



Legislative COVID-19 Response Commission – Action Order #11 COVID-19 Flexible Response Account – FY 2022

The Minnesota Legislature created the COVID-19 Flexible Response Account and appropriated \$425 million in the fund to the commissioner of management and budget to pay expenditures eligible under federal guidance for the state fiscal recovery fund. These funds were available to Minnesota under the American Rescue Plan passed in March 2021.

Pursuant to Minnesota Session Laws, 1st Special Session, Chapter 12, Article 5, Section 2, Sub 2(b), the commissioner of management and budget must submit proposed single expenditures from the COVID-19 Minnesota fund that exceed \$2,500,000 to the Legislative COVID-19 Response Commission. Upon submission of the request, the commission has three days 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 January 11, 2022, the commissioner submitted the following proposed expenditure requests:

- ***Positive recommendation to allow spending of \$40,000,000 to expand COVID-19 testing.***
- ***Positive recommendation to allow spending of \$40,000,000 to procure emergency staffing support at hospitals.***
- ***Positive recommendation to allow spending of \$5,000,000 for emergency temporary staffing at long term care settings.***

The requisite number of commission members having provided a positive or no recommendation, I hereby authorize \$85,000,000 from the COVID-19 Flexible Response Account.

January 15, 2021

Date

Jim Schowalter, Commissioner