



# STATE OF MINNESOTA

## Office of Governor Tim Pawlenty

130 State Capitol ♦ 75 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard ♦ Saint Paul, MN 55155

May 9, 2009

The Honorable Margaret Anderson Kelliher  
Speaker of the House  
463 State Office Building  
Saint Paul, Minnesota 55155

Dear Speaker Kelliher:

I have vetoed and am returning House File 885, Chapter 77 for the reasons articulated in my May 8<sup>th</sup> letter to the legislature.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "T. Pawlenty".

Tim Pawlenty  
Governor

cc: Senator James Metzen, President of the Senate  
Senator Lawrence J. Pogemiller, Majority Leader  
Senator David Senjem, Minority Leader  
Senator Tom Bakk  
Representative Marty Seifert, Minority Leader  
Representative Ann Lenczewski  
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



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May 8, 2009

Senator Larry Pogemiller  
Senate Majority Leader  
235 State Capitol  
St. Paul, MN 55155

Representative Margaret Anderson Kelliher  
Speaker of the House  
463 State Office Building  
St. Paul, Minnesota 55155

Dear Majority Leader Pogemiller and Speaker Kelliher:

The end of the legislative session is rapidly approaching. I understand the DFL majority is poised to pass a hastily processed and ill considered tax increase proposal.

If you insist on passing such legislation, I respectfully request that you send it to me today so I can veto it immediately and leave a maximum number of days for better legislation to be considered and passed.

As you are aware, Minnesota and the nation are experiencing serious economic challenges. Minnesotans are concerned about their jobs and the jobs of their friends, family and neighbors. Minnesota is already one of the most highly taxed states in the nation. Giving Minnesota the fourth highest income tax rate in the nation would disproportionately harm small business owners and hamper job creation in our state.

In addition to the massive income tax increase, the DFL proposes to raise taxes on beer, wine and alcohol. Hardworking Minnesotans might want to enjoy a drink over the Fishing Opener weekend without facing another tax hike.

Further, the surtax on excess interest rate income is an uncertain intrusion into a troubled credit market that may lead Minnesota businesses to move operations elsewhere.

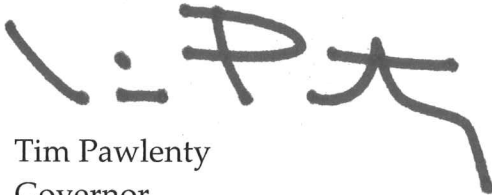
Pogemiller/Kelliher

Page 2

May 8, 2009

After this bill has been dispatched, I look forward to working with you on an appropriate budget solution so that the session can be completed in an orderly fashion.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'T. Pawlenty', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Tim Pawlenty

Governor

cc: Members of the Minnesota State Senate  
Members of the Minnesota State House of Representatives