



STATE OF MINNESOTA

Office of Governor Tim Pawlenty

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

May 25, 2010

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

Dear President Metzen:

I am writing to inform you I have vetoed Senate File 2469, Chapter 387, a bill that would prohibit certain indemnification clauses in motor carrier transportation contracts. Although return of the bill to the house of origin and a veto message are not required because the Legislature has adjourned *sine die*, I wanted to share my concerns about this bill with the Legislature.

Private parties should be able to negotiate contracts free from governmental interference, especially where the parties are sophisticated and the bargaining power between them is not egregiously tilted in favor of one. To the extent possible, government regulation of contracts should be limited to the prevention of force and fraud.

Because none of the factors that speak in favor of governmental intervention are present here, the bill is vetoed.

Sincerely,

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

Tim Pawlenty
Governor

President Metzen/SF 2469

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cc: Representative Margaret Anderson Kelliher, Speaker of the House
Senator Lawrence J. Pogemiller, Majority Leader
Senator David Senjem, Minority Leader
Senator Steve Murphy
Representative Kurt Zellers, Minority Leader
Representative Terry Morrow
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