

April 7, 1998

The Honorable Allan H. Spear
President of the Senate

Dear President Spear:

I have vetoed and am returning Chapter 374, Senate File Number 3367, the Economic Development Supplemental Finance Bill.

Chapter 374 appropriates more than \$38,000,000 to sixteen entities and a myriad of interests. The spending levels outlined within this bill are clearly excessive, in fact, this bill exceeds my spending targets by 48 percent. My concern for the high level of spending was outlined to all conferees at the commencement of the conference committee. Apparently my concern was not highly considered. Moreover, this bill contains a large amount of rider language which is unnecessary and often unrelated to the economic development interests of Minnesota.

As I stated in my prior veto message, even-year legislative sessions were not created to enact large appropriation bills such as this. Outside of bonding and emergency financing, the Legislature should significantly limit all spending proposals during these sessions.

I do believe this bill addresses some worthwhile projects which the Legislature may wish to reconsider. These appropriations include \$155,000 to retire the remaining Minnesota World Trade Center debt, \$1,000,000 to the Department of Economic Security for its vocational rehabilitation program, \$393,000 to the Public Utilities Commission for costs associated with the regulation of utilities, and \$15,000,000 to fund various housing programs.

Warmest regards,
Arne H. Carlson, Governor

Mr. Moe, R.D. moved that S.F. No. 3367 and the veto message thereon be laid on the table. The motion prevailed.

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

Mr. President:

I have the honor to announce the passage by the House of the following Senate File, AS AMENDED by the House, in which amendments the concurrence of the Senate is respectfully requested:

S.F. No. 161: A bill for an act relating to state government; proposing an amendment to the Minnesota Constitution, article V, sections 1, 3, and 4; article VIII, section 2; article XI, sections 7 and 8; abolishing the office of state treasurer; transferring or repealing the powers, responsibilities, and duties of the state treasurer; amending Minnesota Statutes 1996, sections 9.011, subdivision 1; and 11A.03.

Senate File No. 161 is herewith returned to the Senate.

Edward A. Burdick, Chief Clerk, House of Representatives

Returned April 7, 1998

Ms. Wiener moved that the Senate do not concur in the amendments by the House to S.F. No. 161, and that a Conference Committee of 3 members be appointed by the Subcommittee on Committees on the part of the Senate, to act with a like Conference Committee to be appointed on the part of the House. The motion prevailed.

Mr. President:

I have the honor to announce that the House has acceded to the request of the Senate for the appointment of a Conference Committee, consisting of 5 members of the House, on the amendments adopted by the House to the following Senate File: