



STATE OF MINNESOTA

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
130 STATE CAPITOL
SAINT PAUL 55155

ARNE H. CARLSON
GOVERNOR

May 20, 1993

The Honorable Dee Long
Speaker of the House
463 State Office Building
St. Paul, Minnesota 55155

Dear Speaker Long:

It is my honor to inform you that I have received, approved, signed and deposited in the Office of the Secretary of State Chapter 318, House File 201 (with the exception of Article 2, Section 37, subdivision 3(b) on Page 22, Lines 7 and 8).

I have line-item vetoed the open appropriation for the third-tier match program. House File 201 distorts Common Cause's match proposal by eliminating the requirement that private matching funds be raised from within a candidate's district. Also, in reality this program would result in a 2:1 public/private match, since the political contribution refund also applies to the private matching funds.

The match program would require that an additional \$1.6 to \$3.5 million of public funds be paid to politicians. While additional public subsidy may be justified to discourage independent expenditures by special interests, the third-tier match is an unnecessary hand-out. The public would be outraged at this abuse of public funds.

Despite its shortcomings, this bill represents the beginning of campaign reform. The dissolution of "Friends of" committees, elimination of transfers, reduction in contribution limits, and elimination of public subsidies for unopposed candidates are encouraging first steps. The mechanism for dealing with independent expenditures and the aggregate limit on PAC contributions are incomplete solutions, and many critical elements, including term limits and ethics reform, have been totally ignored. Accordingly, I will proceed with the bi-partisan electoral reform commission that I previously announced, and I look forward to your support in these efforts to achieve complete campaign and ethics reform.

Warmest regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Arne H. Carlson".

ARNE H. CARLSON
Governor

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

PRINTED ON RECYCLED PAPER

75

The Honorable Dee Long
Line-Item Veto Message Chapter 318
May 20, 1993
Page Two of Two

cc: Senator Allan Spear, President of the Senate
Senator Roger Moe, Majority Leader
Senator Dean Johnson, Minority Leader
Representative Steve Sviggum, Minority Leader
Representative Wally Sparby, Chief Author
Senator John Marty, Chief Author
Mr. Patrick Flahaven, Secretary of the Senate
Mr. Edward A. Burdick, Chief Clerk of the House
Ms. Joan Anderson Growe, Secretary of State