

Peggy Scott
State Representative
Assistant Minority Leader

District 31B



Minnesota
House of
Representatives

Delivered Electronically

The Honorable Melissa Hortman, The Honorable Jamie Long
Speaker of the House, Majority Leader
Minnesota House of Representatives
State Office Building
St. Paul, Minnesota 55155

March 14, 2023

Dear Speaker Hortman and Majority Leader Long,

On December 21, 2022, the Democrat-controlled Rules and Legislative Committee of the Minnesota House of Representatives approved a plan to spend \$498,763,904 on the renovation and expansion of the State Office Building (SOB).

Since then, lawmakers and the public have received few details on this half billion dollar monument to politicians in St. Paul. However, it is our understanding that the planning process continues behind the scenes with designs and cost estimates exchanged between affected entities on a regular basis.

In light of the ongoing process, we request the following information:

- What is the current status and total cost of the SOB renovation and expansion project?
- Are the most recent planning, design and cost documents available for public review?
- What is the total additional square footage to be added in the expansion plan?
- Will the average size of lawmaker offices change under the current plan?
- Is the current plan designed to accommodate an increase in the number of staff?
- What lower cost alternatives to improve safety and systems in the existing building have been or are being considered compared to the grandiose plans revealed to the public in December 2022?

With a project of this magnitude and cost, we expect full transparency for the sake of taxpayers in our districts and across Minnesota. If the most recent planning, design, and cost documents are available, please provide copies at your earliest convenience.

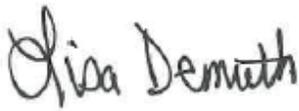
Lastly, we ask that an SOB Expansion Tracker be added on the front page of the Minnesota House of Representatives website. Planning, design, and cost documents should be uploaded to this page for public review on a weekly basis.

Thank you for prompt attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Rep. Peggy Scott
State Representative 31B



Lisa Demuth



Brian Daniels



Paul Torkelson



Dawn Gillman



Pam Altendorf



Brian Johnson



Matt Bliss



Marion O'Neill

Harry Niska

Marj Fogelman

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Walter Hudson

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Spencer Igo

Jim Joy
State Representative District 4B