

COMMUNICATIONS RECEIVED SUBSEQUENT TO ADJOURNMENT

May 24, 2011

The Honorable Michelle L. Fischbach
 President of the Senate

Dear Madam President:

Please be advised that I have received, approved, signed and deposited in the Office of the Secretary of State, S.F. Nos. 779, 742, 1162, 478, 1208, 1265, 249, 302 and 1009.

Sincerely,
 Mark Dayton, Governor

May 24, 2011

The Honorable Kurt Zellers
 Speaker of the House of Representatives

The Honorable Michelle L. Fischbach
 President of the Senate

I have the honor to inform you that the following enrolled Acts of the 2011 Session of the State Legislature have been received from the Office of the Governor and are deposited in the Office of the Secretary of State for preservation, pursuant to the State Constitution, Article IV, Section 23:

S.F. No.	H.F. No.	Session Laws Chapter No.	Time and Date Approved 2011	Date Filed 2011
779		43	1:25 p.m. May 24	May 24
	493	48	1:26 p.m. May 24	May 24
742		51	1:29 p.m. May 24	May 24
	895	52	1:29 p.m. May 24	May 24
	1326	55	2:22 p.m. May 24	May 24
	1343	57	2:23 p.m. May 24	May 24
1162		58	2:24 p.m. May 24	May 24
478		60	2:25 p.m. May 24	May 24
1208		61	2:25 p.m. May 24	May 24
1265		62	2:26 p.m. May 24	May 24
249		63	2:27 p.m. May 24	May 24
302		64	2:28 p.m. May 24	May 24
1009		65	2:28 p.m. May 24	May 24

Sincerely,
 Mark Ritchie
 Secretary of State

May 24, 2011

The Honorable Michelle L. Fischbach
President of the Senate

Dear Madam President:

Please be advised that I have received, approved, signed and deposited in the Office of the Secretary of State, S.F. Nos. 67, 137, 1044, 1270, 885, 994, 508, 882, 680, 955 and 1130.

Sincerely,
Mark Dayton, Governor

May 24, 2011

The Honorable Kurt Zellers
Speaker of the House of Representatives

The Honorable Michelle L. Fischbach
President of the Senate

I have the honor to inform you that the following enrolled Acts of the 2011 Session of the State Legislature have been received from the Office of the Governor and are deposited in the Office of the Secretary of State for preservation, pursuant to the State Constitution, Article IV, Section 23:

S.F. No.	H.F. No.	Session Laws Chapter No.	Time and Date Approved 2011	Date Filed 2011
67		44	1:26 p.m. May 24	May 24
	57	53	1:31 p.m. May 24	May 24
	186	54	2:20 p.m. May 24	May 24
137		66	4:56 p.m. May 24	May 24
1044		67	4:57 p.m. May 24	May 24
1270		68	4:59 p.m. May 24	May 24
	650	70	4:59 p.m. May 24	May 24
	258	71	5:00 p.m. May 24	May 24
	229	72	5:00 p.m. May 24	May 24
	844	74	5:01 p.m. May 24	May 24
	695	75	5:02 p.m. May 24	May 24
885		76	5:02 p.m. May 24	May 24
994		77	5:04 p.m. May 24	May 24
508		78	5:05 p.m. May 24	May 24
882		79	5:05 p.m. May 24	May 24
	808	80	5:06 p.m. May 24	May 24
680		81	5:07 p.m. May 24	May 24
955		82	5:08 p.m. May 24	May 24
	763	83	5:08 p.m. May 24	May 24
1130		84	5:09 p.m. May 24	May 24

Sincerely,
Mark Ritchie
Secretary of State

May 24, 2011

The Honorable Michelle L. Fischbach
President of the Senate

Dear Madam President:

With this letter, I am vetoing and returning Chapter 37, Senate File 958, the Public Safety Appropriations Bill. I do so with the hope that we can come together to find a compromise; a balanced solution without the damaging cuts currently contained in this bill.

Legislators from both parties have worked well with my Commissioners and with me, to find some areas of agreement. I thank them for their thoughtful and persistent work. I appreciate the funding level provided for the courts in this Public Safety bill. You mostly hold the courts harmless, as I proposed in my budget. We all understand how crucial adequate court funding is to justice and public safety in Minnesota. Additionally, the removal of several problematic policy items is appreciated.

However, the Public Safety bill, as passed by the House and Senate, has consequences for Minnesota that I am unable to support. If enacted, this legislation would cut programs that hold felons accountable, would negatively affect crime victims, and would compromise our ability to protect the rights and freedoms of all Minnesotans.

Your suggestions to study medical discharge and early release are very unlikely to produce the savings needed to make up for the extreme cuts in funding in this bill.

The reduction in funding to the drug treatment program at the Faribault facility is especially troubling. Failing to fund the 90 chemical dependency beds at Minnesota Correctional Facility-Faribault may garner short-term savings of \$1.35 million in this biennium, but it will make Minnesota less safe and cost taxpayers more money in the long-run. Recent studies show that for every dollar invested in chemical dependency treatment, taxpayers save six to twelve dollars. It is much more cost effective to turn an offender into a taxpayer. Needless to say, I hope we can find compromise on this important budget item.

I am also concerned about the \$872,000 in cuts to the DOC Operational Support Division. The DOC currently has a very low cost for administrative support - only 5% of its total budget. In the past eight years, the workload of the Operational Support Division has increased, while the DOC has decreased the number of staff to do the work. Additional reductions to this division could impact the agency's ability to provide the logistical support necessary to operate our prisons. It will also jeopardize the DOC's ability to continue updating important databases that track sex offenders and other felons.

Your cut to community corrections does not recognize Minnesota's corrections delivery system. The DOC is able to achieve savings, while maintaining public safety, because it only incarcerates offenders who pose a direct threat to the community. Community-based correctional services such as probation, in-home monitoring, and sentencing to service programs ensure that offenders are held accountable for their actions. The proposal to cut \$1.712 million more than my proposal from

community corrections programs would jeopardize their effectiveness. Offenders living in our communities may not receive the supervision needed to keep other citizens safe, and counties will be forced to spend more to make up for the loss of these resources.

The reduction to Civil Legal Services of 17%, or \$4 million over the biennium, is another serious concern. Civil Legal Services makes our courts more efficient by keeping over 3,000 non-meritorious cases out of the courts and helping thousands of Minnesotans to settle before trial. More importantly, they help ensure fair and equal access to Minnesota courts for all people regardless of race, ethnicity, income, or language abilities. This cut would be harmful to victims of domestic violence, families experiencing foreclosure, and seniors and disabled Minnesotans attempting to secure access to healthcare and disability benefits. I would also add my concern over a 6% reduction to the Guardian ad Litem Board. These individuals work to protect vulnerable children in our court systems. It is wrong to take funds away from such an urgently needed program.

I totally oppose the cuts this legislation would make to the Minnesota Department of Human Rights. This Department has a budget of less than \$6.6 million, composing .019% of the total budget proposed by conferees. However, this funding pays for 100% of the investigations and public outreach efforts that ensure Minnesota's citizens are not discriminated against in the workplace, in housing, and in their places of worship.

The proposed 65% cut to the Department of Human Rights is by far the worst to any agency, and it would eviscerate our ability to investigate human rights violations. An additional policy rider prohibiting the Department from reaching out to businesses with technical assistance and education to avoid formal investigations is seriously misguided.

For citizens this bill would lengthen the time needed to complete investigations and make determination on charges. Education and outreach on diversity and discrimination would lessen, possibly causing unfair discriminatory practices. My budget provided the Department of Human Rights with barely sufficient funding to perform their mission; your proposal takes that away.

Discrimination remains a serious problem in Minnesota. Your extreme cut in funding, along with your policy language, would weaken the Human Rights Act and lessen the effectiveness of the Department of Human Rights. That I will not allow.

Taking \$5.2 million from the Department of Public Safety's 911 Fund, is contrary to federal law and puts Minnesota's bond rating in jeopardy. However, I am even more concerned by the setback this would create for our efforts to ensure our first responders have the equipment they need to communicate across jurisdictions and departments during a crisis.

The nearly \$12 million cut to the Office of Justice Programs would have a significant impact on crime victim services, prevention and reparations programs, and violent crime enforcement teams. It would reduce law enforcement's ability to respond to violent crimes throughout our state. The cuts to the Department of Public Safety are on top of a possible budget reduction stemming from the State Government Finance bill that could amount to \$5.5 million and the elimination of 320 employees. That outcome is very alarming.

The effects of the State Government Omnibus bill are significant in these agencies. Staff in these agencies are our crime fighters, our prison correctional officers, investigators, and public safety employees who keep us safe at night. The effect of the 15% staff reduction to this area will have a significant impact on public safety in our state. It is possible that 320 people from the Department

of Public Safety and over 600 people from the Department of Corrections would be let go if this bill were to become law.

Each of us started our budget proposals by making a choice. I chose a balanced approach to our budget; one that included both significant cuts, but asked the top two percent of Minnesotans to pay more to ensure our quality of life and the services millions of Minnesotans depend on. My approach chooses not to balance the budget on the backs of the other ninety-eight percent of Minnesotans.

In the spirit of compromise, more than one week ago, I cut my proposal in half, in the hopes that an offer to meet in the middle would spur action toward the balanced solution the people of Minnesota have asked for.

Instead, you chose to present me with an all-cuts approach, one that has serious consequences for Minnesotans, and that I do not believe is in line with our shared commitment to build a better Minnesota.

From the beginning of this legislative session, it has been clear that compromise would be necessary to balance our state's budget. In November, Minnesotans voted for a divided government, and I believe, in their wisdom, they did so because they want part of what each of us has to offer, and they want us to work together to solve the state's budget crisis and build a better Minnesota.

Compromise is never easy, because each person must give up something that is important. Compromise requires us to agree to items that we don't agree with. That is the only way we will reconcile our differences on the state's budget. I am returning this and the other budget bills to you with the hope that you will choose to work with me, to find a fair, responsible, and balanced solution.

Sincerely,
Mark Dayton, Governor

May 24, 2011

The Honorable Michelle L. Fischbach
President of the Senate

Dear Madam President:

With this letter, I am vetoing and returning Chapter 39, Senate File 887, the Jobs and Economic Development Finance Bill.

I appreciate that you have spared the Department of Labor and Industry from significant cuts. This Department's work to enforce labor standards, facilitate apprenticeship programs, and to enforce prevailing wage is so important in this economy.

Nevertheless, your cut in funding for the Department's Apprenticeship Program would reduce the department's ability to assess employers' needs and to develop appropriate recruitment and training strategies. And the cuts to the Labor Standards Division may mean the department will not be able to provide critical and timely services.

Regarding the MN Housing Finance Agency, I thank the Conference Committee for adopting my position on three housing programs that serve the most vulnerable populations - the Family

Homeless Prevention and Assistance, Bridges, and Housing Trust Fund programs. They are very important programs, and I appreciate that we are all looking out for the very vulnerable people, who use these programs.

However, there are cuts to the homebuyer counseling programs that will negatively impact the nearly 1,200 households that will not receive homebuyer counseling at a time when the mortgage financing system has become more complicated to navigate. In addition, fewer potential homebuyers will have access to down payment assistance, less neighborhood stabilization activities will occur in response to the foreclosure crisis, and fewer rental housing properties in Greater Minnesota will be rehabilitated. Housing development and redevelopment programs that help create jobs are reduced in the bill. For every \$1 million in state investment in affordable housing, 11.8 jobs are created in Minnesota.

Your modest reduction to the Bureau of Mediation Services is also appreciated. You likely know that the present reduction was preceded by a 28% base funding reduction from FY2003 to FY2011 and a 40% reduction in staff. The adoption of new technologies, different scheduling procedures, and other efficiencies has reduced the impact of these cuts. Nonetheless, their cumulative effect is a significant reduction in the ability of the Bureau to carry out its core mission of ensuring efficient, harmonious and positive relationships among all of Minnesota's public jurisdictions. Thank you for recognizing those challenges.

I was pleased to see a \$2 million increase in the match appropriation for one year, which will allow the Vocational Rehabilitation Program (VR) to fully leverage the federal funds. However, when the match appropriation reverts to \$8.8 million in SFY 13, the VR program will be unable to leverage the full federal appropriation. Ideally, this program would be fully funded in both years. Doing so leverages federal funds \$4 to \$1.

The bill eliminates the Minnesota Trade Office, which is unacceptable to me. The Trade Office provides vitally important services to many Minnesota businesses, such as training and consulting on how to export their products. Minnesota-manufactured exports jumped to \$17.2 billion in 2010, an increase of \$2.5 billion (or 17.3%) between 2009 and 2010. More than 8,100 businesses throughout Minnesota exported goods and services and Minnesota ranked 20th in export value among all states. Exports are responsible for 145,800 jobs in Minnesota, ranking 16th among all states. Another 81,000 export-related jobs are found in marketing and sales, transportation, and logistics-key sectors in delivering products to export markets. These exporters have an important impact on our economy and their international success is a source of new jobs for the state. I insist on continuing the funding for this important office.

Further concerns with the bill include no new funding for the Redevelopment Fund and Minnesota Investment Fund (MIF). These programs are important to help communities invest in economic growth and repurpose underutilized assets. The cuts would greatly reduce the ability of communities to offer potential for redevelopment. MIF is the state's key incentive-based tool used to compete for job expansions with other states. DEED currently has more than ten projects interested in Minnesota with nearly all of them requesting MIF financing. As our MIF balance remains sparse, it will constrict our ability to successfully compete with other states for high-quality expansions that are increasing in number as the economy recovers.

Chapter 39 contains deep reductions to important programs that help spur economic development and job growth. Some examples include:

The Contamination Clean Up grants program, which takes a \$802,000 cut in their General Fund dollars each year in FY 12-13. The cuts would greatly reduce the ability of communities to clean up the estimated 10,000 brownfield sites in Minnesota;

The 6.1% cut to Extended Employment Basic would mean fewer Extended Employment employees would receive support. As many as 600 persons would likely lose their jobs and the total persons being served in Extended Employment would be reduced from roughly 5,400 in the current year to 4,800. The subsequent loss in wages for the biennium would be up to \$3.25 million;

Cutting the Jobs Skills Partnership program, by 12% or \$1,090,000 will limit resources for employers looking to retain their employees through training. The impact of this reduction would be approximately 2.7 fewer projects awarded per year, 1,185 fewer trainees per year receiving training, and 6.2 fewer businesses served per year;

Minnesota Science and Technology Authority funding is currently split between two bills: taxes and economic development. Adequate funding for this program is essential. At a minimum, we need the \$500,000 in the tax bill, plus we need to reinstate the \$107,000 base in the economic development bill, which is eliminated for FY12. Current funding levels will not address funding gaps prioritized in the Strategic Plan to support entrepreneurial job growth for the state; and

The bill takes penalty money, assessed on unemployment insurance fraud cases, currently going to unemployment insurance administration and puts it in the state general fund. The bill takes the current balance as well as, changes the law permanently. Taking this money in the future, will jeopardize the efficient handling of unemployment insurance benefits and taxes. DEED can handle a onetime transfer but a permanent transfer is not acceptable.

I do appreciate your attempts to reform what have become standing appropriations in the Economic Development Budget area by developing a competitive grant program. My concerns are with the serious cuts to the pool of funds available for the grant program. The Youth and Adult programs receive a 15% reduction and Business programs receive a 17% reduction. These cuts mean that either 15-17% fewer programs will be funded, or that every program will see a serious reduction in resources. These are strong programs that help to spur economic growth in Minnesota and these cuts are troubling.

The difficult consequences of the funding levels in the Economic Development finance bill are compounded by provisions in the State Government Finance bill. The State Government Finance bill mandates a 15% reduction in staff employed in the executive branch, regardless of funding source. Most of the state agencies funded in the Economic Development bill have relatively few, if any, staff that are paid for by the General Fund. Consequently, the General Fund savings from this provision are minimal for most of these agencies.

The reduction of up to 15% FTEs would cut up to 266 positions at DEED, even though only 110 of DEED's agency employees are funded with General Funds. For the Department of Labor and Industry (DLI), the 15% reduction equals 64 FTEs. The measure would only save \$129,000 for the general fund since most DLI funds come from fee income. The 15% reduction in staff would result in a loss of 32 staff at Minnesota Housing. The concomitant reduction in costs would not benefit the general fund since no general fund monies are used to pay for the Agency's administrative expenses. The Bureau of Mediation Services will also be required to eliminate three positions as a result of this mandate. A reduction of this magnitude would render the agency incapable of meeting its core statutory obligations.

Compromise is never easy, because each person must give up something that is important. Compromise requires us to agree to items that we don't agree with. That is the only way we will reconcile our differences on the state's budget. I am returning this bill to you with the hope that you will choose to work with me, to find a fair, responsible, and balanced solution.

Sincerely,
Mark Dayton, Governor

May 24, 2011

The Honorable Michelle L. Fischbach
President of the Senate

Dear Madam President:

With this letter, I am vetoing and returning Chapter 40, Senate File 1047, the State Government Appropriations Bill. I do so with the hope that we can come together to find a mutually agreeable compromise in the weeks ahead.

Already, Legislators from both parties have worked well with my Commissioners and with me to find areas of common ground within this bill. I thank them for their thoughtful and dedicated efforts. We share a strong commitment to make government work better for all Minnesotans. We also share strong commitments to a more data driven, result-oriented state government and to continuous government improvements.

To that end, my administration has already moved forward with a Master RFP to use data analytics to improve tax compliance, state building efficiency, medical fraud detection, fleet management and strategic sourcing. While we disagree on whether to include in the budget the estimated savings from this work, we share high expectations that data analytics will improve government performance and save money for Minnesota taxpayers.

I am open to further discussions on the Pay for Performance pilot program in your bill, despite my serious concerns about using debt to pay for ongoing operations. I also support your State Agency Value Initiative (SAVI), which would allow agencies to retain half of the savings from efficiencies identified by agency employees.

Thank you also for joining me in protecting Military and Veterans Affairs from funding cuts. This bill corrects the failure of the bills which passed the Senate and the House to protect those two vitally important agencies from funding and staffing reductions.

While we have important areas of agreement, we must acknowledge that our approaches are very far apart in other ways. My primary concern with this bill is the fundamental mismatch between funding recommendations and expectations for services. Total funding is roughly one-third lower than these activities currently need. Such extreme reductions to agency operations would jeopardize core government functions and substantially impair the state workforce.

This bill would reduce the state workforce by 15% regardless of funding source or need, which would result in an arbitrary decrease in employees who provide critical government services. What successful business executives would order an across-the-board 15% employee reduction in all operations, regardless of their size, efficiency, profitability, and need?

This drastic cut would greatly damage our ability to deliver services like plowing roads and maintaining parks. I cannot agree to a blanket 15% workforce reduction, especially when it occurs on top of other agency specific budget cuts.

This bill also sets statutory goals for the upcoming labor negotiations which in my view encroach on the collective bargaining process. You would require that labor negotiations mandate a salary freeze and save \$90 million from health insurance. This requirement undermines the collective bargaining process and the responsibility of the executive branch to negotiate labor agreements in good faith.

This bill makes substantial reductions in operating funding even as it establishes multiple, new requirements for state agencies. For example, Minnesota Management and Budget would sustain a 10% operating budget reduction while at the same time have new responsibilities for creating a zero-based budgeting process, administering an employee gain-sharing program and conducting a job classification study.

I will demand that state agencies continuously improve their operations, but at the same time we must be honest with people that the cuts you propose to state agencies will reduce services and work against the reforms we have already begun to implement. For example, the bipartisan permitting reform work will flounder if we do not have the staff in the PCA and DNR to expedite permitting. In the Department of Revenue, we will be unable to improve collections if we also have across the board cuts to auditors.

We have had many discussions about the revenue estimates included in the State Government finance bill. The bill fails to account for the estimated revenue loss of \$37 million due to the operational funding reductions to the Department of Revenue but recognizes \$169 million from enhanced data analytics capabilities and the federal reciprocal agreement for non-tax debts, even though Revenue analysts cannot substantiate these figures. Minnesota is a national leader in audit selection, tax compliance activities and collections and we should respect their understanding of what we can achieve.

There are additional concerns that have been voiced in person and through letter. These areas of disagreement do not diminish my interest in working collaboratively with you to improve how state government works and ensure we are getting the very best value for every tax dollar spent. My Commissioners and I have led the executive branch for only four months, and while we deeply respect the hard work and professionalism of state employees, we feel no need to defend the status quo. We are dedicated to working with you to find ways to save money, reduce expenses, and improve the services provided by state government. I know that, working together, we can create a reform-minded blueprint for our state of which we can all be proud.

Sincerely,
Mark Dayton, Governor

May 24, 2011

The Honorable Michelle L. Fischbach
President of the Senate

Dear Madam President:

With this letter, I am vetoing and returning Chapter 41, Senate File 760, a bill establishing the Health and Human Services budget for fiscal years 2012 and 2013.

This Health and Human Services bill, passed by the House and Senate, would cause devastating harm to many thousands of Minnesotans, which I will strongly oppose. I cannot support a \$1.8 billion reduction in health and human services spending. A reduction of this size jeopardizes the progress Minnesota has made in providing health coverage for the uninsured, supporting our seniors in their communities, offering treatment and community support for people with mental illness, and establishing a public health infrastructure that protects all Minnesotans. I understand the need for belt-tightening and I embrace the need for reform. But, I do not accept that Minnesota must go backwards in the support we provide to our most vulnerable citizens. We are better than that.

I find it unconscionable that this bill eliminates health care coverage for over 140,000 people. If all of those losing coverage comprised a new community, it would be the third-largest city in Minnesota, far ahead of the populations of Rochester and Duluth. This is accomplished in part by the repeal of the expansion of Medical Assistance to adults without children implemented under my Executive Order. I have made it very clear, but I will repeat it yet again: I will veto any legislation that repeals the expansion of Medical Assistance. This expansion has provided access to quality, comprehensive health care for 100,000 of Minnesota's poorest and most vulnerable citizens. This expansion leverages \$1.5 billion in federal funds over three years. I fail to understand why, in a time of fiscal and human need, we would not take advantage of this opportunity.

I am concerned the bill reinstitutes the Coordinated Care Delivery Systems (CCDS) and creates a new voucher program to provide health care for a substantial number of low-income people. The CCDS is a significant step back from the opportunity provided by the expansion of Medical Assistance. It is also dramatically underfunded for the 125,000 people who would have no access to other care. The voucher approach, with its significant cost-sharing, garners much of its budget savings because about one-third of the people cannot afford it and will simply go without coverage.

Ensuring our citizens have health care coverage is also critical to supporting a strong health care infrastructure. This bill puts that infrastructure at risk not only by the dramatic reductions in coverage, but also by making significant reduction to the funding that supports medical education. Minnesota faces major health care workforce shortages as both the population and our current workforce of physicians, pharmacists, and others age at the same time. These shortages are most acute in Minnesota's rural and underserved areas, where vacancies are hardest to fill. These reductions will have a major impact throughout the state affecting the education, training, and recruitment of nearly 3,500 health care jobs critical to the health and well-being of our citizens and the future of our state. The bill also marks a retreat from our efforts to make Minnesota a healthier state by addressing life style drivers of health care like obesity and tobacco use and closing the gaps in health outcomes in our communities of color.

We have made so much progress in health care over the last two decades in Minnesota. I will not allow that progress to be turned back in one year.

I also have grave concerns that this bill restricts Minnesota's ability to implement the Affordable Care Act (ACA). This sets Minnesota back in terms of expanding health care coverage opportunities for families and puts us at risk of non-compliance with Medicaid law, unnecessarily risking billions

of dollars in federal revenue. The ACA is a path forward for lower health care costs, and Minnesota must be on that path.

This bill also moves Minnesota in the wrong direction in the care of seniors and people with disabilities. Minnesota has pursued a decades-long, bipartisan strategy that supports people in their homes and in the community so they do not need to live in institutions. Yet 98% of the reductions to long-term care are to home and community-based services with only 2% to institutions. The bill would force 1,500 people into nursing homes. This is bad public policy; not only is it much less costly in the long run to support people in their homes and the community, but this is where seniors and people with disabilities want to live. We should not move backward in an area where we have had so much success.

The bill would also undo much of the progress we have made to support people experiencing mental illness, specifically undermining the bipartisan reforms passed in 2007. Reducing community grants that support people with mental illness and repealing the expansion of Medical Assistance, undermine the successes we have accomplished in keeping people out of institutions. We must not return to a system where too many of our mentally ill citizens end up in jail, emergency rooms, and psychiatric hospitals.

I am also dismayed this bill takes aim at many of our very poorest and most vulnerable citizens. The bill would eliminate the General Assistance program that provides \$203 a month to 20,000 Minnesotans who cannot support themselves due to illness, age, or disability. Without this necessary support, many of these Minnesotans would be at risk of becoming homeless, and would severely strain the basic safety net our already over-extended counties are striving to maintain.

Moreover, the bill makes many short-sighted reductions to services that support vulnerable families and children. For example, the 50% reduction in the home visiting program undermines a proven program that stabilizes low-income families and supports healthy child development. Likewise, cutting family planning grants in half severely limits access to primary and reproductive care for women. Both of these programs have been proven to improve outcomes and lower costs. The bill also reduces funds counties and tribes use to protect children who have been abused or neglected. In each instance, these reductions will result in more deep-end service costs down the road.

We must agree that budget bills cannot be vehicles for divisive policy provisions. SF 760 includes several problematic policy provisions. Of particular concern in the bill are:

Prohibition on stem cell research: This provision will halt important, ongoing, and future research into promising treatments for chronic diseases, traumatic injuries, and genetic disorders. This prohibition will deeply affect the state's emerging biotechnology industry and reduce jobs in this important sector of our economy.

"Freedom of Choice Act": This provision attempts to nullify the Affordable Care Act requirement that all individuals get health care coverage by 2014. Minnesota does not need to wade into this debate; the courts will determine if this provision of federal law is constitutional. This is in addition to the policy language previously mentioned that would prohibit all state activities in compliance with this enacted federal law.

Nursing home rate equalization: This will lead to a two-tier system of nursing care for our seniors and, over time, will increase long term care costs for thousands of Minnesotans.

Residency requirements: The bill imposes a residency requirement for the Minnesota Family Investment Program. Such requirements are unconstitutional; including it in the bill, will only lead to litigation and the associated costs.

Nurse licensure compact: The Nursing Compact will introduce multi-state license and compromise Minnesota's high quality nursing standards by issuing an opening invitation to any nurse practicing anywhere in the country, while ignoring our academic and clinical requirements.

The bill also fails to make necessary investments recommended in my budget. These investments must be part of the health and human services budget to address federal compliance concerns and program growth:

Funding must be provided for the growth in the Minnesota Sex Offender program to ensure Minnesota meets the treatment needs of this population and provides for the safety of the public.

Full funding for growth in the Adoption Assistance program is necessary to support families who adopt abused and neglected children with special needs and to ensure federal compliance and continuation of federal funding.

Compliance with federal Medicaid law requires we delay implementation of eligibility changes passed in 2009. Failure to pay for this delay could put billions of dollars in federal Medicaid funds at risk.

Funding must be provided to continue the activities outlined in the bi-partisan 2008 health care reform bill. In passing the 2008 law, policy makers recognized the health care system has unsustainable health care cost growth and uneven quality. The law provided temporary funding for MDH to collect and report critical information about costs, quality, and overall value of health care services for consumers and purchasers. Continued funding is crucial in controlling the rate of health care cost growth and promoting quality improvement. The law also established the statewide Health Improvement Program (SHIP) that addresses the leading drivers of health care costs, tobacco use and obesity.

We must meet the challenge of streamlining health care eligibility processes by leveraging federal technology funding.

I am also concerned about the size of the reductions to the administrative budgets of the Department of Health and Human Services. Over the last three years the DHS and MDH operational budget has been reduced over 15%. For DHS, this bill will reduce another \$13.9 million a year, resulting in a loss of 123 full time positions. For MDH, the bill will reduce operational budgets per year by another \$3 million, which \$2.5 million is general fund. This equates to a reduction of 20 FTEs in MDH.

The interactions with the State Government bill will only exacerbate this impact and extend reductions to the patient care functions of the Department. An impact of this magnitude, risk public safety, patient care, and program integrity.

We must continue to move Minnesota's health and human services systems forward. I do believe we can work together to accomplish that. I understand reductions must be made in the health and human services budget in order to balance the state budget. I note that SF 760 includes many of the reductions to Health and Human Services, which I included in my budget. While those reductions are painful, I am encouraged we have found common ground in some areas.

I am also encouraged we have a common interest in reforming how we pay managed care organizations. We must ensure we are paying only what is necessary to provide people with access to quality health care. We also have a common interest in reducing fraud and improving the integrity

of our health care system. I also support initiatives that lead to more efficiency and coordination among state agencies in our licensing, regulation, and data collection efforts.

I share your interest in seeking flexibility from the federal government so we can improve Minnesota's health care system in a way that meets Minnesota's unique needs. Some aspects of the CHOICE waiver in SF 760 align with the recent request for information published by the Department of Human Services to encourage development of new health care delivery system models. The Request for Proposal being issued later this spring by DHS to develop new models of care delivery can serve as a foundation for achieving the overarching goals of the waiver. This includes allowing providers and others to mutually benefit by working together to improve health outcomes, improve quality of care, and provide better coordination of care and patient experience, while also reducing the total cost of health care.

Budgets are about priorities, and priorities are about choice. We can choose to work together, compromise and create a budget that fairly spreads the burden we must all shoulder if we are to weather these tough times and position Minnesota for future success.

Compromise is never easy, because each person must give up something that is important. Compromise requires us to agree to items that we don't agree with. That is the only way we will reconcile our differences on the state's budget. With that in mind, I am returning this bill to you with the hope that we can come together to find a balanced solution: one without these deep damaging cuts, and one which achieves the balance most Minnesotans have said they want in a budget solution.

Sincerely,
Mark Dayton, Governor

May 25, 2011

The Honorable Kurt Zellers
Speaker of the House of Representatives

The Honorable Michelle L. Fischbach
President of the Senate

I have the honor to inform you that the following enrolled Act of the 2011 Session of the State Legislature has been received from the Office of the Revisor and is deposited in the Office of the Secretary of State for preservation, pursuant to the State Constitution, Article IV, Section 23:

S.F. No.	H.F. No.	Session Laws Chapter No.	Date Filed 2011
*1308		88	May 25

* Proposed amendment to the Minnesota Constitution, not requiring governor approval.

Sincerely,
Mark Ritchie
Secretary of State

May 25, 2011

The Honorable Michelle L. Fischbach
President of the Senate

Dear Madam President:

I have vetoed and am returning Chapter 45, Senate File 170, a bill requiring teacher candidates to pass a basic skills exam. I do so with the hope that a majority of the provisions in this bill will come back in future legislation.

Increasing the rigor of standards for Minnesota teacher candidates is a goal I share with the Legislature. Changing education policy so that teacher candidates will eventually be required to pass the Basic Skills Test before they enter a teacher preparation program, is a logical way to increase both the rigor and quality in teacher preparation programming.

This bill has received strong bipartisan support in both bodies, but it contains two problematic provisions that need to be addressed. First, this bill strikes the requirement that higher education teacher preparation programs provide remediation to candidates who do not pass the basic skills exam. Teacher candidates who show promise as future teachers but who may have test-taking challenges should receive the educational support they need. Second, the bill allows teacher candidates who have completed their preparation program in another state to receive a one-year license to teach before passing the basic skills exam. This contradicts efforts in the rest of the bill to raise requirements for teacher candidates, and places fewer requirements on out-of-state teacher candidates than on Minnesota candidates. We have no way to gauge the effectiveness of out-of-state programs and their standards, but it stands to reason that if someone licensed to teach in another state is ready to teach in Minnesota, they should be capable of, and expected to, pass the basic skills test.

Increasing the level of rigor expected for future Minnesota teachers is a goal I support. If you were to include language in an education bill during special session that would eventually require individuals to pass the Basic Skills Test before they enter a teacher preparation program, I would support it. I look forward to signing future legislation that works toward this outcome.

Sincerely,
Mark Dayton, Governor

May 26, 2011

The Honorable Michelle L. Fischbach
President of the Senate

Dear President Fischbach:

With this letter, I am vetoing and returning Chapter 69, Senate File 509, a bill requiring voters to provide photo identification with their current address before receiving a ballot, establishing a new provisional voting system, and making other changes to election administration.

Minnesota's election system is the best in the nation. We have the highest voter turnout year after year and under intense, bipartisan scrutiny, the recent statewide recounts have highlighted how reliable the results are. Much of the strength of the system derives from over 150 years of bipartisan

work and its federated nature - the 87 county auditors, hundreds of municipal clerks, and 30,000 volunteer election judges who administer Minnesota's elections and ensure they are free and fair.

The right to vote is embedded in both the United States and Minnesota Constitutions. In accordance with my oath to uphold both of these foundational documents, it is my duty as Governor to ensure every eligible Minnesota voter is able to exercise this fundamental right and does not face barriers to doing so.

The push to require photo identification in order to vote has been based on the premise that voter fraud is a significant problem in Minnesota. I do not believe that to be the case. In particular, the offense most often cited - felons voting illegally - will not be addressed by a photo identification requirement; felons often have a driver's license, which has a photo but does not indicate their voting eligibility status.

This bill would put Minnesota in violation of the federal Military and Overseas Voter Empowerment Act (MOVE), which requires absentee ballots to be sent to military and overseas voters at least 45 days before each federal election. Last year the Legislature moved the date of the state primary to ensure the state could fulfill this requirement. Delaying the canvassing date for the state primary by a week will delay preparation of the general election ballots beyond the federal deadline. As a result, the United States Department of Justice will almost certainly force Minnesota to accept absentee ballots from those voters that arrive after Election Day, which will further delay election results. I cannot sign legislation that does a disservice to military and overseas voters and is so clearly in violation of federal law.

In addition, this bill is an unfunded mandate on local units of governments at all levels - counties, cities, townships, and school boards. There is a \$23 million cost, documented with a local impact note from the Department of Management and Budget, that has been totally ignored. At a time when local governments are facing dramatic cuts, adding another mandate without any financial assistance is irresponsible.

I am most concerned with the lack of bipartisan involvement in developing such major changes to our election process. As stated by Governor Pawlenty, "Election laws set forth rules relating to the fundamental right to vote and the government's administration of those rights. The details of these laws matter, and the manner in which they are adopted matters as well. Omnibus election bills making changes to our election process should be bipartisan." I will not sign an election bill that comes to me without broad bipartisan legislative support.

I appreciate your willingness to add to my proposal to require quarterly reporting of campaign contributions and expenditures.

I would welcome the opportunity to work with legislative leaders, along with state and local election administrators, on ways to make further improvements to Minnesota's election system. That is why I am issuing an Executive Order that creates a task force to study and recommend ways to streamline the process for voters, lower the costs to local governments, and prevent from voting those who should not be voting. I look forward to those discussions.

Sincerely,
Mark Dayton, Governor

May 27, 2011

The Honorable Michelle L. Fischbach
President of the Senate

Dear Madam President:

Please be advised that I have received, approved, signed and deposited in the Office of the Secretary of State, S.F. Nos. 301, 1285, 1159, 612, 881, 477, 799, 1197, 712, 1287, 361, 1280, 1234, 1115, 1045 and 1286.

Sincerely,
Mark Dayton, Governor

May 27, 2011

The Honorable Kurt Zellers
Speaker of the House of Representatives

The Honorable Michelle L. Fischbach
President of the Senate

I have the honor to inform you that the following enrolled Acts of the 2011 Session of the State Legislature have been received from the Office of the Governor and are deposited in the Office of the Secretary of State for preservation, pursuant to the State Constitution, Article IV, Section 23:

S.F. No.	H.F. No.	Session Laws Chapter No.	Time and Date Approved 2011	Date Filed 2011
301		85	10:27 a.m. May 27	May 27
1285		86	10:28 a.m. May 27	May 27
	387	87	10:28 a.m. May 27	May 27
1159		89	10:28 a.m. May 27	May 27
612		90	10:30 a.m. May 27	May 27
881		91	10:31 a.m. May 27	May 27
477		92	10:22 a.m. May 27	May 27
799		93	10:31 a.m. May 27	May 27
	1405	95	10:33 a.m. May 27	May 27
1197		97	10:33 a.m. May 27	May 27
712		98	10:34 a.m. May 27	May 27
	954	99	10:35 a.m. May 27	May 27
	1144	100	10:36 a.m. May 27	May 27
1287		102	10:36 a.m. May 27	May 27
	1179	103	10:37 a.m. May 27	May 27
361		104	4:55 p.m. May 27	May 27
1280		105	10:37 a.m. May 27	May 27
1234		106	10:38 a.m. May 27	May 27
1115		107	10:39 a.m. May 27	May 27
1045		108	10:39 a.m. May 27	May 27

	1105	109	10:39 a.m. May 27	May 27
1286		110	10:40 a.m. May 27	May 27

Sincerely,
 Mark Ritchie
 Secretary of State

May 27, 2011

The Honorable Michelle L. Fischbach
 President of the Senate

Dear Madam President:

I have vetoed and am returning Chapter 96, Senate File 86, a bill that significantly rolls back Minnesota's restrictions on carbon dioxide emissions by energy utilities, with a substantial exemption of up to 1500 megawatts of new coal-fired power.

Minnesota must continue on the path of progress to a sustainable, clean, and safe energy future, rather than increasing our already heavy reliance upon coal-fired electricity, which threatens our health and climate. Furthermore, we have no need to do so.

There are many good reasons to keep intact Minnesota's restrictions on new coal-fired plants. The exemption this bill proposes for 1500 megawatts of new coal would allow for more than a 30 percent increase in Minnesota's current coal capacity. It is unwise and unnecessary.

Based upon current utility projections into the next decade, Minnesota does not now need any new coal-fired power plants. Coal plants produce baseload power. According to utility plans submitted to the Public Utilities Commission, Minnesota does not need to build a large baseload power plant for at least the next 15 years. The last nuclear power plant built in Minnesota began operating in 1973. The last coal-fired power plant was commissioned in 1987. In the meantime, Minnesota electric utilities have responded to increasing electricity demand with a diversified mix of lower cost and environmentally preferable resources such as wind power and facilities that burn natural gas and biomass fuel. Minnesota also has invested in energy efficiency and conservation that has eliminated the need for more than two new large baseload coal or nuclear plants.

These clean energy investments keep energy dollars working in the state to produce jobs and lower energy costs for both residential and business consumers. Our current recession had dampened demand, allowing us to continue benefitting from these clean energy investments. A recovering economy will push demand higher. However, Minnesota is well positioned to utilize lower-cost natural gas, new hydroelectricity in Canada, and expected contributions from renewable energy and efficiency resulting from the legislature's farsighted policies of the last few years.

Secondly, the costs to build and operate a new coal power plant in Minnesota or to import power from a large coal plant in another state are excessively high and uncertain. Conservative estimates range from \$3 to over \$5 billion for a 1000 megawatt plant. Even under optimistic estimates, coal-fired power would be more expensive than several other energy resources, including energy efficiency, wind power, and natural gas-fired turbines. Current and anticipated environmental regulations have driven the cost of new coal higher with only marginal improvements in emissions of harmful pollutants. Minnesota imports 100% of the coal required to operate a power plant, and the costs for coal and coal transportation have increased dramatically in the last few years. Over \$600 million leaves Minnesota's economy every year to purchase coal and Minnesotans pay

over \$3 billion every year for coal-fired electricity. Consumer rate impacts, particularly to small businesses and lower-income Minnesotans, would be unacceptably severe.

Finally, coal-fired electricity poses unacceptable risks to human health and to our climate. Research conducted by the National Academy of Science and others clearly shows that air pollutants from coal plants harm public and environmental health. Many of the coal plant emissions damage the respiratory system. The young, the elderly, and people with respiratory diseases are particularly at risk. Mercury emitted from coal plants damages nervous systems of developing fetuses and young children. Children and women of child-bearing age are warned to severely limit their fish consumption from most Minnesota lakes.

Carbon dioxide emitted from coal plants is one of the leading contributors to global warming. In Minnesota, over 40 percent of the CO₂ released from all sources comes from coal-fired power plants. Our natural resources and quality of life depend on a stable climate that is increasingly threatened by our reliance on fossil fuels, particularly coal.

Minnesota's 180 utilities deliver reliable, low-cost electricity. With the 17th lowest costs in the country, almost two-thirds of the states have higher electric rates than Minnesota. A new coal power plant in Minnesota would increase those rates and damage one of the key competitive advantages we have in attracting new businesses to Minnesota.

Alternative energy resources have significant advantages over coal power: 1) they are less costly; 2) they can be implemented on smaller scale with a shorter development schedule; and 3) they do not produce harmful air emissions that threaten our health and climate. The economic and environmental performance of our electric utilities is better now today due to these strategic investments. There is potential for even more beneficial diversification in the coming years as we develop cleaner, more efficient technologies.

I am committed to working on Minnesota's energy future with the Legislature, our state's electric utilities and other stakeholder to assure that we can continue to meet all of our statewide energy needs at the lowest cost for our families and our businesses.

Sincerely,
Mark Dayton, Governor

May 27, 2011

The Honorable Michelle L. Fischbach
President of the Senate

Dear Madam President:

With this letter, I am vetoing and returning Chapter 111, Senate File 943, the Game and Fish Bill.

I am deeply concerned with the impacts that this legislation could have on our Minnesota-headquartered ATV manufactures - including two of northern Minnesota's largest employers. Polaris and Arctic Cat employ over 4,000 Minnesotans and generate more than \$2 billion into the state's economy. The provisions in this legislation that modify the definitions of Class 1/Class 2 ATVs will have a detrimental impact on these job providers. The proposed definitions is in direct conflict with the recommendations reached by consensus of a bipartisan work group of agency, stakeholder, and industry interests, and unnecessarily restricts ATV riding on designated trails. Further, the definitions were only added once the bill hit conference

committee; the language never had a committee hearing and really does not belong in a game and fish bill. I hope the Legislature will reconsider the stakeholder recommendations and provide a bill that will not disadvantage our state's job providers.

Secondly, I am concerned with two provisions in this bill that relate to fishing regulations. Specifically, section 57 requires the Department of Natural Resources to reduce the number of experimental and special management lakes from 119 to 90 by this fall. Section 72 allows spearing on Cass Lake and prohibits restrictions on spearing northern pike, which may diminish the quality of the northern pike fishery. These provisions impact Minnesota's 1.4 million anglers, who spend approximately \$2.5 billion each year in the state on angling-related expenditures, and yet, to my knowledge, anglers and other stakeholders were not consulted on the proposed changes. I have heard from many individuals and groups who believe they have not been adequately heard in this discussion, resulting in changes that don't reflect constituent desires. I strongly encourage you to work with all the stakeholders who place tremendous value in our state's natural resources to find workable compromise on these issues.

Finally, another troubling provision in the bill deals with the pasturing of livestock and feedlot permits. It is astonishing to see a feedlot issue tucked into legislation dealing with the state's game and fish. It does not belong there. Changing the state's definition of pasturing for very large animal operations (over 1,000 animal units) would be counter to the federal requirement that these facilities be subject to permit if their animals are confined in one location for a long time. As a result, these livestock operators could be subjected to much higher federal fines and forced to deal with EPA's office in far off Chicago. This will only end up costing producers more time and money, because they will still need to comply with federal regulations, even with this proposed change in state law. My goal is to make it easier for businesses to operate, not subject them to lawsuits and increased costs.

I ask that you remove the provisions relating to ATV definitions and feedlot permits and that you find a workable compromise on sections 57 and 72. I am willing to accept this Game and Fish bill in a special session if you address these concerns. We share a commitment to growing jobs in this state while sustaining our natural resources. I will not accept legislation that damages our state's fragile economy or our state's precious natural resources.

Sincerely,
Mark Dayton, Governor

May 31, 2011

The Honorable Michelle L. Fischbach
President of the Senate

Dear Madam President:

Please be advised that I have received, approved, signed and deposited in the Office of the Secretary of State, S.F. No. 54.

Sincerely,
Mark Dayton, Governor

May 31, 2011

The Honorable Kurt Zellers
Speaker of the House of Representatives

The Honorable Michelle L. Fischbach
President of the Senate

I have the honor to inform you that the following enrolled Acts of the 2011 Session of the State Legislature have been received from the Office of the Governor and are deposited in the Office of the Secretary of State for preservation, pursuant to the State Constitution, Article IV, Section 23:

S.F. No.	H.F. No.	Session Laws Chapter No.	Date Approved 2011	Date Filed 2011
	1219	112	1:19 p.m. May 31	May 31
54		113	1:19 p.m. May 31	May 31
	753	115	1:22 p.m. May 31	May 31
	1023	116	1:23 p.m. May 31	May 31
	232	117	1:24 p.m. May 31	May 31

Sincerely,
Mark Ritchie
Secretary of State

May 31, 2011

The Honorable Michelle L. Fischbach
President of the Senate

Dear Senator Fischbach:

The Subcommittee on Committees of the Committee on Rules and Administration met on May 31, 2011, and by appropriate action made the following appointments:

Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes 2010, Chapter 3.8851

Legislative Energy Commission - Senator Brown to serve as a member appointed from the senate committee with jurisdiction over agriculture policy and Senator Magnus to replace Senator Robling as a member appointed from the NextGen Energy Board.

Sincerely,
Amy Koch, Chair
Subcommittee on Committees

May 31, 2011

The Honorable Michelle L. Fischbach
President of the Senate

Dear Senator Fischbach:

The Subcommittee on Committees of the Committee on Rules and Administration met on May 31, 2011, and by appropriate action made the following appointments:

Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes 2010, section 3.885:

Legislative Commission on Planning and Fiscal Policy - Senators Koch, Bakk, Berglin, Hann, Langseth, Michel, Parry, Ortman and Robling to serve at the pleasure of the appointing authority.

Sincerely,
Amy Koch, Chair
Subcommittee on Committees

May 31, 2011

The Honorable Michelle L. Fischbach
President of the Senate

Dear Senator Fischbach:

The Committee on Rules and Administration met on May 31, 2011, and by appropriate action made the following appointment:

Pursuant to the Permanent Rules of the Senate

Senate Rule 55: Subcommittee on Ethical Conduct - Senator Harrington to replace Senator Scheid.

Sincerely,
Amy Koch, Chair
Committee on Rules and Administration

June 1, 2011

The Honorable Amy T. Koch, Chair
Committee on Rules and Administration

Dear Senator Koch:

Pursuant to Senate Rule 47, the following bills remaining on General Orders after adjournment on May 23, 2011, were returned to the committees indicated.

S.F. No. 1324 to the Committee on Agriculture and Rural Economies.

S.F. No. 187 to the Committee on Capital Investment.

S.F. Nos. 299, 416, 666 and 877 to the Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection.

S.F. Nos. 408, 619, 781, 1022 and 1073 and H.F. No. 563 to the Committee on Education.

S.F. Nos. 113, 736, 817, 1093 and 1194 and H.F. No. 203 to the Committee on Energy, Utilities and Telecommunications.

S.F. No. 756 to the Committee on Environment and Natural Resources.

S.F. Nos. 33, 135, 340, 368, 393, 516, 874, 907, 1199, 1260, 1319, 1369 and 1428 and H.F. No. 1467 to the Committee on Finance.

S.F. Nos. 164, 230 and 1137 and H.F. Nos. 912 and 1138 to the Committee on Health and Human Services.

S.F. No. 695 to the Committee on Higher Education.

S.F. Nos. 593, 675, 926, 1149, 1214, 1225, 1236 and 1306 and H.F. Nos. 396 and 642 to the Committee on Judiciary and Public Safety.

S.F. Nos. 270, 931, 953, 956 and 1190 and H.F. No. 1544 to the Committee on Local Government and Elections.

H.F. No. 1547 to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

S.F. Nos. 435, 1146 and 1215 and H.F. Nos. 191 and 1117 to the Committee on State Government Innovation and Veterans.

S.F. No. 857 to the Committee on Taxes.

S.F. Nos. 266 and 1082 and H.F. No. 392 to the Committee on Transportation.

Pursuant to Senate Rule 47, the following bills on the table were referred to the committees indicated:

H.F. No. 873 to the Committee on Education.

H.F. No. 745 to the Committee on Health and Human Services.

H.F. No. 611 to the Committee on Jobs and Economic Growth.

H.F. Nos. 738, 955, 1384 and 1577 to the Committee on Judiciary and Public Safety.

H.F. No. 66 to the Committee on Taxes.

H.F. Nos. 537 and 922 to the Committee on Transportation.

Pursuant to Joint Rule 3.02(a), the following bills were laid on the table and the Conference Committees were discharged: S.F. Nos. 4 and 55.

Pursuant to Joint Rule 3.02(a), the following bills were laid on the table in the House of Representatives and the Conference Committees were discharged: H.F. Nos. 821, 1011, 1234 and 1406.

Pursuant to Joint Rule 3.02(b) the following bill, which had been referred to the Committee on Rules and Administration under Joint Rule 2.03(a), was withdrawn and returned to the committee indicated:

S.F. No. 604 to the Committee on State Government Innovation and Veterans.

Pursuant to Joint Rule 3.02(c), the following Senate bills and veto messages were laid on the table: S.F. Nos. 86, 170, 509, 760, 887, 943, 958 and 1047.

Sincerely,
Cal R. Ludeman
Secretary of the Senate

June 23, 2011

The Honorable Mark Dayton
Governor, State of Minnesota

Dear Governor Dayton:

Pursuant to Executive Order 11-18, I would like to appoint Senator Sieben to the Task Force on Election Integrity.

Sincerely,
Thomas M. Bakk
DFL Caucus Leader
Senate District 6

July 25, 2011

The Honorable Mark Dayton
Governor, State of Minnesota

Dear Governor Dayton:

I have taken a job with Hennepin County that excites me because it will give me the opportunity to improve outcomes for many of the people I have served in the legislature. It also means I will be part of the efforts to help Hennepin County and its partners succeed in implementing health care reform.

This does mean however, now that the state budget is resolved, that I will be resigning my seat in the State Senate effective August 15, 2011. I want to take this opportunity to thank my constituents who have sent me to the legislature for many years. It has been rewarding for me to work on public policy that has improved the lives of many Minnesotans. I have had the opportunity also to work with many organizations that have helped me learn so much.

During the last six months, I have felt that my talents and skills have been underutilized in the Minnesota Senate. There will be others in the legislature and your administration who will step up to the plate to do the unfinished work of health care reform, as well as standing up for the needs of our most vulnerable citizens.

I look forward to continuing to use what I have learned in the legislature and to continue learning as I work now at the ground level to make policies I have worked on at the state level work for people in the community.

Sincerely,
Linda Berglin
State Senator, District 61

July 28, 2011

The Honorable Amy T. Koch
Chair, Committee on Rules and Administration

Dear Senator Koch:

Pursuant to Minnesota Laws 2011, 1st Special Session, chapter 6, article 4, section 3 (proposed coding as Minnesota Statutes, 15B.32), I have appointed Senator Rest to the State Capitol Preservation Commission for the 87th Legislative Session.

Sincerely,
Thomas M. Bakk
DFL Caucus Leader
Senate District 6

July 28, 2011

The Honorable Amy T. Koch
Chair, Committee on Rules and Administration

Dear Senator Koch:

I am writing to notify you that we have named Senator Rest as the Senate DFL Caucus ranking member on the Senate Commerce and Consumer Protection Committee. Senator Scheid was previously the ranking member on this committee.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,
Thomas M. Bakk
DFL Caucus Leader
Senate District 6

July 28, 2011

The Honorable Amy T. Koch
Chair, Committee on Rules and Administration

Dear Senator Koch:

I am writing to notify you that we have named Senator Lourey as the Senate DFL Caucus ranking member on the Senate Health and Human Services Committee. Senator Berglin was previously the ranking member on this committee.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,
Thomas M. Bakk
DFL Caucus Leader
Senate District 6

August 3, 2011

The Honorable Michelle L. Fischbach
President of the Senate

Dear Senator Fischbach:

We would like to inform you that Governor Mark Dayton has appointed Jenny Canfield to serve as Acting Director of the Minnesota State Lottery effective Wednesday, August 3, 2011.

Sincerely,
Adam Prock
Director of Appointments
Office of Governor Mark Dayton

September 7, 2011

The Honorable Michelle L. Fischbach
President of the Senate

Dear Senator Fischbach:

The Subcommittee on Committees of the Committee on Rules and Administration met on September 7, 2011, and by appropriate action made the following appointments:

Pursuant to Executive Order

11-15: Senators Parry and Reinert are appointed to the Civil War Commemoration Task Force for the 87th Legislative Session.

Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes 2011

1.21-1.22: Senator Rest is appointed to the Great Lakes Commission for the 87th Legislative Session. Senator Ingebrigtsen will continue to serve from his appointment on February 14, 2007.

3.305: Senators Jungbauer and Rest are appointed to the LCC Revisor of Statutes Subcommittee.

3.922: Senators Carlson and Howe are appointed to the Indian Affairs Council for the 87th Legislative Session.

3D.03: Senators Daley, Gazelka, Parry and Bonoff are appointed to the Sunset Advisory Commission for the 87th Legislative Session.

41D.01: Senator Nelson is appointed to fill the request for one senator from the education committee, on the Minnesota Agriculture Education Leadership Council for the 87th Legislative Session.

114D.30: Senators Pederson and Sparks are appointed to the Clean Water Council for the 87th Legislative Session.

116J.421: Senator Magnus is appointed to the Rural Policy and Development Center Board of Directors for the 87th Legislative Session.

116U.25: Senators Carlson and Saxhaug are appointed to the Explore Minnesota Tourism Council.

124D.141: Senator Torres Ray is removed from and Senator Bonoff is appointed to the State Advisory Council on Early Childhood Education and Care for the 87th Legislative Session.

135A.21: Senator Fischbach is appointed to the Midwestern Higher Education Council for the 87th Legislative Session.

218.75: Senator Miller is appointed as delegate to the Midwest Interstate Passenger Rail Compact Commission and Senator Howe is appointed as the alternate.

Pursuant to Minnesota Laws 2011

1st Special Session, chapter 9, article 2, section 27: Senators Benson and Lourey are appointed to the Minnesota Task Force on Prematurity for the 87th Legislative Session.

1st Special Session, chapter 9, article 3, section 6: Senators Hoffman, Newman, Sheran and Goodwin are appointed to the Nonemergency Medical Transportation Advisory Council for the 87th Legislative Session.

Sincerely,
Amy Koch
Senate Majority Leader

September 7, 2011

The Honorable Michelle L. Fischbach
President of the Senate

Dear Senator Fischbach:

As the Senate Majority Leader, I hereby make the following appointments:

Pursuant to Executive Order

11-18: Senator Vandever is appointed to the Task Force on Election Integrity.

Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes

15B:32: I will serve ex-officio as Majority Leader and appoint Senator Nelson to the State Capitol Preservation Commission for the 87th Legislative Session.

116L.665: Senator Nelson is appointed to the Governor's Workforce Development Council for the 87th Legislative Session.

Pursuant to Minnesota Laws 2011

1st Special Session, chapter 9, article 4, section 10: Senators Benson and Ingebrigtsen are appointed to the Minnesota EBT Business Task Force for the 87th Legislative Session.

Sincerely,
Amy Koch
Senate Majority Leader

September 22, 2011

The Honorable Michelle L. Fischbach
President of the Senate

Dear Senator Fischbach:

We would like to inform you that Governor Mark Dayton has appointed Susan Von Mosch to serve

as Acting Director of the Minnesota Office of Higher Education effective Wednesday, September 21, 2011.

Sincerely,
Tina Smith
Chief of Staff
Office of Governor Mark Dayton

October 28, 2011

The Honorable Mark Dayton
Governor, State of Minnesota

Dear Governor Dayton:

Thank you so much for your kind words in announcing my appointment as Director of the Office of Higher Education. I am excited by this opportunity and will do my very best to live up to your expectations for serving Minnesotans in this new endeavor.

I will be resigning my seat in the State Senate effective midnight November 7, 2011. I will officially start as Director of OHE beginning on November 8, 2011.

As I am sure you will appreciate, with the help of Senate staff, I will maintain Senate District 59 constituent services until a successor is elected and seated.

Sincerely,
Lawrence J. Pogemiller
State Senator, District 59

November 1, 2011

The Honorable Michelle L. Fischbach
President of the Senate

Dear Senator Fischbach:

The Subcommittee on Committees of the Committee on Rules and Administration met on November 1, 2011, and by appropriate action made the following appointments:

Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes 2011

3.85: Legislative Commission on Pensions and Retirement - Senator Dibble to replace Senator Pogemiller and serve the remainder of his term of appointment.

161.1419: Mississippi River Parkway Commission - Senators Senjem and Torres Ray to serve until May 21, 2012.

Pursuant to Minnesota Laws 2010

1st Special Session, chapter 1, article 22, section 4: Health Care Reform Task Force - Senators Benson and Nienow to serve until November 1, 2012.

Pursuant to Minnesota Laws 2011

1st Special Session, chapter 11, article 2, section 49: Integration Revenue Replacement Advisory Task Force - Senator Wolf, Robert Battle, and Arthur Brown to serve at the pleasure of the appointing authority.

Sincerely,
Amy Koch, Chair
Subcommittee on Committees

November 1, 2011

The Honorable Michelle L. Fischbach
President of the Senate

Dear Senator Fischbach:

As Senate Majority Leader, I hereby make the following appointments:

Pursuant to Minnesota Laws 2011

1st Special Session, chapter 9, article 6, section 95: Minnesota Autism Spectrum Disorder Task Force - Senator Senjem, Dawn Steigauf to serve as a family member of an individual with Autism Spectrum Disorder, Dr. Catherine Pulkinen to serve as a representative of a minority autism community, and Brad Trahan to serve as a representative of an autism advocacy group.

Sincerely,
Amy Koch
Senate Majority Leader

November 1, 2011

The Honorable Michelle L. Fischbach
President of the Senate

Dear Senator Fischbach:

Pursuant to Minnesota Session Laws for 2011, 1st Special Session, chapter 9, article 6, section 95, subd. 1, I would like to appoint Senator Eaton to the Minnesota Autism Spectrum Disorder Task Force for the 87th Legislative Session.

Sincerely,
Thomas M. Bakk
DFL Caucus Leader
Senate District 6

November 8, 2011

The Honorable Michelle L. Fischbach
President of the Senate

Dear Senator Fischbach:

As Senate Majority Leader, I hereby make the following appointment:

Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes 299C.65

Criminal and Juvenile Justice Information Policy Task Force - Senator Thompson to serve at the pleasure of the appointing authority.

Sincerely,
Amy Koch
Senate Majority Leader

November 8, 2011

The Honorable Michelle L. Fischbach
President of the Senate

Dear Senator Fischbach:

This is to inform you of new appointments to the study group of aids to local governments that was created in 2008 session law, chapter 366, article 2, section 12. As Chair of the Senate Tax Committee, I am appointing the following new members:

Co-Chair Senator Roger Chamberlain - R, Lino Lakes

Mayor Tom Furlong, City of Chanhassen

Dan Madsen, City Administrator, Special Counsel, Madelia

The other members of the study group originally appointed will continue to serve which are:

Senator Rod Skoe - DFL, Clearwater

Senator David Senjem - R, Rochester

Steve Peterson, Flaherty & Hood, representing Coalition of Greater MN Cities

Please let me know if you have any questions regarding the above appointments.

Sincerely,
Senator Julianne Ortman
Chair of Senate Tax Committee