



STATE OF MINNESOTA

Office of Governor Tim Pawlenty

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

To: State Agency Commissioners and Board Executive Directors
From: Governor Tim Pawlenty
Date: February 19, 2008
Subject: Immediate state government hiring restrictions

As our Administration addresses the forecast budget deficit we need to tighten our own belts and set an example of good fiscal stewardship.

As a result, effective immediately, I am directing all state agency commissioners and board executive directors to implement hiring restrictions. Positions that become vacant from now until this directive is rescinded should be left unfilled in every possible case. Work duties should be distributed in a way that enhances productivity, maintains a high level of quality, and focuses resources on mission critical activities.

We recognize that certain critical positions, such as prison guards, tax enforcement officials, emergency management staff, and others will need to be replaced in order to maintain public safety and support critical government functions. However, every hiring decision must be overseen by senior executive staff within your department and the reasons for filling the position must be submitted in writing to the Commissioner of Employee Relations. Commissioner Patricia Anderson will be in touch shortly to communicate the reporting process.

I appreciated the opportunity to discuss this hiring restriction with many of you at our recent Cabinet Meeting. Considering the current economic slowdown, it is important that state government take steps to reign in costs, utilize technology, and improve productivity just as private businesses, non-profits, and families are doing.

Sincerely,

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

Tim Pawlenty
Governor