Kurt Daudt State Representative House Minority Leader

District 31A Anoka, Isanti and Sherburne Counties



Minnesota House of Representatives

COMMITTEES: RULES AND LEGISLATIVE ADMINISTRATION ELECTIONS

November 25, 2013

Honorable Mark Dayton Governor, State of Minnesota 130 State Capitol 75 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. St. Paul, MN 55155

Governor Dayton:

This letter is to convey my concerns regarding the presentation delivered by your Department of Employment and Economic Development (DEED) at the Legislative Commission on Planning and Fiscal Policy (LCPFP) meeting on Wednesday, November 20.

The form and content of the presentation was inappropriately partial and political. Rather than focusing on facts and figures to properly inform the members of the LCPFP, the presentation used political buzzwords and phrases. The presentation was designed to look like a re-election campaign advertisement for you and not to report the status of the job market to the legislature. Members of both parties around the table raised concerns with this presentation and the biased nature in which the information was presented.

The nature of the presentation makes the preparation and use of it is an inappropriate use of state resources for campaign purposes. This is a violation of Minnesota Statute §211B.09 prohibiting state employees, in an official capacity, from taking part in political activity. Should your agency continue using this presentation in an official capacity, my caucus will take any action necessary to protect the hardworking taxpayers of Minnesota from this impermissible use of their tax dollars.

Further, some of the information in this presentation is inaccurate. The 2014-15 budget approved by the DFL-controlled legislature, which raised \$2.1 billion in new taxes, did not eliminate a \$6 billion deficit. The \$6 billion deficit was erased under the 2012-13 budget passed by a GOP legislature which raised no state taxes. Additionally, the \$2.6 billion (number from your documents) repaid to schools was also accomplished under the 2012-13 GOP budget.

<u>(651) 296-5364</u>

Please ask your Commissioner to refrain from using this inappropriate and inaccurate presentation in the future. Working together will require us to set aside our partisan differences for the good of the people of Minnesota.

Sincerely,

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Representative Kurt Daudt Minority Leader, Minnesota House of Representatives District 31A

cc: LCPFP Members