Legislative COVID-19 Response Commission – Action Order #9
COVID-19 Minnesota Fund – FY 2020

The Minnesota Legislature created the COVID-19 Minnesota Fund and appropriated money in the fund to the commissioner of management and budget to disburse or transfer to state agencies as necessary to protect Minnesotans from the COVID-19 outbreak and maintain state government operations throughout the duration of the peacetime emergency declared by the governor in executive order 20-01.

Pursuant to Minnesota Session Laws, Chapter 71, Section 7, Sub 2(b), the commissioner of management and budget must submit proposed single expenditures from the COVID-19 Minnesota fund that exceed $1,000,000 to the Legislative COVID-19 Response Commission. Upon submission of the request, the commission has 24 hours to make a positive recommendation, a negative recommendation, or no recommendation on a proposed expenditure.

If a majority of members from the senate and a majority of members from the house of representatives make a negative recommendation on a proposed expenditure, the commissioner is prohibited from expending the money. If a majority of the commission members from the senate or a majority of members from the house of representatives make a positive recommendation or no recommendation, the commissioner may expend the money.

On April 22, 2020, the commissioner submitted the following proposed expenditure request:

- Positive recommendation to allow spending of $36 million for a collaboration between the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH), the health systems providing care to Minnesotans, and the University of Minnesota and Mayo Clinic for rapid widespread testing for COVID-19 in the State of Minnesota.

The requisite number of commission members having provided a positive recommendation, I hereby authorize $36,000,000 from the COVID-19 Minnesota fund to the Minnesota Department of Public Health for rapid widespread testing for COVID-19 in the State of Minnesota.

April 22, 2020

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DATE                                                                                                  Myron Frans, Commissioner