

## Minnesota's Economic Recovery

Our state is facing multi-billion dollar deficits in the next few years that will require us to look at how to do things smarter and cheaper.

These projected deficits exist because Minnesotans are working, earning and spending less, resulting in far less revenue coming into the state coffers, a fact that is compelling the Legislature to make difficult budget decisions.

With this in mind, last session I joined other lawmakers to vote for job-creating legislation to help jumpstart the state's economic recovery and balance the budget in a fiscally responsible manner.

I believe Minnesota's communities will benefit from the body of legislation passed into law this past session as we continue along the road to our economic recovery and prepare to address a massive deficit next year.

Our budget dilemma did not develop over night and we're not going to find all the answers in a single session. What we can do is continue to work on developing strategic systemic changes in our budget.

Restoring long-term fiscal stability to our state budget will require deep cuts, reforms on spending and revenue, greater investments in small business development along with research and development incentives, and bi-partisan solutions that will save us money as we seek to improve the quality of key services and programs.