STATE OF MINNESOTA

Office of Governor Tim Pawlenty

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

June 30, 2005

The Honorable James Metzen
President of the Senate
322 State Capitol
St. Paul, MN 55155

  Re: Special Session Chapter 1 – Statement of Item Veto

Dear President Metzen:

I am pleased to announce that I have approved and signed into law Senate File 69 relating to agriculture, the environment, natural resources and economic development. With this action, Minnesota's state park system and historic sites will remain open, our environment and natural resources will be improved and economic interests advanced.

However, in accordance with Article VI, Section 23 of the Minnesota Constitution, this letter shall serve as a statement of the items of appropriation that I have vetoed. I have also marked the vetoed provisions on the bill.

For appropriations made from the Environment and Natural Resource Trust Fund, several primary factors have guided my decisions. Ideally, projects should be faithful to Article XI, Section 14 of the Minnesota Constitution which states, *"The assets of the fund shall be appropriated by law for the public purpose of protection, conservation, preservation, and enhancement of the state's air, water, land, fish, wildlife, and other natural resources."* Likewise, projects should be consistent with a long-term strategic plan and developed with maximum input from citizen experts in the outdoors.

Based on these factors, the following appropriations contained in Article 2 of Senate File 69 are vetoed:

- Page 87, lines 41-53;
- Page 97, lines 17-32;
- Page 98, lines 16-23;
- Page 103, lines 45-59;
- Page 103, lines 60-63 and page 104, lines 1-11;

- Page 105, lines 42-50;
- Page 106, lines 46-55;
- Page 108, lines 49-61 and page 109, line 1;
- Page 109, lines 50-59 and page 110 lines 1-4;
- Page 110, lines 5-13;
- Page 110, lines 17-30;
- Page 110, lines 49-56.

Further, I am grateful that the Legislature has chosen to join me in a serious effort to reform the Minnesota's governance model for our great outdoors. Because of this commitment, I believe the second year administrative costs for the Legislative Commission on Minnesota Resources is premature. Therefore, I have vetoed the following:
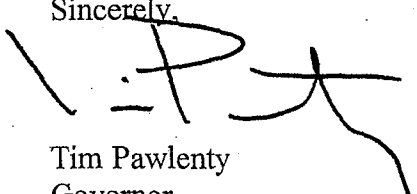
- The $450,000 for the second year, by deleting "and $450,000 the second year" on page 93, lines 40-41.

As to the economic development appropriations in Article 3 of Senate File 69, at a time of tight budgetary constraints, it is essential that the state exercise fiscal prudence. The vetoed appropriations identified below either do not support our highest priority core economic development and job training programs or duplicate the efforts of existing economic development programs, or are programs that receive substantial funding from other sources. For example, the appropriations for the Minnesota Opportunities Industrialization Centers in Minneapolis and Bemidji duplicate training already provided by other programs funded by DEED. These strategic vetoes will enable the Department of Employment and Economic Development to better allocate its resources to fulfill its core mission.

Based on these factors, the following appropriations contained in Article 2 of Senate File 69 are vetoed:

- Page 221, lines 30-36;
- Page 222, lines 49-61 and page 223, lines 1-5;
- The two appropriations of $1,069,000 from the general fund set forth on page 223, lines 36-38;
- Page 223, lines 46-50;
- Page 224, lines 12-16;
- Page 224, lines 17-25;
- Page 225, lines 42-46.

Sincerely,

Tim Pawlenty
Governor

cc: Representative Steve Sviggum, Speaker of the House of Representatives

Representative Matt Entenza, Minority Leader
Senator Dean Johnson, Majority Leader
Senator Dick Day, Minority Leader
Senator Tom Bakk
Representative Dennis Ozment
Mr. Patrick E. Flahaven, Secretary of the Senate
Mr. Al Mathiowetz, Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives
Ms. Mary Kiffmeyer, Secretary of State