



- Welcome everyone. Today I can say this without a doubt: The checks are in the mail.
- You may recall that way back in January, my administration came forward and proposed a sales tax rebate as the best way to settle up with Minnesota's taxpayers.
- The idea met with some, shall we say, mixed reaction at the Legislature, to put it mildly. But we fought for it and we got it done.
- The checks began hitting the mail over the weekend. If you didn't get your check on Saturday, you'll be getting it soon — very soon.
- The check looks like this (POINT TO CHECK)--only a little smaller.
- This rebate is 1.3 billion dollars total. That's the largest state tax rebate in this nation's history.
- This rebate reaches nearly 3 million people in Minnesota. That's far more people than any of the other rebate plans that were debated in the Legislature last spring, and most Minnesotans didn't have to do a thing to get their money except watch their mailboxes.
- This Rebate is a prime example of how all levels of government can interact with the private sector and produce a great result. Special thanks to the state agencies — Revenue, Finance, and the Treasurers' Office — that worked so well together and brought in the private sector and the U.S. Postal Service to help get this project done well and done on time.
- By Labor Day, all eligible Minnesotans should have their Sales Tax Rebate checks in hand. Most will have them sooner.
- I'll turn to Department of Revenue Commissioner Matt Smith to give you some more details on the Rebate.