May 27, 2008

The Honorable James Metzen  
President of the Senate  
75 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.  
322 State Capitol Building  
Saint Paul, Minnesota 55155

Dear President Metzen:

I write to inform you that Chapter 360, Senate File 3363, a bill relating to the state budget process has been vetoed. Although return of the bill to the house of origin and a veto message is not required because the Legislature has adjourned sine die, I wanted to share my concerns about this bill with the Legislature.

This bill would do little to improve the options for decision making in relation to development of the state budget or the efficiency of state government operations. The changes in this bill would create significant additional agency administrative costs. The bill would also interfere with the decision making process necessary for the development of the Governor’s comprehensive budget proposal, and it would allow the Legislature to inappropriately direct the actions of individual state employees.

We need to continue working on the structural alignments of spending and revenues, not creating more process.

Sincerely,

Tim Pawlenty  
Governor