



STATE OF MINNESOTA

Office of Governor Tim Pawlenty

130 State Capitol ♦ 75 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard ♦ Saint Paul, MN 55155

May 4, 2007

The Honorable Representative Margaret Kelliher
Speaker of the House
Minnesota House of Representatives
463 State Office Building
Saint Paul, Minnesota 55155

Statement of Item Vetoes: Chapter 45, House File 2227

Dear Representative Kelliher:

It is my honor to inform you that I have received, approved, signed, and deposited in the Office of the Secretary of State, Chapter 45, House File 2227, with the exception of line-item vetoes listed below.

I have exercised a line item veto of the following appropriations:

1. Page 6, lines 6.9 – 6.14: A \$1,000,000 appropriation in Chapter 45, Article 1, Section 3 for a loan program for equipment used in production of perennial crops. While this new loan program for equipment may have merit in the future, we are only in the early stages of planning for our next generation of bio-fuels. It is difficult to predict future equipment and capital needs of producers of such crops at this point. Many questions remain that should be answered before the state commits to this type of loan program, such as what type of biomass crops or plants will be used and how equipment needs will differ from what is used on already established crops.

Moreover, this is an issue the NextGen Board, established in this bill, should address. The board should make recommendations to the 2008 legislature on the validity of this type of program or other type of bio-energy equipment loan programs.

Speaker Margaret Kelliher

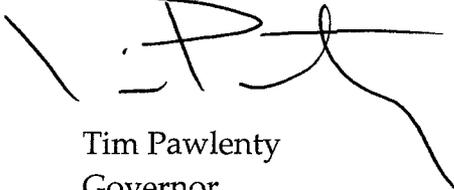
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2. Page 9, lines 9.8 – 9.26: A \$350,000 appropriation in Chapter 45, Article 1, Section 3 to the Minnesota Institute for Sustainable Agriculture (MISA) for research on prairie plants and perennials. This appropriation is duplicative of funding included in the Higher Education Omnibus discussions, and similar to funding available in the Environment and Energy Omnibus finance bill. The appropriation also repeats activities supervised by the proposed NextGen Board. Finally, similar activities are already taking place within IREE at the University of Minnesota and many of the other appropriations included in this bill will accomplish the exact research this appropriation is written for.

I would encourage MISA to coordinate their research and funding needs with the overall budget requests of the University and to also consult with the University's Institute of Renewable Energy and the Environment to coordinate research efforts.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tim Pawlenty', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Tim Pawlenty
Governor

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