

Legislative Update

February 25, 2010

Its up to us now

Fire Safety Account:

Hearing in senate yesterday on the Governors proposal went very well; Senators Moua (St. Paul), Ingebrigsten (Alex), and Limmer (Maple Grove) asked great supportive type questions. Winkel (MSFDA), Vanderbeek (MPFF), Zikmund (MSFCA) and Ann Finne (League) all testified.

Hearing today in the House on the Governors proposal AND HF 2844 (Smith) on the fire safety account. Representative Smith presented bill, Winkel, Thornberg and Zikmund testified. Great supportive questions from Olin (Thief River), Bigham (Cottage Grove), Cornish (Good Thunder), Hilstrom (Brooklyn Park), Liebling (Rochester), Reinert (Duluth), Kohls (Victoria) and Ward (Brainard). (ALL are co-authors of the bill)

Whats Next:

1. There will not be any more hearings.
2. The House and Senate public safety budgets will be released within the next week.

ACTION REQUESTED:

It is now up to the fire service, we feel pretty good about our chances but it will all come down to how much local contact is generated.

1. Email (or call) your legislator by next Tuesday at the latest.
2. Come to fire service day next Tuesday.

Email/conversation simply needs to thank them for the support, ASK them to support HF2844, leave Fire Safety Account alone or leave it for the firefighters and give them an example of what the money means to you and your department; State Fire Marshal support, training dollars, CAT/Decon/Structural Collapse teams.

If you have never emailed your legislator, this is a great first time!

House members and emails can be found at <http://www.house.leg.state.mn.us/members/hmem.asp>

Senate members and emails can be found at <http://www.senate.leg.state.mn.us/members/index.php?ls=#header>

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Even if you're on the right track, you'll get run over if you just sit there. - Will Rogers