

**SENATOR ERIC PRATT**

District 55  
Minnesota Senate Building 3210  
95 University Avenue West  
St. Paul, MN 55155



---

# Senate

State of Minnesota

Chair Mahoney,

Following up on our conversation from earlier this evening, I respectfully decline to commence the Jobs & Economic Growth, Energy and Commerce conference committee on Friday, May 3. This is to inform you that the Senate conferees will not be able to participate.

I recognize the urgency of getting our conference committee working on the differences in our bills, and I look forward to our two chambers collaborating to accomplish our work. However, the conference committee process is based on mutual respect and trust. The fact that testifiers for this hearing were contacted before Members of the Senate were named to the Conference Committee points to an unusually hyper-partisan process.

While the House conferees are all DFL members from the metro area, two Senate conferees, representing both parties, are from Greater Minnesota and have commitments in their districts. Finally, I have not received confirmation that the side-by-side bill comparisons will be ready for a Friday hearing.

Informing me that you are scheduling a conference committee meeting before the Senate conferees were assigned disrespects our chamber, disrespects our members, and is the wrong way to begin effective negotiations.

We sincerely hope that you and Speaker Hortman reconsider your decision.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Eric Pratt".

Senator Eric Pratt  
District 55

CC:

President Jeremy Miller  
Majority Leader Paul Gazelka  
Minority Leader Tom Bakk

Speaker Melissa Hortman  
Majority Leader Ryan Winkler  
Minority Leader Kurt Daudt

