

Mille Lacs County Times

225 2nd Street SW
Milaca, MN 56353
320-983-6111 • Fax 320-983-6112
www.millelacscountytimes.com

February 4, 2009

Rep. Gail Kulick Jackson
531 State Office Building
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.
Saint Paul, Minnesota 55155

Dear Gail:

You are undoubtedly facing a multitude of difficult decisions during this session, dealing with one of the largest budget deficits in history. One of the proposals you will likely hear is that of lobbying groups for local government, asking that publication of legal notices be curtailed or even eliminated.

I urge you to resist that effort.

The goal of public notices is to inform the citizens. Substituting the postings of notices on governmental websites will not accomplish that. Distributing legal notices through newspapers (and its websites) ensures that notices are distributed by a means that is totally independent of government.

When local government has attempted to pass this legislation in the past, both the Attorney General and the State Auditor voiced concerns with the lack of standards by the government or any method of independent verification. Newspapers have archives and are permanent records of history.

The more open the government is, the less chance there is for rumor and speculation.

While we publish legal notices on our websites, not everyone has access to the Internet. Another reason legal notices should continue to be published in newspapers.

I thank you in advance for taking these points into consideration when this issue arises.

Sincerely,



Dawn Slade
General Manager

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Senator Lisa Fobbe
75 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.
Capitol Building, Room 306
St. Paul, MN 55155-1606

Dear Lisa:

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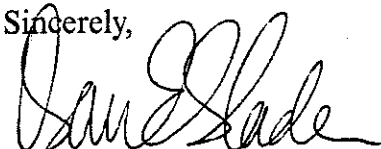
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