May 25, 2001

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

Dear Speaker Sviggum:

I have vetoed and am returning Chapter 189, House File Number 1051, a bill relating to medical malpractice claims.

The original premise of the bill was to clarify language pertaining to the certification of expert witnesses in medical malpractice cases. The bill was significantly altered on the Senate floor on May 16, 2001 with an amendment that was portrayed as non-controversial. In fact the amendment is very controversial and has significant ramifications within the medical, legal and insurance industries.

This bill as it was adopted, now has the effect of retroactively changing existing law related to the medical malpractice statute of limitations. Such a change has significant policy and financial ramifications for the medical profession and is not a change to be made without serious debate and unambiguous intent.

Sincerely,

Jesse Ventura
Governor

cc: Senator Don Samuelson, President of the Senate
Senator Roger Moe, Majority Leader

http://www.mainserver.state.mn.us/governor/may_25_hf_1051_veto.html 10/01/2001
Senator Dick Day, Minority Leader
Representative Tom Pugh, Minority Leader
Chief Senate Author
Chief House Author
Mr. Patrick E. Flahaven, Secretary of the Senate
Mr. Edward A. Burdick, Chief Clerk of the House
Ms. Mary Kiffmeyer, Secretary of State

Office of Governor Jesse Ventura
130 State Capitol * 75 Constitution Avenue * Saint Paul, MN 55155
Voice (651) 296-3391 or (800)657-3717 * Fax: (651) 296-2089 * TDD: (651) 296-0075 or (800) 657-3598
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