



STATE OF MINNESOTA

Office of Governor Mark Dayton

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

May 25, 2011

The Honorable Kurt Zellers
Speaker of the House
463 State Office Building
St. Paul, Minnesota 55155

Dear Speaker Zellers:

With this letter, I am vetoing and returning Chapter 73, House File 562, a bill regulating water and sewer charges by manufactured home parks and repealing the prohibition on air admittance valves.

Approximately 180,000 individuals reside in manufactured home parks throughout the state. The vast majority—an estimated 80 percent—are low- or very-low income. This bill puts residents at risk for an unjustified increase in the cost of residing there. As responsibility for buying water shifts from the park owner to the resident, rent should be renegotiated to reflect that it no longer buys water. I cannot support legislation that could drive up rent for some of the poorest Minnesotans, especially while high unemployment persists.

The bill also repeals the statutory ban on air admittance valves in plumbing systems, enacted in 2007. Air admittance valves are prohibited because of the danger they may fail and allow sewer gas to leak into the home. Until their reliability has proved itself over time in other states, repealing the ban in Minnesota is premature.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark Dayton".

Mark Dayton
Governor

cc: Senator Michelle L. Fischbach, President of the Senate
Senator Amy T. Koch, Majority Leader
Senator Thomas M. Bakk, Minority Leader
Senator Warren Limmer
Representative Paul Thissen, Minority Leader
Representative Tim Sanders
The Honorable Mark Ritchie, Secretary of State
Mr. Cal R. Ludeman, Secretary of the Senate
Mr. Albin A. Mathiowetz, Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives