

July 2, 2001

The Honorable Don Samuelson  
President of the Senate  
120 State Capitol  
Saint Paul, Minnesota 55155

Dear President Samuelson:

I have vetoed and am returning Special Session Chapter Number 11, Senate File Number 21, a bill relating to the transitional financing of the state budget under certain conditions.

The precedent that would be set by this bill is simply unacceptable. The Minnesota Constitution does not permit continuing budget resolutions, but this bill certainly acts like one. The legislature has a constitutional and statutory duty to pass a new biennial budget every two years in a timely fashion. Senate File Number 21 attempts to relieve the legislature of its duty to the citizens of the State of Minnesota. On behalf of those citizens, I cannot condone this action.

Not only does this bill seek to bypass the legislature's constitutional and statutory duties, it also violates the essence of your own internal permanent rules. Senate Rule 7.5 and House Rule 4.03 both expressly contemplate eight (8) separate omnibus appropriation bills each biennium. To do anything otherwise risks offending the constitutional single subject bill requirements.

For the foregoing reasons, I must veto this bill. I encourage the legislature to fulfill their constitutional and statutory duties in the future in a more timely manner, that will not result in any bills like Senate File Number 21.

Sincerely,

Jesse Ventura  
Governor

c: Senator Roger Moe, Majority Leader  
Senator Dick Day, Minority Leader  
Representative Steve Sviggum, Speaker of the House  
Representative Tom Pugh, Minority Leader  
Chief Senate Author  
Chief House Author  
Mr. Patrick E. Flahaven, Secretary of the Senate  
Mr. Edward A. Burdick, Chief Clerk of the House  
Ms. Mary Kiffmeyer, Secretary of State