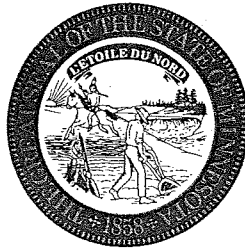


Minnesota House of Representatives



Minnesota State Senate

August 24, 2010

Governor Tim Pawlenty
130 State Capitol
St. Paul, MN 55155

Dear Governor Pawlenty,

We are writing to strongly encourage you to request from the Federal government the FMAP funds extension that was approved in the recently passed Education, Jobs and Medicaid Assistance Act (P.L. 111-226). As you are aware, a condition of receiving these additional Federal funds requires the Chief Executive Officer of the State to submit a request by September 24, 2010.

Now that Congress has passed the FMAP under Section 5001 of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) through June 30, 2011, Minnesota should work to ensure that the state receives our fair share of the allocation. Failure to accept the funds would result in residents paying federal taxes to pay for Medicaid programs in other states. In fact, you have previously raised the concern that Minnesota is a donor state, and receives only 72 cents for each \$1 sent to Washington. Also, these funds do not increase the size of the federal deficit and are entirely paid for within the enacted legislation. We should make every effort to ensure that Minnesota residents receive our fair share of federal funding.

In addition, you have previously authorized receipt of federal recovery and reinvestment dollars, stating the funds were needed in order to "promote economic growth in a way that serves the best interest of the people of Minnesota." Increased enrollments in Medicaid and other human service programs continue to strain Minnesota's budget at a time when revenues continue to remain flat. What better way to promote economic growth than to ensure jobs are protected and created by mitigating some of the adverse impacts of current budget cuts?

You cannot let political ambition get in the way of doing what is right for Minnesota. We strongly encourage you to seek these federal funds. Failure to do so would be an irresponsible act...hurting Minnesota taxpayers while doing nothing to help the tough economic situation faced by patients and our health care system.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Margaret Anderson Kelliher in cursive.

Margaret Anderson Kelliher
Speaker of the House

Handwritten signature of Tony Sertich in cursive.

Tony Sertich
House Majority Leader

Handwritten signature of Larry Pogemiller in cursive.

Larry Pogemiller
Senate Majority Leader