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LEGISLATURE 2014 >

Zander Sellie is in the house — in the Statehouse, that is

The St. Paul 19-year-old makes a name for himself while making the Capitol rounds

By Christopher Magan
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Zander Danielson Sellie has become a familiar face at the Minnesota Capitol. He's not a lobbyist, a bureaucrat or a lawmaker, but a 19-year-old St. Paul resident who got

hooked on politics last year while working to prevent the closing of Crosswinds East Metro Arts and Science School, the Woodbury school he once attended.

Sellie was at the Capitol the day lawmakers legalized gay marriage, and he saw the power-

ful impact citizens can have on their government. He also watched as the bid to transfer operation of Crosswinds to Perich Center for Arts Education stalled because of politics.

"The thing you learn is you have no true friends and no true enemies down here," Sellie said referring to the unlikely alliances produced by the legislative process.



PIONEER PRESS: JEAN PIERI

Zander Danielson Sellie, 19, of St. Paul took a year off between high school and college to lobby lawmakers on issues close to his heart.

SELLIE IN THE HOUSE, 12A >

Done. Time to spare.

Medical pot compromise headed for Dayton's desk

By Christopher Snowbeck
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Minnesota is on the cusp of legalizing medical marijuana.

The state Senate voted 46-16 on Friday to pass a bill that would provide marijuana in liquid and pill form to terminally ill patients and those with one of eight serious medical conditions. The House followed suit Friday evening with an 89-40 vote.

The legislation now goes to Gov. Mark Dayton, who said Thursday he would sign it.

"This is about getting something into the hands of people who now lack it, who have no other available options that are any good at all — people who are suffering, people who have been asking us to do this for many years," said Sen. Scott Dibble, DFL-Minneapolis, who sponsored a version of the bill in the Senate.

Twenty-one states and the District of Columbia already allow medical marijuana. The issue was pushed to the forefront in Minnesota this year by families seeking access to the drug for children with severe seizure

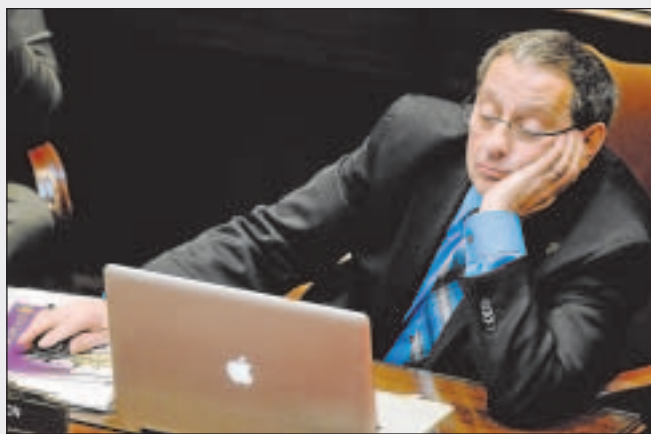


PIONEER PRESS PHOTOS: BEN GARVIN

Sen. Scott Dibble, DFL-Minneapolis, is congratulated after the Senate passed a conference committee version of his medical marijuana bill Friday at the Capitol.



Winnifred Swedzinski, 5, daughter of Rep. Chris Swedzinski, R-Ghent, explores the floor of the House on Friday.



Sen. Jim Carlson, DFL-Eagan, works on his laptop Friday in the Senate as the 2014 Legislature wound down.

Lawmakers rush through flurry of final legislation

By Bill Salisbury
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The Minnesota Legislature capped one of its most productive sessions in years Friday by passing a \$1 billion public works construction package, voting to legalize medical marijuana and approving another round of tax cuts and spending increases.

Facing a Sunday deadline and after several days of contentious bargaining and late-night sessions, lawmakers adjourned — the earliest in 30 years.

"I think we did get a tremendous amount accomplished this year," said House Speaker Paul Thissen, DFL-Minneapolis, citing the earlier passage of a minimum wage increase, an anti-bullying bill and a first batch of tax cuts, in addition to the construction money and medical marijuana measure.

But looking back over two years of the session, House Minority Leader Kurt Daudt, R-Crown, said the Democratic-Farmer Labor majorities produced "one of the highest tax increases in state history. We have the highest

HOMESTRETCH, 14A >

Legislature approves bill scrapping online scratch-off games; Dayton's signature uncertain, 7A

Experts express shock over ADHD treatment for toddlers

By Alan Schwarz
 New York Times

ATLANTA — More than 10,000 American toddlers 2 or 3 years old are being medicated for attention deficit hyperactivity disorder outside established pediatric guidelines, according to data

presented Friday by an official at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

The report, which found that toddlers covered by Medicaid are particularly prone to be put on medication such as Ritalin and Adderall, is among the first

efforts to gauge the diagnosis of ADHD in children younger than age 4.

Doctors at the Georgia Mental Health Forum at the Carter Center in Atlanta, where the data was presented, as well as several outside

ADHD TREATMENT, 14A >

U's top carp fighter wins key funding — and loses his job

By Dave Orrick
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Minnesota's carp-fighting point man has been busy lately.

In the past few weeks, University of Minnesota professor Peter Sorensen has plotted a plan to stymie invasive

carp advancing up the Mississippi River, lobbied state lawmakers for millions of dollars to fund the university's Aquatic Invasive Species Research Center that he founded — and been removed as director of the center.

The U said the decision to

replace Sorensen was intended to allow him to focus on research and was not disciplinary. He remains a tenured professor and a key researcher at the center, but he loses a 10 percent salary bump customary with U

INVASIVE CARP, 14A >

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