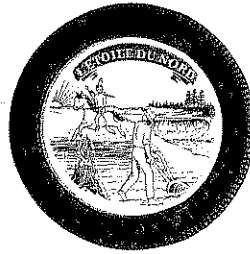


Tom Emmer
State Representative

District 19B
Wright and Hennepin Counties



Minnesota House of Representatives

COMMITTEES: STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS REFORM, TECHNOLOGY AND ELECTIONS
FINANCE
HEALTH CARE AND HUMAN SERVICES FINANCE DIVISION
HEALTH CARE AND HUMAN SERVICES POLICY AND OVERSIGHT
LICENSING DIVISION

March 11, 2010

The Honorable Tim Pawlenty
Office of the Governor
130 State Capitol
75 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd.
St. Paul, MN 55155

Governor Pawlenty:

We understand your office is currently engaged in a discussion as to how to proceed in regard to a bonding proposal from the Democrats and how the proposed bonding might relate to the overall tenor of our legislative negotiations and potentially any accomplishments we might achieve this session.

During his visit to our caucus yesterday, your representative suggested you question whether the Democrats' interest in a bonding bill provides us with any leverage for purposes of achieving a balanced budget with necessary structural changes to government that will have a lasting impact on future budgets in this state as opposed to short term fixes that will allow deficits to continue into the future.

While it is true that a couple of our caucus members have no confidence in the Democrats' ability to reach an agreement that is truly in the interest of our state's future financial and economic health, we do not share that point of view. Our caucus has done yeoman's work on the bill and we are prepared to work with you and our colleagues to immediately assemble a balanced budget with the appropriate and necessary structural changes to government so that we can complete our work in a timely fashion.

As members of the legislature, we implore you to require a balanced budget with structural reforms to our government that will fundamentally improve the utilization of our resources without destroying our quality of life. Further, we ask that you require changes in our laws (i.e. your proposals during the State of the State address and others) that will impact our business environment to attract investment and new opportunity to our great state. Specifically, we request you veto the bill with instructions to the Democrats in authority that we will not have any bonding bill until we have a balanced budget.

Thank you for your consideration.

Two handwritten signatures in black ink. The signature on the left is "Tom Emmer" and the signature on the right is "L. B.".

