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January 27, 1984

Senate Minority Leader
James Ulland

House Minority Leader
Dave Jennings

Speaker of the House
Harry Sieben, Jr

Senate Majority Leader
Roger Moe

House Majority Leader
Willis Eken

Subject Minnesota State Compensation Council

In a follow-on meeting of the Compensation Council on January 6, 1984, we reviewed additional compensation issues that we felt should be recommended to the legislature.

The issues that we discussed and felt should be deliberated on in conjunction with the basic compensation recommendations are:

- 1 Per Diem--The current per diem payments are inequitable. The legislator who lives in the Twin Cities area should not receive the same basic compensation as the legislators who live out state. We recommend the following procedure:
 - Voucher reimbursement for lodging and meals on a daily basis.
 - Cap the reimbursements based on the location of permanent residence (Twin Cities vs out state).
- 2 Compensation System--To eventually achieve equity in salaries and benefits for legislators, we recommend putting in place a permanent Compensation Council. This council, free of political influences, would provide salary/benefit guidelines for the legislature each year.

- 3 Consolidation of Constitutional Offices--After discussion, and noting that a specific task force has been appointed by the Governor to study this issue, the Chairman asked Karol Emmerich to read the motion as follows:

The State Compensation Council encourages the legislature to evaluate the scope and job description of each of the constitutional offices, and carefully study whether or not certain of these offices should be consolidated or their functions be returned to nonelected state government.

- 4 There was discussion about the reduction in the number of legislators. This was tabled for possible further deliberation.

I believe the members of the Compensation Council discharged their responsibilities, as directed by the Governor, in an outstanding manner.

If you have any questions regarding the above recommendations, I will be happy to discuss them with you.

Sincerely



C A Haggerty

cc Governor R Perpich