-	-	-	-	+	20%
Sheran, Kathy (DFL)	23	Mankato	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Sieben, Katie (DFL)	57	Newport	+	MV	+	+	+	100%
Skoe, Rod (DFL)	2	Clearbrook	+	+	+	+	-	80%
Skogen, Dan (DFL)	10	Hewitt	-	-	+	+	+	60%
Sparks, Dan (DFL)	27	Austin	-	+	+	+	-	60%
Stumpf, LeRoy A. (DFL) *	1	Plummer	MV	+	MV	MV	MV	100%
Tomassoni, David J. (DFL)	5	Chisholm	+	+	+	+	-	80%
Torres Ray, Patricia (DFL)	62	Minneapolis	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Vandever, Ray J. (R)	52	Forest Lake	-	-	-	-	MV	0%
Vickerman, Jim (DFL)	22	Tracy	+	+	+	+	-	80%
Wergin, Betsy L. (R)	16	Princeton	-	-	-	-	-	0%
Wiger, Charles W. "Chuck" (DFL)	55	North St. Paul	+	+	+	+	+	100%

\*Senator Stumpf missed a portion of the Legislative session due to health reasons.



# Minnesota House Scorecard 2007

Representative	District	Hometown	Vote 1 CHSA Amendment	Vote 2 Omnibus HHS Bill	Vote 3 Omnibus Tax Bill	Vote 4 HHS Bill (Conference Committee Report)	Vote 5 Final E-12 Education Bill	Vote 6 Freedom to Breathe	Rating	Children's Champion*
Abeler, Jim (R)	48B	Anoka	-	+	-	-	-	MV	20%	
Anderson, Bruce (R)	19A	Buffalo Township	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%	
Anderson, Sarah (R)	43A	Plymouth	-	-	-	-	+	-	17%	
Anzenc, Tom (DFL)	03A	Balsam Township	+	+	+	+	+	-	83%	
Atkins, Joe (DFL)	39B	Inver Grove Heights	+	+	+	MV	+	+	100%	
Beard, Michael (R)	35A	Shakopee	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%	
Benson, John (DFL)	43B	Minnetonka	+	+	-	+	+	+	83%	
Berns, John (R)	33B	Wayzata	-	-	-	-	-	+	17%	
Bigham, Karla (DFL)	57A	Cottage Grove	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	★
Bly, David (DFL)	25B	Northfield	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	★
Brod, Laura (R)	25A	New Prague	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%	
Brown, Robin (DFL)	27A	Austin	+	+	-	+	+	+	83%	
Brynaert, Kathy (DFL)	23B	Mankato	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	★
Buesgens, Mark (R)	35B	Jordan	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%	
Bunn, Julie (DFL)	56A	Lake Elmo	+	+	-	+	+	+	83%	
Carlson, Lyndon (DFL)	45B	Crystal	MV	+	+	+	+	+	100%	
Clark, Karen (DFL)	61A	Minneapolis	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	★
Cornish, Tony (R)	24B	Good Thunder	-	-	-	-	-	+	17%	
Davnie, Jim (DFL)	62A	Minneapolis	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	★
Dean, Matt (R)	52B	Dellwood	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%	
DeLaForest, Chris (R)	49A	Andover	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%	
Demmer, Randy (R)	29A	Hayfield	-	-	-	MV	-	-	0%	
Dettmer, Bob (R)	52A	Forest Lake	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%	
Dill, David (DFL)	06A	Crane Lake	+	+	+	+	+	-	83%	
Dittrich, Denise (DFL)	47A	Champlin	+	+	+	+	-	+	83%	
Dominguez, Augustine "Willie" (DFL)	58B	Minneapolis	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	★
Doty, Al (DFL)	12B	Royalton	+	+	+	+	+	-	83%	
Eastlund, Rob (R)	17A	Isanti	MV	-	-	-	-	-	0%	
Eken, Kent (DFL)	02A	Twin Valley	+	+	+	+	+	-	83%	
Emmer, Tom (R)	19B	Delano	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%	
Erhardt, Ron (R)	41A	Edina	+	-	-	MV	+	+	60%	
Erickson, Sondra (R)	16A	Princeton	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%	

**Key:** "+" means the member voted with the CDF Action Council position; "-" means the member voted against the CDF Action Council position. "MV" means the member missed the vote; missed votes are not used in calculating the legislators' percentages.

\*Children's Champions have a 100% voting record, signed on to the Children's Health Security Act (SF 15-Prettner Solon; HF 1-Thissen) and voted against all attempts to weaken the Children's Health Security Act on the House floor.

# Minnesota House Scorecard 2007

Representative	District	Hometown	Vote 1 CHSA Amendment	Vote 2 Omnibus HHS Bill	Vote 3 Omnibus Tax Bill	Vote 4 HHS Bill (Conference Committee Report)	Vote 5 Final E-12 Education Bill	Vote 6 Freedom to Breathe	Rating	Children's Champion*
Faust, Tim (DFL)	08B	Mora	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	
Finstad, Brad (R)	21B	Comfrey	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%	
Fritz, Patti (DFL)	26B	Faribault	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	
Gardner, Paul (DFL)	53A	Shoreview	+	+	-	+	+	+	83%	
Garofalo, Pat (R)	36B	Farmington	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%	
Gottwalt, Steve (R)	15A	St. Cloud	-	-	MV	-	+	+	40%	
Greiling, Mindy (DFL)	54A	Roseville	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	★
Gunther, Bob (R)	24A	Fairmont	-	-	-	-	+	-	17%	
Hackbarth, Tom (R)	48A	Cedar	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%	
Hamilton, Rod (R)	22B	Mountain Lake	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%	
Hansen, Rick (DFL)	39A	South St. Paul	+	+	+	+	MV	+	100%	
Hausman, Alice (DFL)	66B	St. Paul	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	★
Haws, Larry (DFL)	15B	St. Cloud	+	+	-	+	+	+	83%	
Heidgerken, Bud (R)	13A	Freeport	-	MV	-	-	+	-	20%	
Hilstrom, Debra (DFL)	46B	Brooklyn Center	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	★
Hilty, Bill (DFL)	08A	Finlayson	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	
Holberg, Mary Liz (R)	36A	Lakeville	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%	
Hoppe, Joe (R)	34B	Chaska	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%	
Hornstein, Frank (DFL)	60B	Minneapolis	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	★
Hortman, Melissa (DFL)	47B	Brooklyn Park	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	★
Hosch, Larry (DFL)	14B	St. Joseph	+	+	+	+	+	MV	100%	
Howes, Larry (R)	04B	Walker	-	-	-	MV	+	MV	25%	
Huntley, Thomas (DFL)	07A	Duluth	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	★
Jaros, Mike (DFL)	07B	Duluth	+	+	+	+	+	-	83%	
Johnson, Sheldon (DFL)	67B	St. Paul	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	★
Juhnke, Al (DFL)	13B	Willmar	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	★
Kahn, Phyllis (DFL)	59B	Minneapolis	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	★
Kalin, Jeremy (DFL)	17B	Lindstrom	+	+	+	+	+	-	83%	
Kelliher, Margaret Anderson (DFL)	60A	Minneapolis	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	★
Knuth, Kate (DFL)	50B	New Brighton	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	
Koenen, Lyle (DFL)	20B	Clara City	+	+	+	+	+	-	83%	
Kohls, Paul (R)	34A	Victoria	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%	
Kranz, Scott (DFL)	51A	Blaine	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	★
Laine, Carolyn (DFL)	50A	Columbia Heights	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	
Lanning, Morrie (R)	09A	Moorhead	-	-	-	-	+	+	33%	

# Minnesota House Scorecard 2007

Representative	District	Hometown	Vote 1 CHSA Amendment	Vote 2 Omnibus HHS Bill	Vote 3 Omnibus Tax Bill	Vote 4 HHS Bill (Conference Committee Report)	Vote 5 Final E-12 Education Bill	Vote 6 Freedom to Breathe	Rating	Children's Champion*
Lenczewski, Ann (DFL)	40B	Bloomington	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	
Lesch, John (DFL)	66A	St. Paul	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	★
Liebling, Tina (DFL)	30A	Rochester	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	★
Lieder, Bernard (DFL)	01B	Crookston	+	+	+	+	+	-	83%	
Lillie, Leon (DFL)	55A	North St. Paul	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	★
Loeffler, Diane (DFL)	59A	Minneapolis	+	+	+	+	MV	+	100%	★
Madore, Shelley (DFL)	37A	Apple Valley	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	
Magnus, Doug (R)	22A	Slayton	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%	
Mahoney, Tim (DFL)	67A	St. Paul	+	+	+	+	+	-	83%	
Mariani, Carlos (DFL)	65B	St. Paul	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	
Marquart, Paul (DFL)	09B	Dilworth	+	+	+	+	+	-	83%	
Masin, Sandra (DFL)	38A	Eagan	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	
McFarlane, Carol (R)	53B	White Bear Lake	-	-	-	-	+	+	33%	
McNamara, Denny (R)	57B	Hastings	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%	
Moe, Frank (DFL)	04A	Bemidji	+	+	+	+	+	-	83%	
Morgan, Will (DFL)	40A	Burnsville	+	+	-	+	+	+	83%	
Morrow, Terry (DFL)	23A	St. Peter	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	★
Mullery, Joe (DFL)	58A	Minneapolis	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	★
Murphy, Erin (DFL)	64A	St. Paul	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	★
Murphy, Mary (DFL)	06B	Hermantown	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	★
Nelson, Michael (DFL)	46A	Brooklyn Park	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	★
Nornes, Bud (R)	10A	Fergus Falls	-	-	-	-	+	-	17%	
Norton, Kim (DFL)	29B	Rochester	+	+	-	+	+	+	83%	
Olin, Dave (DFL)	01A	Thief River Falls	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	
Olson, Mark (R)	16B	Big Lake	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%	
Otremba, Mary Ellen (DFL)	11B	Long Prairie	+	+	+	+	+	-	83%	
Ozment, Dennis (R)	37B	Rosemount	MV	MV	-	-	MV	-	0%	
Paulsen, Erik (R)	42B	Eden Prairie	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%	
Paymar, Michael (DFL)	64B	St. Paul	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	★
Pelowski Jr., Gene (DFL)	31A	Winona	+	+	-	MV	+	+	80%	
Peppin, Joyce (R)	32A	Rogers	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%	
Peterson, Aaron (DFL)	20A	Appleton	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	

**Key:** "+" means the member voted with the CDF Action Council position; "-" means the member voted against the CDF Action Council position. "MV" means the member missed the vote; missed votes are not used in calculating the legislators' percentages.

\*Children's Champions have a 100% voting record, signed on to the Children's Health Security Act (SF 15-Prettner Solon; HF 1-Thissen) and voted against all attempts to weaken the Children's Health Security Act on the House floor.

# Minnesota House Scorecard 2007

Representative	District	Hometown	Vote 1 CHSA Amendment	Vote 2 Omnibus HHS Bill	Vote 3 Omnibus Tax Bill	Vote 4 HHS Bill (Conference Committee Report)	Vote 5 Final E-12 Education Bill	Vote 6 Freedom to Breathe	Rating	Children's Champion*
Peterson, Neil W. (R)	41B	Bloomington	+	-	-	MV	+	+	60%	
Peterson, Sandra (DFL)	45A	New Hope	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	★
Poppe, Jeanne (DFL)	27B	Austin	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	★
Rukavina, Tom (DFL)	05A	Virginia	+	+	+	+	+	-	83%	
Ruth, Connie (R)	26A	Owatonna	-	-	-	-	-	+	17%	
Ruud, Maria (DFL)	42A	Minnetonka	+	+	-	+	+	+	83%	
Sailer, Brita (DFL)	02B	Park Rapids	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	
Scalze, Bev (DFL)	54B	Little Canada	+	+	+	+	+	MV	100%	
Seifert, Marty (R)	21A	Marshall	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%	
Sertich, Anthony "Tony" (DFL)	05B	Chisholm	+	+	+	+	+	-	83%	
Severson, Dan (R)	14A	Sauk Rapids	-	-	-	-	-	+	17%	
Shimanski, Ron (R)	18A	Silver Lake	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%	
Simon, Steve (DFL)	44A	St. Louis Park	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	★
Simpson, Dean (R)	10B	Perham	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%	
Slawik, Nora (DFL)	55B	Maplewood	+	+	+	MV	+	+	100%	★
Slocum, Linda (DFL)	63B	Richfield	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	★
Smith, Steve (R)	33A	Mound	-	-	-	-	+	+	33%	
Solberg, Loren (DFL)	03B	Grand Rapids	+	+	+	+	+	-	83%	
Sviggum, Steve (R)	28B	Kenyon	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%	
Swails, Marsha (DFL)	56B	Woodbury	+	+	-	+	+	+	83%	
Thao, Cy (DFL)	65A	St. Paul	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	
Thissen, Paul (DFL)	63A	Minneapolis	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	★
Tillberry, Tom (DFL)	51B	Fridley	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	★
Tingelstad, Kathy (R)	49B	Andover	-	-	-	MV	-	+	20%	
Tschumper, Ken (DFL)	31B	La Crescent	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	
Urdahl, Dean (R)	18B	Grove City	-	-	-	-	+	+	33%	
Wagenius, Jean (DFL)	62B	Minneapolis	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	★
Walker, Neva (DFL)	61B	Minneapolis	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	★
Ward, John (DFL)	12A	Brainerd	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	
Wardlow, Lynn (R)	38B	Eagan	MV	MV	-	-	-	+	25%	
Welti, Andy (DFL)	30B	Plainview	+	+	-	+	+	+	83%	
Westrom, Torrey (R)	11A	Elbow Lake	-	-	-	-	+	MV	20%	
Winkler, Ryan (DFL)	44B	Golden Valley	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	★
Wollschlager, Sandy (DFL)	28A	Cannon Falls	+	+	+	+	MV	+	100%	
Zellers, Kurt (R)	32B	Maple Grove	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%	

# 2007 Legislative Children's Champions — Focus on "Covering All Kids"

**T**he CDF Action Council is pleased to announce the 2007 Legislative Children's Champions. Those chosen as Children's Champions voted consistently for investments in children and supported all efforts to ensure every Minnesota child has access to health care coverage.

Because health coverage is essential to children's ability to grow up healthy and thrive, CDF Minnesota's Children's Health Security Act (CHSA) is a key component of this year's scorecard.

The Champions not only had a 100% voting record on key votes for children in 2007, but they also were co-authors of the CHSA (HF1-Thissen, SF 15 – Prettner Solon), and voted against all attempts to weaken or kill the measure.

During House floor debate of the House Health and Human Services Omnibus bill, several amendments were offered to strip the CHSA from the bill and use the allocated funds to fund other health care budget items. While the health care system is broken with several areas competing for limited funds, taking money allocated to ensure all children have health care coverage and putting it toward another health care need is not a solution. Voting against all amendments offered to remove



the CHSA was one of the three criteria necessary to be a Children's Champion.

Contact your senator and tell him or her how important it is to ensure all children have access to quality, affordable health care coverage and urge your senator to support the Children's Health Security Act.

If your representative is a Champion, thank him or her for unwavering support for children. If your representative is not a Champion, contact them and let them know how important investment in children is to the future of Minnesota, its families, its communities, and its economy.

## 2007 CHILDREN'S CHAMPIONS

Representative	District	Representative	District
Rep. Karla Bigham	57A	Rep. Leon Lillie	55A
Rep. David Bly	25B	Rep. Diane Loeffler	59A
Rep. Kathy Brynaert	23B	Rep. Terry Morrow	23A
Rep. Karen Clark	61A	Rep. Joe Mullery	58A
Rep. Jim Davnie	62A	Rep. Erin Murphy	64A
Rep. Augustine "Willie" Dominguez	58B	Rep. Mary Murphy	6B
Rep. Mindy Greiling	54A	Rep. Michael Nelson	46A
Rep. Alice Hausman	66B	Rep. Michael Paymar	64B
Rep. Debra Hilstrom	46B	Rep. Sandra Peterson	45A
Rep. Frank Hornstein	60B	Rep. Jeanne Poppe	27B
Rep. Melissa Hortman	47B	Rep. Steve Simon	44A
Rep. Thomas Huntley	7A	Rep. Nora Slawik	55B
Rep. Sheldon Johnson	67B	Rep. Linda Slocum	63B
Rep. Al Juhnke	13B	Rep. Paul Thissen	63A
Rep. Phyllis Kahn	59B	Rep. Tom Tillberry	51B
Rep. Margaret Anderson Kelliher	60A	Rep. Jean Wagenius	62B
Rep. Scott Kranz	51A	Rep. Neva Walker	61B
Rep. John Lesch	66A	Rep. Ryan Winkler	44B
Rep. Tina Liebling	30A		



# About the Children's Health Security Act



**T**he Children's Health Security Act would ensure all Minnesota children have access to affordable, quality health care coverage, no matter where their parents work or how much they earn. The legislation moves from an employment-based model for children's health coverage to a model that parallels public education. In other words, all children would have access to health care just as all children are guaranteed a public education.

## ***A Special Thank You to Rep. Thissen and Sen. Prettner Solon!***

Thank you to Rep. Paul Thissen and Sen. Yvonne Prettner Solon, chief authors of the Children's Health Security Act since 2004.

This year was instrumental in raising the bar for children's health coverage and increasing access to coverage, and the progress would not have happened without the leadership of Rep. Thissen and Sen. Prettner Solon. They are tireless champions for universal children's health coverage!



**Rep. Paul Thissen-  
Minneapolis (63A)**



**Senator Yvonne Prettner  
Solon-Duluth (7)**

# Be a Strong Voice for Minnesota's Children!



## Call on Your State Lawmakers to Support Children's Needs

Research consistently shows that investing early in children comes back to children, communities and society many fold. Minnesota can do better for our children!

- There are 152,000 children living in poverty in Minnesota (the federal poverty level for a family of four is \$20,650)
- Almost one-third of children living in poverty are under age 5
- There are 85,000 children in Minnesota without health care coverage
- Minnesota's child care assistance eligibility level dropped from 5th in the nation in 2003 to 41st in 2007

### Make Your Voice Heard!

#### Call your State Senator and Representative

House Information (651) 296-2146 or (800) 657-3550

Senate Information (651) 296-0504 or (800) 234-1112

#### Tell your State Lawmakers to:

1. Invest in Minnesota's children; they are the future of our state!
2. Ensure all Minnesota children have health care coverage—urge your legislators to support the Children's Health Security Act (SF 15-Prettner Solon; HF 1-Thissen).
3. Restore child care funding to provide access to quality, affordable early care and education for Minnesota children.

## **Children's Defense Fund Action Council**

2007 Minnesota Legislative Scorecard

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## **About the Children's Defense Fund Action Council**

The CDF Action Council provides a strong, effective voice for all children of America who cannot vote, lobby, or speak for themselves. We pay particular attention to the needs of the poor children, minority children and those children with disabilities. The CDF Action Council educates the nation about the needs of children and encourages preventive investments before they get sick, into trouble, drop out of school, or suffer family breakdown. The CDF Action Council began as a private, nonprofit organization under Section 501(c)(4) of the Internal Revenue Code. We have never accepted government funds.

