April 2, 1996

The Honorable Allan Spear
President of the Senate
120 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, Senate File Number 2167, Chapter 407 (with the exceptions of page 4, section 4, lines 61 through 62 and page 5, section 4, lines 1 through 4; page 5, section 4, lines 60 through 66 and page 6, section 4, lines 1 through 12; page 6, section 5, lines 36 through 64; page 10, section 9, lines 56 through 61 and page 11, section 9, lines 1 through 13).

I have line-item vetoed several provisions of this bill based on the duplicative nature of the program or the lack of adequate funding to complete the stated charge of the appropriation.

The appropriation for the environmental justice study is insufficient to fund a full examination of all of the issues called for in the study. To undertake extensive examination of all of these issues would be costly and cannot be supported by the current appropriation for the Environmental Quality Board. Furthermore the Environmental Quality Board, through its current authority, has mechanisms in place to address issues of environmental justice.

The Minnesota Institute for Sustainable Agriculture appropriation is a premature funding proposal. There have been many concerns raised by the agricultural community as to the necessity of this program based on the project's extremely broad charge. It is also duplicative of current university and state programs.

The appropriation for the Wabasha County extension service for a pilot program to assist retiring farmers is also duplicative of the already established Passing on the Farm program which receives funding in this bill. Before expanding this program into other areas, the success of the Passing on the Farm program should first be evaluated.
I have continued to place a priority on keeping Minnesota as one of the top dairy states in the nation. However, the appropriation for the Minnesota Dairy Producers Board is unnecessary. The Department of Agriculture has been involved in the activities that would become the responsibility of the proposed dairy producers board. Furthermore, substantial opposition has been raised from within the dairy industry with regard to this proposal. Consequently, there is no need for a state sanction or appropriation for this activity.

Warmest regards,

ARNE H. CARLSON
Governor

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