



STATE OF MINNESOTA

Office of Governor Tim Pawlenty

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

May 7, 2009

The Honorable James Metzen
President of the Senate
322 State Capitol Building
Saint Paul, Minnesota 55155

Dear President Metzen:

I have vetoed and am returning Chapter 39, Senate File 2081, the Jobs and Economic Development Finance Omnibus Bill.

While the majority of the bill is acceptable to me and serves the purpose of advancing such key goals as economic development and job training, a few provisions are so misguided they necessitate a veto. Since these items are not subject to line-item veto, inclusion in the bill triggered a veto of the entire bill.

As indicated previously, the provision in the bill that forgives a loan payment by the city of Saint Paul to the state of Minnesota for the Saint Paul RiverCentre is problematic. The city of Saint Paul should not threaten to reduce police and fire services while requesting that a loan be forgiven in order to build an ice rink. In light of the Legislature's apparent strong desire to forgive this debt, I suggested a compromise that would direct some or all of the loan forgiveness funds to the higher priority purpose of police and fire services. That suggestion was ignored.

The bill also includes a repealer on line 147.23 allowing non-registered practitioners of alternative medicine to be compensated for services provided to injured workers through the workers' compensation system. Minnesota has a tradition and practice of vetting proposed changes to our workers' compensation laws through the Workers' Compensation Advisory Council. The Council did not approve this change.

Sen. Metzen/SF2081

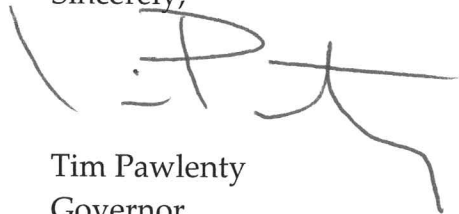
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I also refer you to my letter to Senator Tomassoni and Representative Rukavina dated April 30, 2009. It outlines my concerns regarding legislative initiatives considered by the conference committee.

I commend the Legislature for its work to fund many other important programs in this bill, and believe we can come to an acceptable compromise. My Administration stands ready to work with you to achieve that goal.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tim Pawlenty', written over a horizontal line.

Tim Pawlenty
Governor

cc: Senator Lawrence J. Pogemiller, Majority Leader
Senator David Senjem, Minority Leader
Senator David Tomassoni
Representative Margaret Anderson Kelliher, Speaker of the House
Representative Marty Seifert, Minority Leader
Representative Tom Rukavina
Mr. Peter S. Wattson, Secretary of the Senate (Legislative)
Mr. Al Mathiowetz, Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives
Mr. Mark Ritchie, Secretary of State
Commissioner Tom Hanson, Department of Management and Budget
Commissioner Dan McElroy, Department of Employment and Economic
Development
Commissioner Steve Sviggum, Department of Labor and Industry
Commissioner Sandy Layman, Iron Range Resources
Commissioner Dan Bartholomay, Minnesota Housing Finance