



# Food, Pools, and Lodging Regulations

Fiscal Impact (\$000s)	FY 2014	FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017
State Government Special Rev				
Expenditures	670	648	648	648
Net Fiscal Impact	670	648	648	648
FTEs	7.0	7.0	7.0	7.0

## Summary

This proposal appropriates \$670,000 in FY 2014 and \$648,000 in each following year from the State Government Special Revenue Fund to cover the cost of regulating food, beverage, pool, and lodging establishments in the City of Saint Paul. There is no fee increase associated with this proposal. Fee revenue currently being collected from these establishments in Saint Paul will offset the cost of this appropriation increase.

## Background

On July 9, 2013, the Minnesota Department of Health assumed responsibility for inspecting over 1,200 restaurants, hotels, and public swimming pools in Saint Paul. Six inspection staff and 1 supervisor were hired shortly after assuming these responsibilities. To cover the cost, MDH began collecting license fees on all restaurants, lodging establishments, and public swimming pools pursuant to Minnesota Statute 157. Although MDH has legal authority to collect fees from Saint Paul establishments, a legislative appropriation is required to spend those fee revenues on MDH regulatory activities.

## Proposal

The proposal increases the appropriation for food, pool, and lodging regulation equal to the estimated

revenue and expenses generated from licensing and inspection duties in Saint Paul. Funding will be used to pay for salaries and equipment of inspection staff hired to perform the following work in Saint Paul:

- ensure that safe food is served at restaurants and other food events;
- respond to food safety emergencies such as foodborne illness outbreaks and food recalls,
- ensure the safety of swimmers in public swimming pools by enforcing the Abigail Taylor Pool Safety Act and the Minnesota Pool Code;
- ensure that lodging establishments provide safe and sanitary sleeping accommodations to the public; and
- follow-up on safety and sanitary condition complaints regarding any restaurant, public swimming pool, and lodging establishment.

Without this proposal, MDH will be unable to perform licensing and inspection activities in Saint Paul without compromising regulatory work in other Minnesota jurisdictions.

For more information, contact:

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