

STATE OF MINNESOTA

Office of Governor Tim Pawlenty

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

May 27, 2010

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

Dear Speaker Kelliher:

I have vetoed and am returning Chapter 398, House File 2227. Although return of the bill to the house of origin and a veto message are not required because the Legislature has adjourned *sine die*, I wanted to share my concerns about this bill with the Legislature.

While this bill contains four distinct articles, it is Article 3 that has caused this bill to be vetoed and is the focus of this message. Article 1 was enacted into law as part of separate legislation.

Although I strongly support efforts to make government at all levels more efficient and accountable, the proposed Minnovation Council's composition and duties are troubling and raise constitutional and practical concerns.

One of the primary duties of the council is to grant governmental applicants waivers from administrative Rules and exemptions from state Laws. Because the voting membership of the Council is appointed by non-governmental organizations that are unelected and wholly unaccountable to the citizens of Minnesota, this scheme improperly outsources powers delegated to the executive and legislative branches to unelected interest groups. Moreover, the voting membership of the Council lacks rigorous legislative and executive oversight, as voting members serve solely at the pleasure of the non-governmental authority that appointed them.

Also, the make-up of the Council is ill-suited to fulfill the duties assigned to it. History tells us that the private, for-profit sector, driven by competition and profit motive, is always at the core of innovation, yet the Council offers only one of its 16 membership

Speaker Kelliher/HF 2227

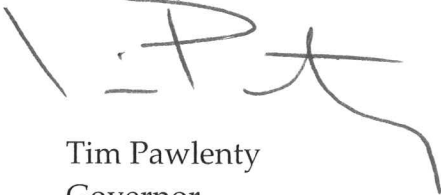
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chairs to this sector. It is also puzzling that none of the membership chairs are reserved for representatives of local government, the very organizations that are purported to benefit most from the Council's activities.

My commitment to shared services initiatives is evident, as The Collaborative Governance Council (Chapter 319) and the Commission on Service Innovation (Chapter 392) were both signed into law this session. This bill, however, is severely flawed and is therefore vetoed.

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
Representative Kurt Zellers, Minority Leader
Representative Paul Marquardt
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