May 25, 1999

The Honorable Steve Sviggum
Speaker of the House of Representatives
463 State Office Building
Saint Paul, Minnesota 55155

Dear Speaker Sviggum:

It is my honor to inform you that I have received, approved, signed and deposited in the Office of the Secretary of State, Chapter Number 214, House File Number 2380, a bill appropriating money for higher education, with the following exceptions:

Page 7, article 1, section 3, subdivision 3, lines 33-50 ($100,000 appropriation from the health care access fund to MnSCU for tuition waivers for employees of health care or human services employers participating in a new program enacted in the Health and Human Services omnibus bill). I am vetoing this appropriation for three reasons.

First, I do not support creating a new spending program from the health care access fund.

Second, the waivers are not broadly available to all workers employed in entry-level direct care human services or health care jobs, only to those who attend a MnSCU institution and whose employer participates in the new state program.

Finally, I believe that our higher education systems need to become more responsive to changing job market conditions. Instead of legislatively creating special programs every second year, I want our postsecondary schools to develop an ongoing structure and strategy that uses their flexibility to identify emerging education and training needs, and then market those classes to potential students.
Page 9, article 1, section 4, subdivision 4, lines 44-52 (a one-time appropriation in the amount of $250,000 from the lottery prize fund to the University of Minnesota for research, clinical work, treatment, or teaching related to compulsive gambling addiction). I simply do not support spending public dollars for such an open-ended proposal when there are numerous existing studies and other ways to fund such research.

Sincerely,

Jesse Ventura
Governor

c: Senator Allan Spear, President of the Senate
Senator Roger Moe, Majority Leader
Senator Dick Day, Minority Leader
Representative Tom Pugh, 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. Mary Kiffmeyer, Secretary of State