

1.1 A bill for an act  
1.2 relating to human services; appropriating money for emergency services, isolation  
1.3 spaces, and housing support.

1.4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

1.5 Section 1. **APPROPRIATION; EMERGENCY SERVICES.**

1.6 (a) \$9,000,000 in fiscal year 2021 is appropriated from the general fund to the  
1.7 commissioner of human services for emergency services grants under Minnesota Statutes,  
1.8 section 256E.36. Grant funds may be used as follows:

1.9 (1) to provide additional shelter space; to purchase vouchers for the cost of a motel or  
1.10 hotel room; or to fund other housing options, in order to provide housing that promotes  
1.11 health and safety, or to isolate homeless individuals exposed to COVID-19 or who are  
1.12 experiencing respiratory illness. Vouchers for the cost of a motel or hotel room may not be  
1.13 issued to motels or hotels that receive funding from another source for the cost of the same  
1.14 motel or hotel room for the same date;

1.15 (2) to purchase hygiene, sanitation, and cleaning supplies to support compliance with  
1.16 Centers for Disease Control and Prevention guidance on sanitation and personal protective  
1.17 equipment; and

1.18 (3) to hire staff necessary to protect the health and wellness of program recipients, to  
1.19 increase the number of persons served, or to provide staffing when workers are quarantined  
1.20 or cannot work because they are caring for someone with COVID-19.

1.21 (b) Notwithstanding any other law or rule to the contrary, the commissioner may allocate  
1.22 funds to programs, providers, and organizations providing or seeking to provide services

2.1 to individuals experiencing homelessness through a single fiscal agent chosen by the  
2.2 commissioner.

2.3 (c) Grant applicants must describe how they intend to use grant funds for the purposes  
2.4 listed in paragraph (a), clauses (1) to (3). Grant funds may be used by grant recipients for  
2.5 the activities listed in paragraph (a), clauses (1) to (3).

2.6 (d) If a grant recipient receives funds from a nonstate source, other than a local unit of  
2.7 government or a tribe, for activities listed in paragraph (a), clauses (1) to (3), the grant  
2.8 recipient must notify the commissioner of the amount received from the nonstate source.  
2.9 If the commissioner determines that the total amount the grant recipient received under this  
2.10 section and from the nonstate source exceeds the grant recipient's costs for the activities in  
2.11 paragraph (a), clauses (1) to (3), the grant recipient must pay the commissioner the amount  
2.12 that exceeds the costs, up to the amount of funding provided under this section. All money  
2.13 paid to the commissioner under this section must be deposited in the general fund.

2.14 (e) This is a onetime appropriation and is available until June 30, 2021, or until 60 days  
2.15 after expiration of the peacetime emergency declared by the governor in an executive order  
2.16 that relates to the infectious disease known as COVID-19, whichever occurs earlier. Any  
2.17 unexpended amounts that are not obligated by that date shall cancel to the general fund.

2.18 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

2.19 **Sec. 2. APPROPRIATION; ISOLATION SPACES.**

2.20 (a) \$4,306,000 in fiscal year 2021 is appropriated from the general fund to the  
2.21 commissioner of human services to establish and maintain isolation spaces from January  
2.22 1, 2021, to February 28, 2021, for suspected or confirmed COVID-positive individuals who  
2.23 are experiencing homelessness or who cannot safely isolate at home and who do not require  
2.24 a hospital level of care.

2.25 (b) The commissioner may enter into contracts with local units of government, as defined  
2.26 in Minnesota Statutes, section 4A.07, subdivision 1, paragraph (a), tribal governments, and  
2.27 nonprofit organizations or directly purchase goods or services necessary to provide isolation  
2.28 spaces or services related to establishing or maintaining such spaces.

2.29 (c) Notwithstanding any other law or rule to the contrary, the commissioner may allocate  
2.30 funding to maintain and extend existing contracts for isolation spaces entered into with  
2.31 Coronavirus Relief Funds awarded as a result of 2020 Legislative Advisory Commission  
2.32 order number 48. The commissioner may also enter into new contracts with eligible entities  
2.33 under Minnesota Statutes, section 12.36.

3.1 (d) This is a onetime appropriation and is available until June 30, 2021, or until 60 days  
3.2 after expiration of the peacetime emergency declared by the governor in an executive order  
3.3 that relates to the infectious disease known as COVID-19, whichever occurs earlier. Any  
3.4 unexpended amounts that are not obligated by that date shall cancel to the general fund.

3.5 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

3.6 Sec. 3. **APPROPRIATION; HOUSING SUPPORT.**

3.7 (a) \$4,235,000 in fiscal year 2021 is appropriated from the general fund to the  
3.8 commissioner of human services to increase room and board rates under Minnesota Statutes,  
3.9 chapter 256I, by 10.7 percent for purposes of maintaining access to room and board, including  
3.10 activities necessary to comply with federal and state health and safety guidance, in response  
3.11 to the COVID-19 pandemic from January 1, 2021, through February 28, 2021. This is a  
3.12 onetime appropriation.

3.13 (b) Prior to July 1, 2021, providers must submit documentation demonstrating increased  
3.14 funding was used for needs related to COVID-19 for the time period during which the funds  
3.15 appropriated under this section were expended.

3.16 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.