



GOVERNMENT RELATIONS UPDATE

ADVOCATING FOR MINNESOTA'S HOSPITALITY INDUSTRY

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By Hanna Zinn • Feb 07, 2025

Smart Brevity® count: 3.5 mins...881 words

Welcome to February. With the possibility of a snow storm this weekend, it is starting to feel like winter again! The month has started off how I anticipated January would, at least in the legislature.

The House reached a [power sharing agreement](#) late Wednesday bringing the DFL House members back to the Capitol. Over in the Senate, the power sharing agreement reached prior to session has ended following the swearing in of Sen. Doron Clark (DFL) in District 60.

This week I am breaking down what is included in the House power sharing agreement, what the Senate has been up to this week, and sharing resources on ICE raids.

Registration is LIVE for [Day at the Capitol!](#) Register while there are still spots available!

- Thank you to [Performance Foods](#) for sponsoring this update! [Click here](#) to view all sponsorship options.

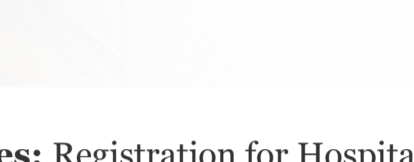
Join MN Ski Areas Association for Day at the Capitol!

#HMDATC25 SPONSOR TESTIMONIAL:



"The Minnesota Ski Areas Association **values our partnership** with Hospitality Minnesota. Day at the Capitol is an **effective way** to ensure we speak with a **unified voice** at the Capitol."

- Minnesota Ski Areas Association, Silver Sponsor



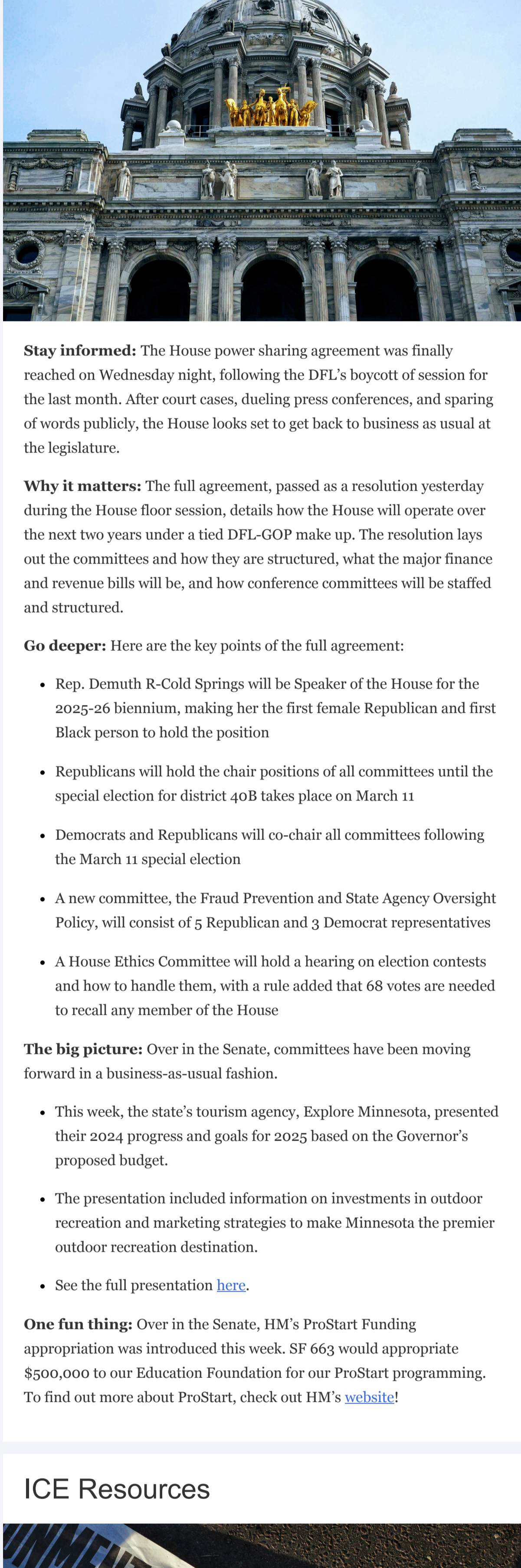
Calling all advocates: Registration for Hospitality Minnesota's [2025 Day at the Capitol](#) is now open until February 26th. With a lot at stake in an already historic and unprecedented legislative session, we need your perspective now more than ever in Saint Paul.

- **Join MN Ski Areas Association in advocating for our industry.** Our efforts are best championed by our owners and operators. Having your perspective and participation in conversations with legislators is critical to getting our legislative agenda across the finish line.

Act now: This event sold out in record time last year, we recommend those interested to register before the February 26 deadline.

[REGISTER HERE!](#)

Session Snapshot



Stay informed: The House power sharing agreement was finally reached on Wednesday night, following the DFL's boycott of session for the last month. After court cases, dueling press conferences, and sparring of words publicly, the House looks set to get back to business as usual at the legislature.

Why it matters: The full agreement, passed as a resolution yesterday during the House floor session, details how the House will operate over the next two years under a tied DFL-GOP make up. The resolution lays out the committees and how they are structured, what the major finance and revenue bills will be, and how conference committees will be staffed and structured.

Go deeper: Here are the key points of the full agreement:

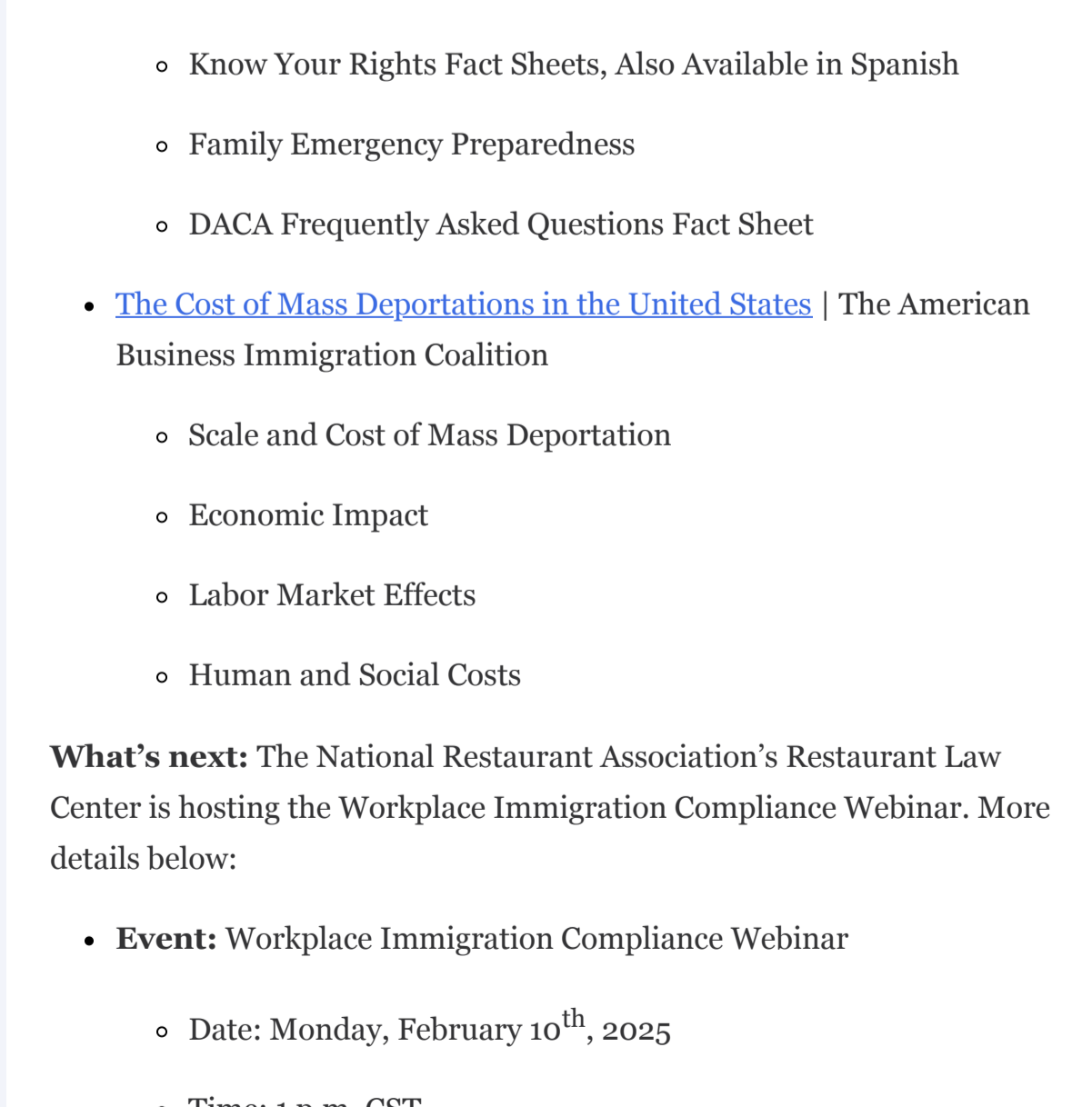
- Rep. Demuth R-Cold Springs will be Speaker of the House for the 2025-26 biennium, making her the first female Republican and first Black person to hold the position
- Republicans will hold the chair positions of all committees until the special election for district 40B takes place on March 11
- Democrats and Republicans will co-chair all committees following the March 11 special election
- A new committee, the Fraud Prevention and State Agency Oversight Policy, will consist of 5 Republican and 3 Democrat representatives
- A House Ethics Committee will hold a hearing on election contests and how to handle them, with a rule added that 68 votes are needed to recall any member of the House

The big picture: Over in the Senate, committees have been moving forward in a business-as-usual fashion.

- This week, the state's tourism agency, Explore Minnesota, presented their 2024 progress and goals for 2025 based on the Governor's proposed budget.
- The presentation included information on investments in outdoor recreation and marketing strategies to make Minnesota the premier outdoor recreation destination.
- See the full presentation [here](#).

One fun thing: Over in the Senate, HM's ProStart Funding appropriation was introduced this week. SF 663 would appropriate \$500,000 to our Education Foundation for our ProStart programming. To find out more about ProStart, check out HM's [website!](#)

ICE Resources



What's happening: In the past month, news of ICE raids across the state caused concern and stress among the hospitality industry.

- Our national partners, the National Restaurant Association and the American Hotel and Lodging Association, have resources available for business owners interested in learning about how to protect your business and your employees.
- For more information on ICE and immigration preparedness, check out the [National Restaurant Association's memo](#) for workplace immigration law.

Zoom in: Hospitality Minnesota does not provide legal advice. Operators who have questions about their own workforce immigration compliance should contact their legal counsel (or a lawyer who specializes in immigration enforcement). To find an immigration attorney who fits your needs, contact the [Immigrant Law Center of Minnesota](#).

Why it matters: Immigration impacts the economic well-being of the business community, and the hospitality industry. Here are additional resources on ICE, immigration economics, and what recent changes in federal law mean.

- [3 Tools the Federal Administration Can Use for Enforcement Purposes](#) | The American Business Immigration Coalition
 - What they are, how to prepare, and what to do if/when they happen
 - Consequences, including monetary fines
- [Know Your Rights](#) | Immigrant Law Center of Minnesota
 - Know Your Rights Fact Sheets, Also Available in Spanish
 - Family Emergency Preparedness
 - DACA Frequently Asked Questions Fact Sheet
- [The Cost of Mass Deportations in the United States](#) | The American Business Immigration Coalition
 - Scale and Cost of Mass Deportation
 - Economic Impact
 - Labor Market Effects
 - Human and Social Costs

What's next: The National Restaurant Association's Restaurant Law Center is hosting the Workplace Immigration Compliance Webinar. More details below:

- **Event:** Workplace Immigration Compliance Webinar
 - Date: Monday, February 10th, 2025
 - Time: 1 p.m. CST
 - [Register here](#).

Thank you reading! Check out past [GR Updates](#) here.

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