

## **University of Minnesota Regents Selection Study Proposal 07.03**

### **1. Describe your project idea, including clearly defining the problems and specific policy questions to be addressed.**

The University of Minnesota Regents Selection process is "broken". Legislation enacted in 2005 changed the process to include the Governor who would nominate a candidate for each open position as well as a joint House/Senate committee who would vote on the Governor's nominees. Unfortunately the joint committee approved only one of the four Governor nominees and forwarded the other three to the full legislature without a majority vote. It would appear that the 2005 Legislative action only served to make the Regents selection process even more "politicized".

### **2. Why is this problem important?**

The University of Minnesota is our states most valuable resource and the Board of Regents must have the most qualified members in order to ensure that this significant asset benefits all of the state in the most positive way.

### **3. How could the Citizens League make a unique contribution?**

The Citizens League has a long history of deep understanding and comprehensive assessment of education issues which have resulted in widespread support and positive action.

### **4. What are prospects that project would yield recommendations that could be implemented and have a major impact on the problem?**

Prospects are good that a positive outcome would be achieved. The Citizens League is well respected for its inclusiveness, sound judgement and willingness to advocate on behalf of its positions.

### **5. Explain how this problem can be addressed by data, research, and reason? Identify probable sources for data and research.**

There is a great deal of hisotrical data available about the issue and an "ad hoc" Project Team could gather information, interview interested parties and make appropriate recommendations based on sound methodolgy and careful thought.

### **6. Explain how this proposal can be framed without partisan bias.**

The U of M is a statewide resource which should serve all interests and its volunteer leadership should be selected on a non-partisan basis and based on merit.

### **7. Why would this project be attractive to members?**

High Visibility. Citizens League history of success in studying Higher Education issues.

### **8. How would this project reach out to under-represented segments of the community?**

Not sure.

### **9. What is the potential for making this issue visible to a broader public? Why?**

Should be opportunities to secure engagement and support from other community partners.

**10. What resources—funding, experts, etc. might be available to support this project?**

Should be plenty of "experts" within the Citizens League "family". Not sure about resources.