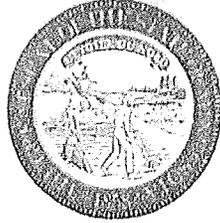


Alice Hausman  
State Representative



# Minnesota House of Representatives

February 14, 2011

Dear Ramsey County Commissioners,

We have read with growing concern about the conversations that Ramsey County Commissioners are engaged in with the Minnesota Vikings. When we have expressed these concerns, we have been assured that Ramsey County will not use property taxes for this purpose.

We would be equally concerned if sales taxes were used for this purpose. If we were to be willing to impose more sales taxes on our constituents, we would have many other priorities for such a tax. In a year when we will be making drastic cuts in virtually every area, it seems foolhardy to be sending signals that we are willing partners with the Vikings.

Further, we fear that giving the impression that we are willing partners will allow our legislative colleagues to do to us what they did to Hennepin County regarding funding a Twins stadium. The county has been assuring us they would never agree to taxes, but, as we learned from the Twins' experience, we won't be asked. It will simply be imposed on us by legislators from other parts of the state who can then say they have saved the Vikings and it won't cost their taxpayers a dime.

Please think carefully before more staff time is spent on this issue. There is one other point to be made. Are we being used just as Anoka County was? Are we simply going to be the negotiating tool for the Vikings as they attempt to stay right where they are?

We hope our comments might help to inform Commissioners before a vote is taken. We do believe we represent the majority of our constituents on this issue.

Respectfully,

*Alice Hausman* *John Matz* *Ellen Anderson*  
*Emily* *Mindy Feeling* *Carol Muri*  
*Sheldon Schneider* *Tom Sabe* *Nora Sand*  
*Michael Casper*



