

# THE 2007 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

**Taxpayers win!** In politics, sometimes winning is defined by what *didn't* happen (or in this case, what wasn't *allowed* to happen). Using that measuring stick we can definitely say that Minnesota taxpayers won big in 2007. Despite the introduction of over \$5 billion in proposed tax increases, no tax increase was enacted during the 2007 regular or special session. In fact, an attempt to override the Governor's veto of a transportation bill that would have added hundreds of dollars a year to the average family's cost of owning a car failed in the last minutes of the regular session. With your help we were able to repel the liberal tax-and-spend onslaught during the 2007 session.



**Phil Krinkle**  
President

## LOOKING AHEAD

Don't get comfortable. The fight isn't over. Though we may have beaten back the Liberals this year, they'll be back (believe me, 16 years in the state legislature has reinforced that idea over and over). So what can you do to help make sure I write the same message to you in the 2008 Scorecard? For starters, visit [www.taxpayersleague.org](http://www.taxpayersleague.org), request an information packet and sign up for our weekly E Updates. It's the best source to find out who's after your money and what you can do about it. Also, it will let you know what's going on at the Taxpayers League and what opportunities there are for you to join the fight. We had great success this year, but we're going to need your help in 2008. Join the Taxpayers League and help keep government out of your wallet!

## TO CONTACT YOUR ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES:

MN House Switchboard . . . . . (651) 296-2146  
Toll Free . . . . . (800) 657-3550  
MN Senate Switchboard . . . . . (651) 296-0504  
Governor's Office . . . . . (651) 296-3391  
U.S. House of Reps Switchboard . . . . . (202) 225-3121  
U.S. Senate Switchboard . . . . . (202) 224-3121  
Or by email at [sen.firstname.lastname@senate.mn](mailto:sen.firstname.lastname@senate.mn)  
or [rep.firstname.lastname@house.mn](mailto:rep.firstname.lastname@house.mn)

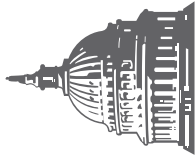
## OUR MISSION

For 10 years the mission of the Taxpayers League has been to reduce the tax burden on working Minnesotans. With the help and support of many dedicated people we have succeeded in our goal. Yet with the liberals in control of both the State Legislature and the U.S. Congress we can't rest on past accomplishments. Thank you for your past support and hopefully you will continue to be engaged in the cause by joining the Taxpayers League today.



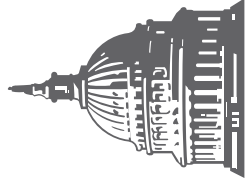
**Michael Wigley**  
Chairman

## HOW TO USE THE TAXPAYERS LEAGUE SCORECARD



This scorecard reports key votes lawmakers cast on taxes and spending. A "+" vote denotes a pro-taxpayer position. The rating reflects the percentage of pro-taxpayer votes cast. Also reported is the cumulative score for each state legislator for years 1997-2007.

The Taxpayers League of Minnesota is a nonpartisan nonprofit grassroots taxpayer advocacy organization representing thousands of Minnesotans. It fights for lower taxes, limited government and the full empowerment of taxpaying citizens in accordance with Constitutional principles. Nothing in this scorecard implies endorsement of any candidate for public office.



# TAXPAYERS LEAGUE of Minnesota

# 2007 LEGISLATIVE SCORECARD

A GUIDE TO MINNESOTA LAWMAKERS' VOTES ON TAXES AND SPENDING

## PLEASE JOIN US IN FIGHTING TO HOLD THE LINE ON TAXES

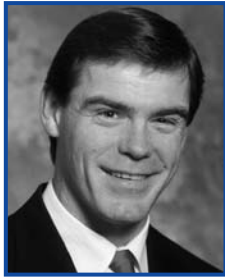
If you're tired of Minnesota's high taxes and big government – and you want to join the fight to change it – the Taxpayers League would like your help. To support our cause, we suggest a gift of \$25, \$50 or more be sent to:

**TAXPAYERS LEAGUE OF MINNESOTA**  
PO Box 120444 • St Paul, MN 55112  
Phone: (651) 294-3590  
Fax: (651) 294-3596  
[www.taxpayersleague.org](http://www.taxpayersleague.org)

## – 2007 Best Friends of the Taxpayer –



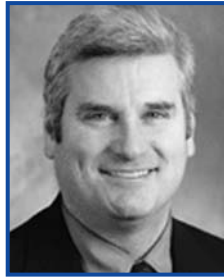
Rep. Bruce Anderson  
R-Buffalo Twmsp (19A)



Rep. Mark Buesgens  
R-Jordan (35B)



Rep. Chris DeLaForest  
R-Andover (49A)



Rep. Tom Emmer  
R-Delano (19B)



Rep. Mary Liz Holberg  
R-Lakeville (36A)



Rep. Paul Kohls  
R-Victoria (34A)



Rep. Mark Olson  
R-Big Lake (16B)



Rep. Ron Shimanski  
R-Silver Lake (18A)



Rep. Kurt Zellers  
R-Maple Grove (32B)



Sen. David Hann  
R-Eden Prairie (42)



Sen. Pat Pariseau  
R-Farmington (36)

*All of the above legislators recieved a score of 100% on our 2007 Taxpayers League Scorecard. They deserve special recognition for the hard work and willingness to stand strong for individual economic freedom.*

## FRIENDS

## – 2007 Session Notables –

## FOES



**House Minority Leader  
Marty Seifert (R-Marshall)**

As the leader of a caucus with just 49 Representatives, Rep. Seifert was able to successfully hold his members together through difficult circumstances. And largely due to the leadership of Rep. Seifert, not a single Republican voted to override a gubernatorial veto. Most notably, House Republicans sustained the lone override attempt of the 2007 legislative session: a tax increase that would have amounted to \$1.5 billion (House vote #1).



**Speaker of the House  
Margaret Anderson Kelliher  
(DFL-Minneapolis)**

After last November's election, Speaker Kelliher claimed she saw "no reason to raise taxes." That promise proved hollow. By the end of the Legislative session she and her liberal colleagues had proposed over \$5 billion in new tax increases, and only the power of the Governor's veto pen stopped her from making Minnesota one of the highest taxed states in the nation.



**State Senator  
Ray Vandevor (R-Forest Lake)**

Vandevor, one of few Republican freshman Senators elected in 2006, wasted no time challenging new Senate Majority Leader Larry Pogemiller. At the beginning of the legislative session, the Senate tried to pass a pay-raise without even a vote. Senator Vandevor objected, and was ultimately able to get a vote on the floor and put on record (Senate vote #12) all those who preferred getting a massive increase in their compensation over taking care of their constituents.



**State Senator  
Tom Bakk (DFL-Cook)**

Tom Bakk is the Minnesota State Senate's chairman of the Tax Committee, and in 2007 he proved that an Iron Range legislator can be every bit as liberal and spendthrift as a Minneapolis one. The tax bills he crafted would have vaulted Minnesota to the top of the tax rankings, while at the same time driving businesses out of the state and thousands of Minnesotans to sunnier—and tax friendlier—climes.



**State Representative  
Mary Ellen Otremba (DFL-Long Prairie)**

There aren't many bright spots among the members of the tax-and-spend caucus, but Rep. Otremba provided a ray of hope. Rep. Otremba opposed a sales tax increase for arts and recreation (House vote #3) and hordes of tax and fee increases in many other bills. Rep. Otremba truly showed courage by bucking the leaders of her liberal tax-and-spend caucus. She even voted to sustain the Governor's veto of the multi-billion dollar transportation bill.



**State Senator  
Dennis Frederickson (R-New Ulm)**

Sen. Frederickson has consistently been one of the lowest-scoring Republican Senators on the Taxpayers League Scorecard, and this year was no different. Instead of sticking with the Governor and the fiscal conservatives, he voted for tax and spending increases along with his more liberal DFL colleagues.



