## STATE OF MINNESOTA



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR 130 STATE CAPITOL SAINT PAUL 55155

March 15, 1996

The Honorable Irv Anderson Speaker of the House of Representatives 463 State Office Building Saint Paul, Minnesota 55155

Dear Speaker Anderson:

I have vetoed and am returning HF 1303 (SF 1299) Chapter 325.

Chapter 325 would require state agencies to identify the non-English speaking communities it serves most frequently, prepare a communications plan, and appoint a liaison to work with these communities.

Unfortunately, the legislature has once again resorted to forcing a mandate on state agencies while specifically exempting themselves. As I stated in my state of the state speech, the legislature must begin to live by the laws they enforce upon others.

In addition to this issue, the bill represents a solution in search of a problem. Minnesota state agencies have a proven track record accommodating non-English speaking persons in need of assistance. We are proud of our record in this area. This bill would only burden state agencies and their clientele with additional mandates and bureaucracy.

Finally, the bill contains no mechanism to fund employees, mandated reports, or any activities resulting from these reports.

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While the goal of making government more accessible to non-English speaking people is laudable, I cannot sign a bill with such serious shortcomings.

Warmest regards,

ARNE H. CARLSON

Governor

c: Senator Allan Spear, President of the Senate

Senator Roger Moe, Majority Leader

Senator Dean Johnson, Minority Leader

Representative Steve Sviggum, Minority Leader

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