

May 31, 2016

Dear Governor Dayton:

I am writing regarding the Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota's Resources (LCCMR) appropriations bill (SF 2963). I strongly encourage you to line-item veto the following three appropriations below. The following appropriations are earmarks for specific special interests and weren't thoroughly vetted through the LCCMR review process.

- Aggregate Mapping (\$1.5 million-DNR)
- Douglas County Park (\$400,000-Douglas County)
- Ambassador Wild Animals Environmental Education Program (\$500,000-Wildlife Science Center)

I also wanted to bring to your attention four other additional projects that replaced the unanimous LCCMR recommendations. The projects below should also be line-item vetoed. These are projects that should not be funded through the Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund, but could be pursued in the future from other sources of funding like the state's General Fund.

- Pineland Sands Aquifer Study (\$1.5 million-DNR)
- Natural Resources Research Institute (\$1.1 million-U of M-NRRI)
- Pollinator Highway Demonstration Projects (\$2.2 million-MnDOT)
- State Park and Trail Enhancement (\$1.228 million-DNR)

I ask you to line-item veto the seven appropriations added by the House GOP. Whenever the GOP has been in control of the House they have manipulated the LCCMR. This has not received as much attention as the LSOHC, but has been more significant.

The House GOP's continued manipulation of these Constitutional funds should not go unchallenged. Line-item vetoes may help prevent future mischief to the LCCMR and its proven processes.

Sincerely,

Rick Hansen
State Representative
House DFL Lead-Environment and Natural Resources