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**CONTACT:**

Cathryn Kennedy, Communications Director  
Minnesota Environmental Partnership  
Phone: 612.309.3951

**Statement by Steve Morse  
On Gov. Dayton signing House File 1 into law**

We are disappointed that H.F. 1 will become law. This was a reasonable idea gone bad. Our concerns remain: The Iron Range Resources and Rehabilitation Board should not be exempted from environmental review; citizens should have the right to air concerns in their district courts; and businesses should not be the first to draft the assessment of their own environmental impacts.

This is the first of numerous bills moving in the legislature that threaten to unravel Minnesota's foundation of environmental protections. Minnesotans want to maintain existing laws that protect our water, air and public health and we will remain steadfast in our efforts to protect Minnesota's future for our children and grandchildren.

*Minnesota Environmental Partnership is a statewide coalition of 80 nonprofit conservation and environmental organizations, representing more than 500,000 Minnesotans. Formed in 1998, MEP works with its member organizations to protect and restore Minnesota's lakes, rivers, streams, forests, wildlife habitat and natural areas.*

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