

By Hanna Zinn • Mar 28, 2025

Smart Brevity[®] count: 2 mins...485 words

Happy Friday! We're heading into the final countdown at the legislature. Seven weeks remain until the constitutional adjournment date of May 19th. Still to come on the legislative agenda: budget targets in the House, omnibus bill creation and adoption, potential conference committees, and of course – final passage of these bills. This week I'm breaking down committee deadlines and what the next few weeks mean for our members.

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Session Snapshot



The big picture: Due to the late start in the House this year, the first and second committee deadlines are happening on the same day – next Friday.

Why it matters: In a typical session, deadlines represent when and how bills are acted upon at the legislature. These deadlines narrow the number of bills heard during session and guide legislators to move in a timely fashion.

- **First deadline:** Committees must act favorably on bills in the chamber of origin. If a bill is not passed out of a committee or laid on the table for possible inclusion in an omnibus bill, the bill dies.
- **Second deadline:** Committees must act favorably on bills that meet the first deadline in the opposite chamber. This year, these two deadlines will happen on the same day.
- **Third deadline:** Committees must act favorably on major appropriation and finance bills. This is the omnibus bill deadline.

One note: These deadlines do not apply to the following committees:

- **House:** Capital Investment, Ways and Means, Taxes, or Rules and Legislative Administration
- **Senate:** Capital Investment, Finance, Taxes, or Rules and Administration

Yes, and: What is included in an omnibus bill during a budget year is dependent on budget targets agreed upon by legislative leadership.

• **The latest:** The Senate announced their intended <u>budget targets</u> just this morning – one week earlier than anticipated. The budget targets set the fiscal years spending for 2026-27 at \$2.3 billion and 2028-29 at \$113 million – a drastic shift due to the February <u>budget</u> <u>forecast</u> released by Minnesota Management and Budget.

Go deeper: The Senate targets represent decreases in funding over the next two biennia for the following committee jurisdictions:

- Taxes
- Transportation
- Elections
- Energy, Utilities, Environment, and Climate
- Education Finance
- Health and Human Services
- Human Services

Additionally, the Senate targets indicate no new funding for capital projects.

What's next: Committees are continuing to meet to hear bills that could be included in omnibus packages.

• **Upcoming deadlines:** Committee leaders have until 5 p.m. on Friday, April 4th to hear bills to move forward. House leadership is expected to announce their own budget targets in the coming days. I committee hearing <u>here.</u>

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Did you know: Registration is still open for the <u>American Hotel and</u> <u>Lodging Association's Hotels on the Hill</u> (May 13-14).

• **Questions?** Reach out to <u>Hanna</u> for more information.

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