



STATE OF MINNESOTA

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
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SAINT PAUL 55155

ARNE H. CARLSON
GOVERNOR

May 14, 1993

The Honorable Allan H. Spear
President of the Senate
G-27 Capitol
Saint Paul, Minnesota 55155

Dear President Spear:

I have vetoed and am returning Chapter 198, Senate File 361/House File 888 a bill which would extend the existence of the advisory council on fire protection systems and require gender balance on the council.

In 1992 the legislature created the council on fire protection systems. Now the legislature has seen fit to require gender balance on this council. I am saddened that the issue of gender balance keeps appearing in various sections of various bills. My position is clear: appointments must be based on merit, not quotas. I will continue to make competence the sole basis for council appointments.

Unfortunately, the legislature has held the fire protection council hostage in its zeal for gender balance. I will work with the Department of Public Safety and the State Fire Marshal to continue the valuable work of the present council. It is even more unfortunate that the legislature continues to exempt itself from this position while attempting to impose it on others.

Warmest regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Arne H. Carlson".

ARNE H. CARLSON
Governor

cc: Senator Roger Moe, Majority Leader
Senator Dean Johnson, Minority Leader
Representative Dee Long, Speaker of the House
Representative Steve Sviggum, Minority Leader
Chief Senate Author(s)
Chief House Author(s)
Mr. Patrick Flahaven, Secretary of the Senate
Mr. Edward A. Burdick, Chief Clerk of the House
Ms. Joan Anderson Growe, Secretary of State

