



STATE OF MINNESOTA

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ARNE H. CARLSON
GOVERNOR

DRAFT

I have vetoed and I am returning Chapter 606, House File 3210, the omnibus health and human services bill.

As Governor, I am constitutionally required to submit a balanced budget to the state of Minnesota. Unfortunately, the legislature is not bound by this same requirement. As it currently stands, the legislature's overall budget will create a deficit of approximately \$480 million by the end of the next legislative biennium. I believe it is my responsibility to make the tough choices to ensure that the citizens of Minnesota are not faced with a nearly half a billion dollar tax increase to finance the spending habits of the legislature.

Our administration is reviewing all spending bills according to the following criteria: 1) Is this an emergency need? 2) Should this issue have been dealt with during the 1993 legislative budget session? 3) Can the issue wait until the 1995 legislative session? If the items in question cannot adequately answer these criteria, I cannot in good conscience sign them into law with the knowledge that this spending will force a tax increase next year.

This bill does contain a number of good proposals, some of which were proposed by myself and others which were cooperatively put in place with the legislature. Unfortunately, the bill also contains an unacceptable level of overspending. This overspending would affect this biennium and contribute over \$64 million to the deficit that could be facing the state by the end of the next legislative session. Therefore, in order to maintain the state's fiscal integrity and to save the citizens of Minnesota from a \$64 million tax increase, I must veto the bill.

I have directed the appropriate commissioners to use whatever administrative authorities are available to them to address the issues and good public policies identified in this bill.

Warmest regards,

ARNE H. CARLSON
Governor