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**SENATE**

**STATE OF MINNESOTA**

**NINETY-FIRST LEGISLATURE**

**2020**

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# Introduction

The Ninety-First Legislature reconvened February 11, 2020, with one change in the caucus leadership of the Minnesota Senate.

Senator Paul E. Gazelka (R-Nisswa) continued as Majority Leader and Chair of the Committee on Rules and Administration.

Senator Susan Kent (DFL-Woodbury) was named the Minority Leader.

Senator Jeremy R. Miller (R-Winona) continued as President of the Senate.

The political makeup of the 2020 Senate was 35 Republican and 32 DFL senators.

Due to the infectious disease known as COVID-19, Governor Tim Walz issued Executive Order 20-01 on March 13, 2020, declaring a peacetime emergency to prepare and respond to the outbreak in Minnesota. The Senate adjourned on March 16 for ten days, and upon their return on March 26 many changes were implemented to Senate operations and the legislative process. A new telecommuting policy was approved to allow staff to work from remote locations. The Rules of the Senate were amended to allow members to attend session remotely and cast their votes from a location other than the chamber. The chamber seating was greatly reduced, and members attending were also seated in alternate locations in rooms near the chamber. The Senate adjourned the 2020 session sine die on Sunday, May 17.

There were seven special sessions called by Governor Walz in 2020; one each month June through December, as the governor extended the peacetime emergency every 30 days.

Four Senators announced that they would not seek reelection in 2020: Senator Paul T. Anderson (R-Plymouth), Senator Richard J. Cohen (DFL-St. Paul), Senator Scott M. Jensen (R-Chaska), and Senator Carolyn Laine (DFL-Columbia Heights).

On November 12, during the sixth special session of 2020, Senator David J. Tomassoni (DFL-Chisholm) was elected President of the Senate for the remainder of the Ninety-First Legislature, replacing Senator Jeremy R. Miller.

Senator Jerry Relph (R-St. Cloud) passed away on December 18, 2020. Senator Relph served Senate District 14 since 2017.

# Members of the Senate

Abeler, Jim (R)\*  
Anderson, Bruce D. (R)  
Anderson, Paul T. (R)  
Bakk, Thomas M. (DFL)\*\*  
Benson, Michelle R. (R)  
Bigham, Karla (DFL)  
Carlson, Jim (DFL)  
Chamberlain, Roger C. (R)  
Champion, Bobby Joe (DFL)  
Clausen, Greg D. (DFL)  
Cohen, Richard J. (DFL)  
Cwodzinski, Steve A. (DFL)  
Dahms, Gary H. (R)  
Dibble, D. Scott (DFL)  
Draheim, Rich (R)  
Dziedzic, Kari (DFL)  
Eaton, Chris A. (DFL)  
Eichorn, Justin D. (R)  
Eken, Kent (DFL)  
Franzen, Melisa (DFL)  
Frentz, Nick A. (DFL)  
Gazelka, Paul E. (R)  
Goggin, Michael P. (R)  
Hall, Dan D. (R)  
Hawj, Foung (DFL)  
Hayden, Jeff (DFL)  
Hoffman, John A. (DFL)  
Housley, Karin (R)  
Howe, Jeff R. (R)  
Ingebrigtsen, Bill (R)  
Isaacson, Jason (DFL)  
Jasinski, John R. (R)  
Jensen, Scott M. (R)  
Johnson, Mark (R)  
Kent, Susan (DFL)  
Kiffmeyer, Mary (R)  
Klein, Matt D. (DFL)  
Koran, Mark W. (R)  
Laine, Carolyn (DFL)  
Lang, Andrew R. (R)  
Latz, Ron (DFL)  
Limmer, Warren, (R)  
Little, Matt (DFL)  
Marty, John (DFL)  
Mathews, Andrew (R)  
Miller, Jeremy R. (R)  
Nelson, Carla J. (R)  
Newman, Scott J. (R)  
Newton, Jerry (DFL)  
Osmek, David J. (R)  
Pappas, Sandra L. (DFL)  
Pratt, Eric R. (R)  
Rarick, Jason (R)  
Relph, Jerry (R)  
Rest, Ann H. (DFL)  
Rosen, Julie A. (R)  
Rudd, Carrie (R)  
Senjem, David H. (R)  
Simonson, Erik (DFL)  
Sparks, Dan (DFL)  
Tomassoni, David J. (DFL)  
Torres Ray, Patricia (DFL)  
Utke, Paul J. (R)  
Weber, Bill (R)  
Westrom, Torrey N. (R)  
Wiger, Charles W. (DFL)  
Wiklund, Melissa H. (DFL)

\*R--Republican  
\*\*DFL--Democratic-Farmer-Labor

## Senate Leaders

Paul E. Gazelka	Majority Leader
Michelle R. Benson	Deputy Majority Leader
Warren Limmer	Assistant Majority Leader
Gary H. Dahms	Assistant Majority Leader
Eric R. Pratt	Assistant Majority Leader
Karin Housley	Assistant Majority Leader
John R. Jasinski	Assistant Majority Leader
Eric R. Pratt	Majority Whip
John R. Jasinski	Majority Whip
Susan Kent	Minority Leader
Nick A. Frentz	Assistant Minority Leader
Jeff Hayden	Assistant Minority Leader
Carolyn Laine	Assistant Minority Leader
Eric Simonson	Assistant Minority Leader
Ann H. Rest	Minority Whip
John A. Hoffman	Minority Whip
Kent Eken	Minority Whip

# Officers of the Senate

Jeremy R. Miller  
Mary Kiffmeyer  
Cal R. Ludeman  
Colleen J. Pacheco  
Michael R. Linn  
Jessica M. Tupper  
Melissa G. Mapes  
Sven K. Lindquist  
Marilyn Logan  
Pastor Mike Smith

President of the Senate  
President Pro Tem  
Secretary of the Senate  
First Assistant Secretary  
Second Assistant Secretary  
Third Assistant Secretary  
Engrossing Secretary  
Sergeant at Arms  
Assistant Sergeant at Arms  
Chaplain