

## State of the State Message Scheduled

By John A. Knapp on January 30, 2012

Governor Dayton announced he will deliver the State of State address on February 15 at 7:00 p.m. during a joint session in the House chamber. The Governor is constitutionally required to address the Legislature each biennium, though in recent years governors have given the address annually.

### New Poll

A poll of more than 1,200 Minnesotans was released Friday showing Governor Dayton's approval rating among voters at 53%--one of the highest governor approval ratings in the country. Opinions of the Legislature were not nearly as favorable with 31% approving of DFL lawmakers and only 23% of Republicans. If the election were held today, 48% said they would cast their vote for the DFL legislative candidate and 39% for the Republican candidate in their district.

Participants in the survey were also asked their opinion on building a new stadium for the Minnesota Vikings. The majority of Minnesotans, 59%, oppose using any public money to fund a new stadium, and 33% supported the idea. Between seeing the Vikings leave Minnesota and using tax dollars to pay for a new stadium, 39% said they'd rather see the team leave and 46% said they'd support building a new stadium. The poll was conducted by Public Policy Polling, a nonpartisan polling firm based in Raleigh, North Carolina.