



June 6, 2011

Via Hand Delivery

The Honorable Mark Dayton  
Governor  
130 State Capitol  
St. Paul, MN 55155

Dear Governor Dayton,

In an effort to break the stalemate between your administration and the Minnesota Legislature on the state budget, we are prepared to meet your funding targets as outlined in your biennial budget and the veto messages to House File 934 and Senate File 958. Education and public safety/judiciary together represent almost fifty percent of state general fund spending.

Specifically, this offer would result in increased funding of \$80 million over the education finance conference report and contingent upon the inclusion of our important education reforms. In addition, this compromise would allow the state of Minnesota to compete for federal funds. This offer also includes an increase of \$30 million over the public safety and judiciary conference report in order to address the concerns you have outlined in your veto message.

By meeting your administration halfway on the budget, we are well-positioned to reach a final agreement in advance of the June 30<sup>th</sup> deadline. As part of this agreement, a Special Session may be called by the end of the week in order to enact into law almost fifty percent of the state general fund spending in addition to nation-leading reforms in education.

Republicans in the Minnesota Legislature believe education, the court system and public safety are uniquely non-partisan functions of state government. This offer reflects the legislature's longstanding objective of funding our priorities within our means, while recognizing the administration's concerns over funding in these two critical areas.

We will continue to negotiate all other budget bills as outlined in our schedule from this past Friday. Your participation in the meetings will be critical in ensuring we enact a biennial budget in a timely manner.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

  
Senator Amy Koch  
Majority Leader

  
Representative Kurt Zellers  
Speaker of the House