

Former legislator fined \$5,000 for tax evasion

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A former Minnesota legislator was fined \$5,000 in U.S. District Court in Minneapolis today for filing a false federal income-tax return.

James R. Keller, 62, Winona, was not sentenced to prison because he is suffering from an advanced stage of diabetes, said District Judge Miles Lord, who imposed the fine on Keller.

The former member of the Minnesota Senate Tax Com-

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mittee pleaded guilty to the charge Oct. 28. He was charged specifically with failing to report \$3,940 of income on his 1963 return.

Judge Lord also put Keller on two years probation. One of the conditions of the probation is that he "expedite" the settlement of his tax liabilities for 1963, 1964 and 1965. The government claims he owes \$15,000.

Keller served in the Minnesota House from 1948 to 1950 and in the Senate from then until 1962, when he was defeated for reelection.