

## Phyllis Kahn

Phyllis Kahn is a member of the Minnesota Legislature serving her 15th term. She has a B.A. in physics from Cornell, a Ph.D. in biophysics from Yale and a M.P.A. from the J.F.K. School of Government at Harvard.

She is currently a member of Governmental Operations and Veteran Affairs, State Government Finance, Capital Investment, Regulated Industries, and Legislative Commission on Minnesota Resources Committees. Her legislative interests include issues dealing with pension and investment policy, science and technology (most recently DNA testing and the role of biotechnology in agriculture) information policy, natural resources and women's rights.

She has been the chief author of the Minnesota Clean Indoor Air Act (controlling smoking in public places), the computer crime and computer virus laws, and legislation on nuclear safety, radioactive waste disposal, field tests of genetically modified crops and infectious waste disposal. She also authored laws to require gender equity in athletics and laws prohibiting discrimination based on age or disability. She has been instrumental in obtaining funding for parks, trails, historic preservation, art-enhancement of State buildings, and the expansion of community and urban forests.

She has served on many national committees, particularly in the field of Science and Public Policy. She has been elected a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) and currently serves as the Chair of the AAAS Section on General Interest in Science and Engineering.

Phyllis was born in Brooklyn, New York, and is married to Donald Kahn, a professor of mathematics at the University of Minnesota. They have two adult children and three grandchildren. In her spare time she runs, bikes, plays ice hockey with a co-ed group and has won two second prizes at the State Fair for an "industrial strength" chocolate pie.