May 19, 2009

The Honorable Margaret Anderson Kelliher
Speaker, Minnesota House of Representatives
463 State Office Building
St. Paul, MN 55155

Dear Speaker Anderson Kelliher:

I have vetoed and am returning House File 412, Chapter 104.

The Legislature has taken action on numerous bills relating to homeowner warranties this session. Although this legislation may be well-intentioned, we should be cautious about placing more burdens on the housing sector during this historic recession.

This bill extends the current 10-year warranty requirement to 12 years. The current period of 10 years in current law seems sufficient. The legislation also applies not only to future cases, but current cases as well. Changing the rules in the middle of the game is unfair and unwise.

I encourage the authors to work towards a solution that addresses the issue of home defects without driving up the costs and burdens on contractors.

Sincerely,

Tim Pawlenty
Governor

cc: Senator James Metzen, President of the Senate
    Senator Lawrence J. Pogemiller, Majority Leader
    Senator David Senjem, Minority Leader
    Senator Sandy Rummel
    Representative Marty Seifert, Minority Leader
    Representative Julie Bunn
    Mr. Peter S. Wattson, Secretary of the Senate (Legislative)
    Mr. Al Mathiowetz, Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives
    Mr. Mark Ritchie, Secretary of State