



# STATE OF MINNESOTA

## Office of Governor Tim Pawlenty

130 State Capitol ♦ 75 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard ♦ Saint Paul, MN 55155

May 14, 2009

The Honorable Margaret Kelliher  
Speaker of the House  
463 State Office Building  
75 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.  
St. Paul, MN 55155

Dear Speaker Kelliher:

Please be advised I have received, approved, signed and deposited in the Office of the Secretary of State, Chapter 78, House file 2088, the omnibus economic development bill with the exception of line item vetoes listed below:

1. Page 14, lines 14.5 – 14.33: An appropriation of \$100,000 in each year from the workforce development fund for grants for the Indigenous Earthkeepers program. This is an environmental and cultural studies program for American Indian youth with an intention to use the natural environment to develop student academic skill. Although this may be a meritorious education program, this program is not central to the workforce development fund's purpose, especially in difficult economic times.
2. Page 15 & 16, line 15.22 – 16.18: A \$100,000 appropriation from the workforce development fund to the Southeast Asian Collaborative. This program would be duplicative as the same group of individuals can be served by the Dislocated Worker program.
3. Page 19, line 19.20 – 19.21: Chapter 78, Article 1, Section 5, page 19 appropriates \$1,225,000 the first year and \$1,225,000 the second year for a grant to the Minnesota Film and TV Board. I am exercising a line item veto to delete the language "and \$1,225,000 the second year" from page 19, line 19.20 – 19.21. The Snowbate program currently receives nearly \$1 million in general fund dollars to provide incentives for movies and

May 14, 2009

commercials to be filmed in Minnesota. Although these projects can provide short-term, specialized jobs, we must be cautious that taxpayer dollars are allocated to programs that provide sustainable employment, contributing to Minnesota's long-term economic growth.

4. Page 26, line 26.14 – 26.20: A \$50,000 appropriation to the commissioner of administration to construct a workers memorial. I am sure this project is well intended; however, we have to prioritize projects on a basis of need.
5. Page 27, line 27.13 – 27.16: An appropriation of \$280,000 for a grant to Minnesota Public Radio to assist with conversion to digital broadcast signal. It is my understanding there is an appropriation in the Legacy Amendment bill that will provide resources for materials and programming. This funding should free up an adequate source of money to assist to the conversion to digital broadcasting.
6. Page 29, line 29.9 – 29.16: A \$70,000 appropriation from the general fund to the Legislative Coordinating Commission. This commission already exists and it has access to staff and resources. It does not need additional funding to study economic development issues. In addition, a variety of committees with resources and staff could study this issue.

Sincerely,



Tim Pawlenty  
Governor

cc: Senator James Metzen, President of the Senate  
Senator Lawrence J. Pogemiller, Majority Leader  
Senator David Senjem, Minority Leader  
Senator David J. Tomassoni  
Representative Marty Seifert, Minority Leader  
Representative Tom Rukavina  
Mr. Peter S. Wattson, Secretary of the Senate (Legislative)  
Mr. Al Mathiowetz, Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives  
Mr. Mark Ritchie, Secretary of State