



STATE OF MINNESOTA

Office of Governor Tim Pawlenty

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

May 20, 2009

The Honorable Senator James Metzen
President of the Senate
75 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.
322 State Capitol
Saint Paul, Minnesota 55155

Dear President Metzen:

I have vetoed and am returning Senate File 763, Chapter 116, a bill related to elections, requiring special notice of restoration of voting rights for people being released from incarceration.

This bill adds additional mandates to the court system as well as state and local governments at a time when Minnesota is striving to reduce, or at the very least, not add mandates. Many of the goals behind proposed mandates can be done without statutory requirements. For example, the Minnesota Department of Corrections already has a process in place that informs offenders about their voting rights prior to being released from prison. Moreover, citizens should bear some responsibility for being informed about their own situations and rights.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "T. Pawlenty", written over a horizontal line.

Tim Pawlenty
Governor

cc: Representative Margaret Anderson Kelliher, Speaker of the House
Senator Lawrence J. Pogemiller, Majority Leader
Senator David Senjem, Minority Leader
Senator Mee Moua
Representative Marty Seifert, Minority Leader
Representative Bobby Joe Champion
Mr. Peter S. Wattson, Secretary of the Senate (Legislative)
Mr. Albin Mathiowetz, Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives
Mr. Mark Ritchie, Secretary of State