



End of Session Update – 2026

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Summary

- DCT entered the 2026 legislative session with seven policy proposals, three budget proposals, and two bonding proposals.
- All seven policy proposals and three budget proposals were included in SF 476, the Human Services Policy Omnibus Bill.
- DCT received asset preservation funds.

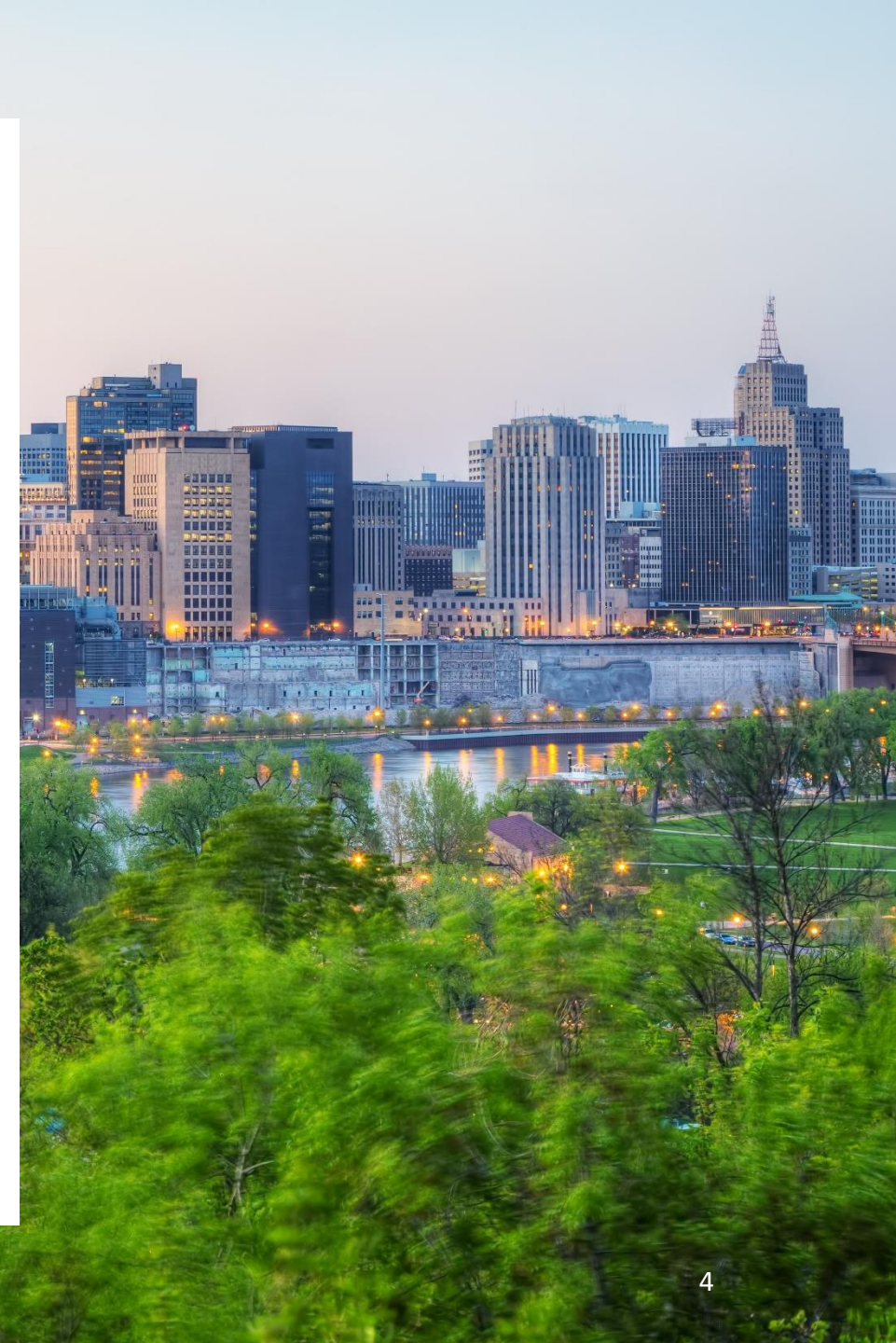


What Passed?



Updated Reference in Tort Statute

- Adds the DCT Executive Board to the provision related to claims under \$7,000.
- Corrects an inaccurate statutory reference to the responsible entity, previously listed commissioner of human services.



Delegee to Assist with MSOP Data Review

- Permits the DCT data practices compliance official to delegate authority to receive and respond to challenges to the accuracy or completeness of data maintained by MSOP

Data Sharing for Health Care Operations

- Ensures data sharing for health operations
- Allows for data sharing as permitted by law
- Reduces risks and challenges with limitations on data sharing for health care systems

Sharing Information with Guardianship Court

- Allows DCT to disclose welfare system data to facilitate coordination of guardianship services for DCT clients.
- Requires a client's consent for disclosure and provides exceptions to the consent requirement.

Classification Alignment for DCT Employees

- Allows DCT, with approval from MMB, to convert certain employees from the unclassified service to the classified service.
- Eligible positions are those that the legislature authorized DHS to exempt from certain state civil service laws and rules under a human resources pilot project first authorized in 1994 and continued in 1997.

Providing Routine Care Before Medical Emergencies Arise

- Specifies procedures for making health care decisions on behalf of a patient in a state-operated treatment program when:
 - the program cannot locate a proper relative and
 - the patient's treating physician determines that the patient lacks the decision-making capacity to consent to medical treatment.

More Time for Forensics Patients to Return for Medical Care

- Allows patients transferred out of a secure treatment facility to voluntarily return for a period of up to:
 - 90 days if due to a psychiatric medical condition or
 - six months due to a nonpsychiatric medical condition.

Authority to Accept Gifts For Patients

- Updates statute to reflect accurate DCT governance and list the correct agency with jurisdiction over the referenced patients
- Allows DCT Executive Board to accept gifts solely for the direct benefit of patients



Secure Facilities Exemption from Security Body Scanner Requirements

- Provides DCT secure facilities an exemption for certain examinations and inspection requirements
- Increases safety and security
- More respectful, private and dignified security searches for clients and patients
- Consistent with other facilities with similar security screening needs

Extend the Appropriation Availability for the DCT County Correctional Facility Support Pilot Program

- Allows use of unspent appropriation for two more years - until June 30, 2028
- Sustains current staffing levels
- Continues work to provide technical assistance, training and support to county jails



Non-DCT Initiatives

- Extends appropriation availability for the DCT Advisory Committee to June 30, 2028
- Prohibits MSOP clients from obtaining certain data about employees
- Limiting correspondence and telephone calls that could be used to harass, intimidate or assault employees.



Capital Investment

- Asset Preservation
 - Requested: \$23.7 M
 - Received: \$23 M
- St. Peter Water & Sewer Replacement
 - Requested: \$18.8 M
 - Received: \$0

Thank You!

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