

# Lyndon Carlson

STATE REPRESENTATIVE



## HOW TO REACH State Representative Lyndon Carlson

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### Check out these weekly publications to keep track of what's going on at the State Capitol:

House of Representatives:

#### Session Weekly:

[www.house.leg.state.mn.us/hinfo/swmain.asp](http://www.house.leg.state.mn.us/hinfo/swmain.asp)

State Senate:

#### Senate Briefly:

[www.senate.leg.state.mn.us/briefly/](http://www.senate.leg.state.mn.us/briefly/)

### SD 45 Legislators Reflect on Governor's Budget Plan

This week at the Capitol, the Governor released his administration's budget initiatives and approach to addressing the current \$1.4 billion budget deficit. Undoubtedly, tough economic times require tough decision-making on the part of state leaders.

However, we remain concerned that the Governor's vision for Minnesota will further burden hard-working Minnesota families-burdening our family budgets with higher property taxes and increased college tuition, growing congestion on our roads and highways, and less access to adequate and affordable health care. Preliminary estimates show as many as 41,000 Minnesotans, many of whom are the working poor, will lose their health care. Public K-12 education funding is modestly increased-but is directly tied to an increase in local property taxes. We continue to be concerned with the Governor's apparent willingness to pass the budget burden off to local property taxpayers.

There are portions of the Governor's budget that will likely enjoy strong bipartisan support. For example, the Governor has proposed additional tuition reimbursement benefits for our military personnel-an initiative that we can all get behind. He has also proposed financial support for efforts to address the growing meth crisis in the state.

At this point in the legislative session, the Governor's budget is simply a recommendation from his administration. State leaders on both sides of the aisle and in both the House and the Senate will be analyzing the Governor's budget as part of the ongoing debate and developing a budget plan of their own that incorporates some of the positions of the Governor's budget that we can all agree on-and standing up against those we believe are taking Minnesota in a direction that does not represent our core values.

### Members of the Senate District 45 Team Address Retired Teachers

This week, the House members of the Senate District 45 Team-Rep. Lyndon Carlson and Rep. Sandra Peterson-met with members a group of retired teachers. Rep. Lyndon Carlson was able to give them an early look at the implications of the Governor's budget for Early Childhood and K-12 education, as he had just returned from a budget briefing at the Governor's Reception Room. He reported to these former education professionals that the Governor is proposing a \$12.38 billion total education finance budget, which includes a modest 2% increase in the General Education Formula, but falls short of fully addressing the needs of students and the growing class sizes of our local schools.

### Rep. Lyndon Carlson Concerned over Governor's Plan for Higher Education

Rep. Lyndon Carlson, a key member of the Higher Education Finance committee in the House, raised concerns this week regarding the implications for higher education in the state if the Governor's budget were to be implemented as proposed. According to current estimations, tuition at the University of Minnesota is likely to increase as much as 6% and up to 10% in the MnSCU system. This is following five straight years of tuition increases; tuition at the U has already increased 80% over the previous last 5 years. Rep. Carlson will continue to fight to build bipartisan support for providing adequate support to the institutions of higher learning that are drivers in our Minnesota economy.