



May 18, 2022

To: Members of the State Government Finance Conference Committee

Re: Please provide critical supplemental funding to the Office of the Minnesota Attorney General in the Omnibus State Government Finance bill, HF 4293

Dear Legislators,

Thank you for serving on this important committee. We write to urge you to provide supplemental funding of \$2.335 million to the Office of the Minnesota Attorney General, as provided for in the House version of the bill, (Art.1, Sec. 3, page R2-A1 of the Side by Side) and not to restrict the ability of the Attorney General to apply for and receive outside grant funding for staff and other functions of the office as the Senate proposes (Art. 2, Sec. 6, page R2-A2 of the Side by Side) in their bill.

Adopt \$2.335 million Operating Adjustment in House Bill (Art.1, Sec. 3, page R2-A1)

The Office of the Minnesota Attorney General has a supplemental budget request for an operating adjustment of \$2.335 million.

Reject "Performance of Legal Services" provision of Senate Bill (Art. 2, Sec. 6, page R2-A2)

Minnesota's Attorney General is answerable to the people via direct election, yet relies on the legislature, (also answerable to the people) for an adequate budget to accomplish the constitutional tasks. We strongly urge you to provide the funds requested to allow the Attorney General to fulfill the responsibilities of the office.

The Attorney General plays a critical role in enforcing laws which protect all citizens from harm. Many environmental violations are chronic and pervasive. Without the resources necessary to pursue these cases through time, such violations go unpunished, often to the detriment of those most vulnerable among us. We ask you to provide supplemental funding as requested, and not to tie the hands of the Attorney General to seek additional funding whenever necessary.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Steve Morse". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Steve Morse
Executive Director