

# COMPARE

# CONTRAST

*Comparing Minnesota Democrats and Republicans in black and white*

<b>MINNESOTA DEMOCRATS</b>	<b>MINNESOTA REPUBLICANS</b>
Proposed tax increases in 2007, despite a \$2.2 billion budget surplus	Proposed returning the surplus to taxpayers
Raised legislators' daily expense reimbursements	Opposed expense reimbursement increases for legislators
Relaxed welfare reforms and passed grants for welfare recipients to buy automobiles	Supported welfare reforms and upheld the veto of paying for welfare recipients' cars
Increased welfare spending at the expense of nursing homes	Proposed moving money out of welfare and into nursing homes
Passed a \$5.5 billion gas, sales and vehicle registration tax increase	Proposed making road and highway infrastructure a priority over costly and inefficient transit projects
Passed more unfunded mandates on to K-12 schools while trying to repeal reforms	Supported reducing mandates and keeping reforms that show positive results
Weakened background checks for persons providing direct care to children, nursing home residents and vulnerable adults	Opposed Democrats' attempts to weaken public safety protections
Proposed another round of massive tax increases, despite the worst recession in 60 years	Stood up for taxpayers and job creators by stopping all of the Democrats' proposed tax increases
Passed bills to cut funding for K-12 schools, public safety and even veterans' support	Set budget priorities and opposed Democrats' attempts to cut top priorities like schools, public safety and veterans
Failed to enact or consider reforms to make government more efficient and accountable	Proposed reforms and efficiencies that would have saved taxpayers billions of dollars

***Democrats:*** Higher taxes, no priorities, bigger government.

***Republicans:*** Lower taxes, smaller government, common-sense priorities.