

Mike Parry

Chairman, State Government Innovation
and Veterans Committee
Senate District 26
309 State Capitol Building
75 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd.
St. Paul, MN 55155
Phone: (651) 296-9457
Fax: (651) 296-6511
sen.mike.parry@senate.mn



Senate

State of Minnesota

May 9, 2011

The Honorable Mark Dayton
130 State Capitol Building
75 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.
St. Paul, Minnesota 55155

Dear Governor Dayton,

This morning, I received a letter from the State Commander of the American Legion that recognizes the Legislature has openly and publicly defended our stance to hold veterans and the Department of Military Affairs harmless in our budget. The State Commander correctly recognized that the honorable men and women that serve in our armed forces have been a top priority in both the Senate and House for the entirety of this session.

The rhetoric being used by your administration completely disregards the legislature's intent to provide the funding necessary to provide care for veterans in our state veterans' homes, to assist veterans in securing federal benefits and to maintain the readiness of our National Guard. At the first hint of discretionary authority, you directed your staff to cut veterans and military affairs.

I grew up in a military household. I served eight years in the National Guard. I have been around military and veterans my whole life and I know leadership when I see it. What you have done to mislead the military and veterans community is not leadership.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "M Parry", enclosed within a hand-drawn oval. The signature is fluid and cursive.

Senator Mike Parry

