

March 13, 2025

SCR 4024

House Government and Veterans Affairs Committee

My name is Tim Mathern. I am the senator from District 11 and have voted in the Senate since 1986.

Concurrent resolution 4024 directs the Legislative Management to consider studying and using dedicated funds in the capitol building fund to build a legislative office structure. I foresee a two level underground parking lot over which there is a two level committee rooms and office structure. The rationale and points for support of 4024 are covered in the WHEREAS clauses of the resolution. I add other items as follows.

I am concerned, especially as we get into the situation of short-term legislators, that we have the following items.

1. We need easier access to committee rooms by citizens,
2. We need more convenient and weather safe parking for legislators and citizens alike,
3. The people's branch of government needs to be clearly evident by our capital structure.

In summary, the legislative branch of government, who's members are closest to the citizens, needs a proper presence at our central place of state government. This study can help us determine how this can be properly addressed as we go forward in the environment of term limits.

Please pass SCR 4024. Thank you.