



News Release

CONTACT Lisa Waldrup
PHONE 651-556-NEWS (6397)
E-MAIL lisa.waldrup@state.mn.us

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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Tax Reform Commission eyes Minnesota's business environment Stinson, Gillaspay to brief panel on economic and demographic factors

Saint Paul – The Governor's 21st Century Tax Reform Commission meets Friday, July 25, to discuss how current economic and demographic trends impact Minnesota businesses, with presentations by State Economist Tom Stinson and State Demographer Tom Gillaspay.

Gov. Tim Pawlenty established the commission to recommend ways to improve and modernize Minnesota's tax code for state businesses and encourage economic growth in a fast-changing, increasingly global economy.

Mike Vekich, of St. Louis Park-based accounting and consulting firm Vekich Associates, chairs the commission, which meets twice a month through November and will issue its final report by Dec. 1. The panel's 15 members bring a wide range of business, academic and public policy experience to the table.

Public input is welcome at all commission meetings, held in the Skjegstad Room at the Minnesota Department of Revenue, 600 N. Robert St., Saint Paul. For more information, visit the commission's website, <http://www.taxes.state.mn.us/mntaxreform/index.shtml>.

Agenda for Friday, July 25, 2008:

8:00 – 8:15	Welcome, Housekeeping, Review of new handouts
8:15 – 8:25	Public comment
8:25 – 9:25	Economic and Demographic Scan – Part I Tom Stinson, State Economist, MN Dept. of Finance Tom Gillaspay, State Demographer, MN Dept. of Administration
9:25 – 9:40	Break
9:40 – 10:40	Economic and Demographic Scan – Part II Tom Stinson and Tom Gillaspay
10:40 – 11:00	Commission Discussion
11:00 - 11:30	Public Testimony, Adjournment