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# Capitol Link

## State News

The Minnesota Legislature will adjourn May 22 which gives Governor Dayton and Republican leaders less than two weeks to complete their work.

**On again** - The relationship between Governor Dayton and Republican leaders on budget issues has been on and off. On April 28, a budget stalemate was reality. Then things broke open and Republicans made targets and within a week passed all their conference bills under the assumption the Governor would negotiate one. Republicans passed conference committee reports, merged House and Senate bills, and with no budget, could then negotiate with the Governor on what he wanted compared to what Republicans had passed.

**Off again** - The Governor met with Republican leadership Friday night and part of the day Saturday, but according to Republican leadership, the Governor's offer was not substantial. He stated evening meetings were not possible this week, and the result is that Republican leaders are concerned about the "slow pace" of negotiations.

**To vote or not to vote** - It appears that Republicans were willing to hold off on their conference committee final votes hoping they could negotiate final bills with the Governor.

**Moving on** - It appears negotiations with the Governor broke down over the last three days. Republican leaders look like they will pass all their conference committee reports off the floor and send them to the Governor. It's expected he will veto all or nearly all budget bills.

The Public Safety, Taxes, and Education funding Conference Committee Reports were all closed this morning and sent to the floor.

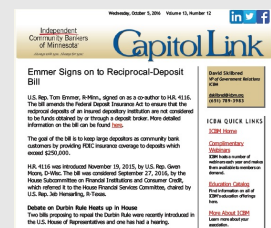
**Senate takes up AG Policy Bill today** - Today's Senate agenda includes a final vote on their version of the Ag Policy Bill. The Senate's bill does not contain the Farmer-Lender Mediation amendment recommendations from the 2016 Farmer-Lender Task Force as the House version does. The plan is that language will be accepted by the Senate conferees in conference committee.

This promises to be a very busy, hectic week at the Capitol. There may be several more twists and surprises, but according to the Minnesota Constitution, the Legislature must adjourn by May 22.

**David Skilbred**  
VP of Government Relations  
ICBM

[dskilbred@icbm.org](mailto:dskilbred@icbm.org)  
(651) 789-3983

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