

- Senator Roger Moe’s solution for our long-term budget problem is to *gamble* that there will be no inflation over the next 3 years.

For years the legislators insisted that there be an inflation factor in our projections—but now—when it’s not politically convenient—they want to ignore it.

Roger Moe—the darling of Education Minnesota would put at risk millions of dollars that would, over the next two years, go to K-12 education and nursing homes, state employees, and local government to mitigate the impact of inflation.

I am surprised that leaders of their stature and reputation would put politics before fiscal responsibility.

I would hope that the nursing home associations, educators, local government leaders, business leaders and state employees would question these legislative tactics.

- Both the house and the senate will use every single dollar the state has in various fund reserves. This will have serious long-term consequences.

It will likely cause us to use the tobacco funds for cash flow purposes in the next biennium—and if that happens it will trigger cuts to critical institutions like the University of Minnesota’s Academic Health Center.

- The temporary political fixes that are proposed by the Senate and House will put our AAA credit rating in jeopardy and we will have to pay millions more in interest on our capitol bonding projects.
- The legislature should own up to the fact that if they rely on simplistic solutions like hiring freezes and borrowing in the long run services I fought hard to save, would suffer.

You’re likely to not get the service you are used to at State Parks.

Your tax refunds could be delayed.

A hiring freeze is a shortsighted political fix that will create long lines for state services and raise the ire of our citizens.

Legislators know that, but of course their plan is to force it upon us and then point the finger at the administration for not being able to provide good service.

- The legislature is going down forty miles of bad road.



It is irresponsible and it won't work. They will have to come back next year and either cut more drastically or raise taxes substantially.

- They don't want to raise the cigarette tax this year but mark my word, if they don't, next year they will have to consider raising taxes like sales, income and taxes on business.