When I was growing up in Minneapolis, it never occurred to me that one day I’d be coming to work at this building.

Whenever groups stop by to visit me, I remind them that I’m actually working in their building, because the Capitol truly belongs to the people.

I’m told it cost $4.5 million dollars to build this great structure. Give me a stadium plan with that kind of value and longevity, and I’ll sign up right away.

Minnesotans are rightfully proud of their State Capitol and the position it holds as a place to gather for the business of the state. Restoring and preserving it will assure that this building will faithfully serve many more generations of Minnesotans.

The Capitol 2005 Commission has two assignments: Assist with continuing efforts to restore and renovate the Capitol, and plan for a heck of a big party in 2005.

The commission will be the key player in our efforts to fund these activities.

Who knows if I’ll still be governor then—that doesn’t matter, because this is about the people, not about who happens to be running the state at the time.

On behalf of the people of Minnesota, thank you for taking the time from your busy and complex schedules to serve on the Capitol 2005 Commission. It is a great cause, and one that will go down in the history books.