Bobby Joe Champion State Representative

District 58B Downtown North Loop North Minneapolis



Minnesota House of Representatives

May 6, 2010

David Minkkinen, Principal Deloitte Consulting LLP 50 S 6th St. Ste. 2800 Minneapolis, MN 55402

Dear David:

Thank you for taking the time to share your support for a new Vikings stadium. I appreciate and value your input.

I think we all agree that the Vikings are a state and community asset that we do not want to lose. The team's record last season certainly ignited a new enthusiasm and interest in the Vikings and their future in Minnesota. However, in these challenging economic times—and with the state facing historic budget deficits--legislators have continued to be very frugal with the public purse strings, and focus on such priorities as education and health care.

As you know, Rep. Loren Solberg and Sen. Tom Bakk recently announced a proposal to build a new \$791 million stadium using a team contribution of \$264 million along with various taxes and fees. In a House committee, the bill was amended so that it would instead tap into sales taxes that are now being used to pay for the Minneapolis Convention Center. In a subsequent House committee, the legislation was voted down altogether, dealing a blow to its prospects.

Of course, nothing is ever certain until the session adjourns. In these closing days, I'll continue listening to you and other constituents who call and write to me about the Vikings stadium issue, and I'll be closely examining any specific proposals that come before me.

Again, thank you very much for contacting me. I hope you'll continue to be in touch to share your views and concerns.

Sincerely,

Bobby Joe Champion

State Representative, District 58B



