

Warmest regards,
Arne H. Carlson, Governor

April 21, 1998

The Honorable Allan H. Spear
President of the Senate

Dear President Spear:

I have vetoed and am returning Chapter 394, Senate File Number 1181, a bill relating to a study of the production of industrial hemp.

The law enforcement community in the State of Minnesota, including the Department of Public Safety and Bureau of Criminal Apprehension, has significant concerns about the production of industrial hemp. These concerns stem in part from a Dutch study, which found that it is not possible to visually separate hemp plants from marijuana plants, thereby significantly complicating law enforcement efforts. Similar concerns have been raised at the national level. The Office of National Drug Control Policy has concluded that industrial hemp production poses a possible threat to the National Drug Control Strategy. These concerns were recently outlined in correspondence from Barry McCaffrey, Director of the Office of National Drug Control Policy.

In addition to the policy questions raised, there are fiscal considerations with the study requested in this bill. The University of Minnesota, in cooperation with the Department of Agriculture and Bureau of Criminal Apprehension, is being requested to complete an extensive study of the production of industrial hemp in Minnesota without the resources necessary to complete the report. Though the language of the bill is permissive, it will result in an unfunded mandate should the participants undertake the study.

Warmest regards,
Arne H. Carlson, Governor

April 22, 1998

The Honorable Phil Carruthers
Speaker of the House of Representatives

The Honorable Allan H. Spear
President of the Senate

I have the honor to inform you that the following enrolled Acts of the 1998 Session of the State Legislature have been received from the Office of the Governor and are deposited in the Office of the Secretary of State for preservation, pursuant to the State Constitution, Article IV, Section 23:

S.F. No.	H.F. No.	Session Laws Chapter No.	Time and Date Approved 1998	Date Filed 1998
535		381	11:25 a.m. April 20	April 21
2276		382	11:25 a.m. April 20	April 21
2645		385	11:23 a.m. April 20	April 21
726		386	11:22 a.m. April 20	April 21
2407		388	9:20 a.m. April 21	April 21
	3840	389	9:28 a.m. April 21	April 21
	2970	390	11:25 a.m. April 20	April 21
2351		391	11:20 a.m. April 20	April 21
41		392	11:17 a.m. April 20	April 21
2346		393	11:15 a.m. April 20	April 21
	3853	395	9:30 a.m. April 21	April 21
2498		396	11:17 a.m. April 20	April 21
2082		397	10:10 a.m. April 21	April 21