



STATE OF MINNESOTA

Office of Governor Mark Dayton

130 State Capitol ♦ 75 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd ♦ Saint Paul, MN 55155-1611

May 19, 2018

The Honorable Kurt Daudt
Speaker of the House
State Office Building, Room 463
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd.
Saint Paul, Minnesota 55155

Dear Mr. Speaker:

I have vetoed and am returning Chapter 147, House File 2940, a bill that would have required Legislative approval for water permit fees.

Water fees at the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) have not been raised comprehensively since 1992, which has caused a structural imbalance in the agency's budget. To address this problem, the agency formed a Water Fee Advisory Committee in the fall of 2017. That Committee has been, and will continue, providing advice to the Commissioner on how to revise water fees.

The Legislature already has ample oversight of state agencies, including legislative reports, appropriations hearings, financial and program audits by the Office of the Legislative Auditor, and requests for information from individual legislators and legislative committees. It is redundant and unnecessary to add a legislative approval to agency fee adjustments. This unnecessary "administrative hoop" would interrupt an ongoing stakeholder process without addressing the current structural imbalance in the agency's budget.

I am vetoing this bill because it is an unwarranted and inappropriate legislative overreach.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mark Dayton".

Mark Dayton
Governor

cc: Senator Michelle L. Fischbach, President of the Senate
Senator Paul E. Gazelka, Senate Majority Leader
Senator Thomas M. Bakk, Senate Minority Leader
Senator Bill Ingebrigtsen, Chief Senate Author

The Honorable Kurt Daudt
May 19, 2018
Page 2

Representative Melissa Hortman, House Minority Leader
Representative Matt Bliss, Chief House Author
The Honorable Steve Simon, Secretary of State
Mr. Cal R. Ludeman, Secretary of the Senate
Mr. Patrick Murphy, Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives
Mr. Paul Marinac, Revisor of Statutes