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- I would like to receive **Session Weekly**, a free non-partisan legislative publication.
- I would like to receive the survey results (fill in e-mail address if you prefer an e-mail).

State Representative Larry Haws

473 State Office Building
100 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.
St. Paul, MN 55155

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

In the 2010 Legislative Session, state leaders will resolve a \$1.2 billion budget shortfall in the current biennium while also keeping a mindful eye on a projected budget gap of \$6.6 billion anticipated in 2012-13.

Our nonpartisan state forecasters have explained that these projected deficits are the result of an unprecedented revenue problem that is reeling from the biggest biennial drop in Minnesota income tax revenue since World War II. The recession data shows that we're seeing less revenue as a result of too many Minnesotans not working along with a diminishing average work week that is at a historic low and an unprecedented decline in hourly wages.

This had been referred to as the most serious budget challenge in our state's history. Restoring long-term fiscal stability to our state budget will require deep cuts, true reforms on spending and revenue, greater investments in small business development along with research and development incentives, and honest solutions that will save money and improve government.

My top priority is Minnesota's economic recovery and will direct most of the key decisions I will be making during the 2010 Legislative Session. St. Cloud projects I will be working hard to be a part of this year's jobs-focused bonding bill will include renovation dollars for St. Cloud Technical College, expansion plans for the St. Cloud Civic Center, and new teaching and research laboratories for the Integrated Science and Engineering Laboratory Facility at St. Cloud State University.

As your voice at the Capitol, I value your opinion. Please take the opportunity to share your opinions and insights on Minnesota issues and answer the questions in this survey. Your input will help guide decisions I will be making during the 2010 Legislative Session.

Thank you,



2010 LEGISLATIVE SURVEY

State Representative Larry Haws

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St. Paul, MN 55155



State Representative Larry Haws • 2010 Legislative Survey

If you prefer, you can take this survey online at: www.house.mn/survey/15B.asp

1. There will be no easy decisions on what to cut as we go about the work of balancing our state budget. For example, health and human services and education together compose more than two thirds of the budget.

Health and Human Services (HHS) is the fastest growing portion of the general fund budget—the majority of the HHS budget goes to low income seniors in long-term care, children and adults with disabilities, and subsidized health insurance for low-income citizens. Only 2 percent of the HHS budget, and less than ½ percent of the overall budget, goes to what would traditionally be called “welfare,” and is at a ten year low.

Understanding that cuts will only be part of the budget solution and will have to include all areas of the budget, which of the following balanced solutions would you support to resolve the deficit?

- Make greater cuts to health and human services to maintain K-12 spending
- Make greater cuts to K-12 programs to maintain health and human services spending
- Make across-the-board spending cuts for both K-12 programs and health and human services
- Other ideas such as expansion of gambling which would help off-set a small portion of the cuts
- Other (please specify): _____

2. The unemployment rate in Minnesota stands at 7.4 percent. Economic recovery legislation can help create jobs in 2010. In your opinion, which initiatives should be implemented to create and retain jobs in Minnesota?

- Invest in infrastructure and public works projects to create more jobs
- Grow well-paying jobs in the most promising emerging technologies
- Provide assistance to small businesses and entrepreneurs to access federal grant programs for technology that will help grow jobs
- Support greater collaboration between academia, research institutions and private industry
- Provide new tax incentives to corporations, both regular & Sub Chapter S corporations
- Do nothing and let the Market resolve itself
- Other (please specify): _____

3. In your opinion which options would help make the state’s business climate more competitive? (Check all that apply):

- Provide low-interest loans to for small business entrepreneurs
- Reform state business regulations
- Cut taxes on small businesses
- Provide small business tax credits for long-term investment
- Enhance relationship between small business owners and state resources
- Small businesses do not require special state rule involvement

4. Do you support providing state funding to build a new Vikings Stadium?

Yes No Not sure

5. Prioritize the following bonding bills in St. Cloud, 1 ranking most important and 4 least important:

- Match federal funds for the North Star Rail
- Expansion of the Civic Center
- Build new teaching and research laboratories for the Integrated Science and Engineering Laboratory Facility at St. Cloud State University.
- Renovation dollars to remodel and furnish the recently purchased Allied Health Center for the St. Cloud Technical College to help create a state of the art medical training facility

6. Please add any additional comments:

Thank you for taking this survey!

To return the questionnaire, simply refold with the return address on the outside, stamp and mail.