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Agency/Point of Contact: Department of Administration

Title of Request: N95 and KN95 Respirator Masks

Date: 4/12/2022 Request Amount: \$ 1,000,000

Expenditure Time Period: 4/22/2022 to 6/30/2023

Brief Summary of Request: (Summary must be complete on this page with supporting information attached)

This request of \$1 million is for Department of Administration (Admin) on behalf of the entire enterprise to purchase 1,020,000 N95 and/or KN95 respirator masks to provide an on-going supply to distribute as needed to vulnerable populations across the state in response to potential future spikes of COVID-19 variants.

Rationale/Background:

The Critical Care Supplies work group was established in mid-March 2020 to source and purchase ventilators and supplementary personal protective equipment needed by the State's frontline healthcare workers and others working in connection with the public health emergency to fight COVID-19.

As the scope of the work group evolved with the public health needs of the state, personal protective equipment was also provided to vulnerable populations to assist with source control. Through that effort, the state acquired several million N95 and KN95 respirator masks for both healthcare and non-healthcare settings.

The State of Minnesota recently distributed 2.1 million N95 and KN95 masks to community groups, tribal nations, local public health agencies, schools, and other entities to ensure Minnesotans have access to high-quality masks during the current wave of the Omicron variant of COVID-19 .

Currently, there are approximately 1.7M medical grade N95 masks remaining in the warehouse. These masks are solely intended to be a reserve stockpile in the event demand outpaces supplies for healthcare workers in the future. There are no significant quantities of masks available for congregate care settings, non-healthcare settings, congregate living settings, or socially vulnerable Minnesotans. This funding request will allow the state to replenish the state stockpile and be prepared to supply high quality masks to non-healthcare settings in the event of another highly contagious variant of COVID-19.

AR Butcher

Department Head Signature

04.15.2022

Date