



Coalition of  
Minnesota Businesses

Associated Builders and Contractors —  
Minnesota

Insurance Federation of Minnesota

Minnesota Bankers Association

Minnesota Beverage Association

Minnesota Business Partnership

Minnesota Chamber of Commerce

Minnesota Retailers Association

Minnesota Trucking Association

NAIOP – Commercial Real Estate  
Development Association

Saint Paul Area Chamber of Commerce

TwinWest Chamber of Commerce

A statewide grassroots communications  
program involving 11 business  
organizations. The CMB does not  
endorse any particular candidate or  
political party.

October 28, 2010

To: Candidate

Fr: Charlie Weaver, Executive Director, Minnesota Business Partnership  
David Olson, President, Minnesota Chamber of Commerce

Re: “Spend Smart” is the only option in a global economy

Congratulations, you’re almost there! Election Night is just hours away!

For those fortunate enough to be elected, the real work is just beginning. The new Governor and Legislature will have to close a projected \$5.8 billion budget deficit for the coming 2012-13 biennium. Hopefully, we can close that gap while at the same time creating jobs, improving Minnesota’s global competitiveness and enhancing long-term economic growth.

Our previous mailing focused on how changing demographics – the retiring baby boom and slowing growth in Minnesota’s workforce – pose long-predicted and well-understood budget challenges that demand tax and spending reform.

This mailing looks at how the globalization of our economy – the extraordinary mobility of investment capital, information and top talent – can create new opportunities for regions that provide high-quality, cost-effective public services.

Minnesota is a small place in a big world – far from the growth markets of the next 50 years. But we have a great deal to offer. A diverse economic base. An outstanding workforce. And dedicated business, community and political leaders.

Rather than pretend that the very real challenges, tremendous opportunities and intense competition of a global economy doesn’t exist, the Coalition of Minnesota Businesses (CMB) is urging candidates to close the budget gap by spending resources wisely and positioning Minnesota to be a global leader.

Don’t say it can’t be done. Government – like everyone else – is constantly innovating and evolving. The challenge is to lead, not follow. The more innovative our public sector is, the stronger our state will be.

Thank you again for your willingness to serve. Good luck on Tuesday.