



Invest in Minnesota Caucus Speech & Resolution

Short Sample Speech for Caucus Resolution to Invest in Minnesota:

Our state has continued to address serious budget shortfalls through short-term measures that fail to produce lasting solutions for a balanced budget. The result has been to disinvest in the very public services that have made Minnesota a great state over the past decades. After a painful process of unallotments and severe budget cuts to critical state services to balance the budget in 2009, we are now moving into a new legislative session with an additional 1.2 billion dollar deficit. Over time, our state and local tax system has become less fair despite the fact that Minnesotans support fair taxes. The Department of Revenue reports that those making more than \$448,000 annually pay 8.9 percent of their incomes in state and local taxes while those making between \$31,000 and \$67,000 pay over 12 percent. The time has come to address the very real problem of continued budget shortfalls with the real, long-term solution of raising revenues fairly to invest in Minnesota.

Sample Resolution: Invest in Minnesota

Whereas Minnesotans want to adequately fund state investments to uphold the dignity of our citizens, build a strong economy and preserve public services maintaining our safety, health and infrastructure,

Whereas those making more than \$448,000 annually pay 8.9 percent of their incomes in state and local taxes while those making between \$31,000 and \$67,000 pay over 12 percent,

Be it resolved that we cannot address current budget shortfalls through budget cuts alone but rather must make raising revenues a significant part of the state budget solution. Tax revenues must be a part of a balanced approach to addressing budget shortfalls, and necessary revenues should be raised in a way that makes the overall tax system more fair.