Strengthen oversight and compliance for adult day centers

Issues:

- The number of adult day centers licensed by the Department of Human Services has grown 27 percent in the last two years, from 165 centers in late 2016 to 210 centers in late 2018.
- The centers serve seniors and younger adults with disabilities in more integrated community settings. Compliance with licensing standards is down, creating health and safety issues. These issues result in more severe licensing sanctions, requiring significantly more licensing staff time. The federal Office of Inspector General at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services highlighted noncompliance and related concerns in a May 2017 audit.
- More staff will improve oversight of adult day centers. DHS now inspects centers once every four years.

Proposal:

- Governor Tim Walz’s proposal adds two full-time licensors to oversee adult day centers.
- The new staff will allow DHS to conduct site visits once every two years and strengthen oversight.

Benefits:

- Adult day centers will have on-site licensing reviews every two years and receive better monitoring and technical assistance for compliance issues, including conditional licenses.
- Minnesota seniors and people with disabilities served by adult day centers will benefit from improvements in health, safety and quality of services.

Fiscal impact:

- Invests $270,000 in FY 2020-21 and $270,000 in FY 2022-23

Related information:

- Licensing for adult day care webpage: https://mn.gov/dhs/partners-and-providers/licensing/adult-day-care/