



Greetings Seasonal Owners:

At the beginning of the session, with a ballooning deficit, we seemed destined to be hit with some major property tax increases. And that may still come to pass, but both the House and the Senate tax bills, passed over the last few days, do have some small measure of reform regarding seasonal property taxes.

The House Bill:

- * No Increase in State General Tax.
- * Extension of a property tax Deferral program for owners who fear they may have to sell a cabin because they can no longer afford the taxes — people who have owned their cabin or hunting land for fifteen years or more to defer half of the yearly increases until ownership of the land transfers.

The Senate Bill:

- * Removes seasonal property from the State General Tax, returning us to excess school operating levies, a position MSRPO has cautiously endorsed. In 2001, MSRPO was told that a portion of State General tax revenues would go into education. Instead, the state kept the money and then began to cut its funding of local K-12 programs, particularly in outstate Minnesota where our cabins are located. MSRPO is supporting the shift since it may help provide some revenue to local schools most hurt by recent state cuts to education and will provide an overall reduction in tax burden to seasonal owners.
- * Ends the double taxation of cabins and hunting lands on the national forests with Conditional Use Permits.

This [article](#) will give you a more complete picture of the three tax proposals being considered: the Governor's, the House and the Senate.

Today, the House and the Senate appointed a taxes conference committee to roll the two bills into one to go to Governor Pawlenty. The Committee will begin meeting THURSDAY, April 30, at 7:00 PM.

Now is the time — MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD. If one of the conference committee members is your Representative or Senator, call them or email them today and urge them to support the positions above.

Join
MSRPO
Now!

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House Conferees

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Call or email them today — thank them for their work and ask them to remove cabins from the State Business Tax and to support local community schools, to end the double taxation of federal Special use Permit Holders. And finally encourage them, in this temporary yet harsh economic downturn, to give those that are most vulnerable the option of a deferral for a time.

The most up to date tax committee schedule is available [online](#).

Thank you for your support, and your energy. Please stay in touch.

Sincerely,



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Not a member of MSRPO? [Click here](#) to join our mailing list. Together, we can protect the family lake place from confiscatory property taxes.