May 5, 1994

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

Dear President Spear:

It is my honor to inform you that I have received, approved, signed and deposited in the office of the Secretary of State Chapter 532, SF2900, the higher education bill with the exception of item vetoes on Page 3, line 10 (1995 appropriation of 1,400,000); Page 3, lines 13-18; Page 3, lines 29-31; Page 3, lines 32-39; Page 3, lines 40-45; Page 3, lines 46-51; Page 4, lines 9-16; Page 4, line 19; Page 5, lines 1-12.

The items deleted, along with numerous others distributed throughout the major bills of the session, can and should be transacted in a regular budget year, when all the priorities of the state are debated and decided. I am particularly sensitive to initiatives for institutional renewal at the University of Minnesota, but I must make it clear that this is not a year for expanding budgets; it is the year for choosing whether we can preserve the fiscal stability of the state.

These initiatives might have fared well in a session in which there was enough discipline to confine spending to the state's actual capacity. They are postponed or lost because that discipline was not there, and it was left to me to remove items that are not emergencies.

Signing the bill does preserve the language authorizing the next steps in the higher education merger process, which I have consistently supported.

Warmest regards,

ARNE H. CARLSON
Governor