

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, 2007

The Honorable Margaret Anderson Kelliher Speaker, Minnesota House of Representatives 463 State Office Building St. Paul, MN 55155

Statement of Item Veto – Chapter 148, H.F. 548

Dear Madam Speaker:

It is my honor to inform you that I have received, approved, signed, and deposited in the Office of the Secretary of State, Chapter 148, House File 548, with the exception of the item veto listed below.

I have exercised an item veto of the following item of appropriation:

<u>Page 19, line 19.32 - Page 20, line 20.6:</u> An \$80,000 appropriation in Chapter 148, Article 1, Section 29 for the acquisition of an Indian burial site in Becker County.

I support the protection of burial grounds and was pleased to recently sign Chapter, 115, Senate File 2226 that will clarify and strengthen Minnesota's laws regarding burial sites, but does not require the state to purchase property. This appropriation, however, would establish a precedent under this new law for the state to purchase and maintain property. Initiating such a practice would have long term financial implications to the state.

Sincerely **Tim Pawlenty** Governor

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Cc: Senator Don Betzold

Representative Phyllis Kahn Senator James Metzen, President of the Senate Senator Lawrence J. Pogemiller, Majority Leader Senator David Senjem, Minority Leader Representative Marty Seifert, Minority Leader Mr. Patrick E. Flahaven, Secretary of the Senate Mr. Al Mathiowetz, Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives Mr. Mark Ritchie, Secretary of State