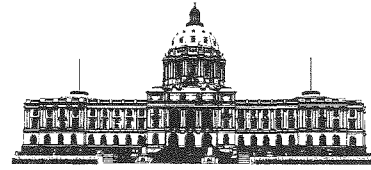


**MICHELLE L. FISCHBACH**

President of the Senate  
Senate District 13  
2113 Minnesota Senate Building  
95 University Ave. West  
St. Paul, MN 55155-1606



**Senate**

**State of Minnesota**

January 3, 2018

Amanda Simpson  
Director of Operations  
Office of Governor Mark Dayton  
130 State Capitol  
Saint Paul, Minnesota 55155

Dear Ms. Simpson,

I do not intend to accept the salary prescribed for the lieutenant governor. Accordingly, please do not issue any form of payment of the salary to me.

The Minnesota Constitution, article V, sec. 5, provides for the salary of the lieutenant governor to be "prescribed by law." The salary for the lieutenant governor was "set" in Laws 2001, chapter 10, art. 1, sec. 2, subd. 4, at 65% of the governor's salary. Ms. Anderson assumes that "prescribed by law" and "set" mean "required to accept payment." I do not see any authority for that assumption in her email. As I noted in my inquiry, another reasonable interpretation is that the prescribed or set amount is required to be offered to the individual who has assumed the office. The legal obligation for the state to offer the salary does not create a requirement that I accept it.

To ensure that we record our understanding of this matter properly, I am willing to sign a document acknowledging that the prescribed salary has been made available to me, and that I have declined to accept it. I will provide you with a draft of this acknowledgment if necessary.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Michelle Fischbach".

Michelle Fischbach  
State Senator

Cc: The Honorable Mark Dayton, Governor of Minnesota  
Kristyn Anderson, Minnesota Management and Budget  
Joanna Dornfeld, Chief of Staff, Office of Governor Mark Dayton

Attachment.

