



STATE OF MINNESOTA

Office of Governor Tim Pawlenty

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

May 15, 2010

The Honorable Senator James Metzen
President of the Senate
75 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.
322 State Capitol
Saint Paul, Minnesota 55155

Dear President Metzen:

I have vetoed and am returning Senate File 3019, Chapter 353. The bill is budget neutral on its face, but achieves this status by reducing spending in areas that may be needed for deficit reduction purposes.

In the immediate aftermath of the Supreme Court opinion in Brayton vs. Pawlenty, and at a time when negotiations with the legislature have not yet reached a breakthrough to resolve our budget and cash flow problems, it is unwise to start a new spending program. To pay for that new spending by reducing community service development grants overlooks how those grants, and indeed all human services spending, must be fully available for non-transferrable cuts in the closing days of the legislative session.

I am mindful of the underlying value of the PACE program, and am cognizant of the efforts being made in other sections of this bill to aid government-owned nursing homes. These matters are more appropriately addressed after the state budget is balanced.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "T. Pawlenty".

Tim Pawlenty
Governor

cc: Representative Margaret Anderson Kelliher, Speaker of the House
Senator Lawrence J. Pogemiller, Majority Leader

President Metzen/SF 3019

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Senator David Senjem, Minority Leader

Senator Gary Kubly

Representative Kurt Zellers, Minority Leader

Representative Lyle Koenen

Mr. Peter S. Wattson, Secretary of the Senate (Legislative)

Mr. Albin Mathiowetz, Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives

Mr. Mark Ritchie, Secretary of State