

# MINNESOTA'S



## COVID-19 RECOVERY BUDGET

### SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET PROPOSALS

#### SUPPORTING WORKING FAMILIES



The COVID-19 pandemic has reminded us how critically important it is for people to stay home from work when they are sick. Workers, who go to work sick, risk spreading illness to coworkers, customers, and the public. But too many Minnesotans don't have access to paid sick leave and are forced to choose between going to work sick and paying their bills. This proposal would ensure that workers can accrue up to 48 hours per year of paid leave for when they need to recover from an illness, go to a medical appointment, care for a child during a school closure, or get care and assistance due to domestic abuse, stalking or sexual assault.

#### HELPING EMPLOYERS DEVELOP A SKILLED AND DIVERSE WORKFORCE



The Governor recommends a \$138,000 increase to the Minnesota Department of Labor and Industry's (DLI) Apprenticeship operating budget to fund an additional full-time-equivalent to continue expanded program activities and strategies to grow the program. The position, currently funded by an expiring federal grant, is critical to Apprenticeship Minnesota's role as a meaningful connector to drive greater participation and inclusion in registered apprenticeship. This proposal would increase the state portion of the unit budget by 12%.

#### EXTENDING WORK COMP CAMPUS TECHNOLOGY FUNDS



This proposal extends the remaining information technology funds from the \$3 million appropriated in FY2020 for DLI's Workers' Compensation Modernization Program, called Work Comp Campus, through FY2023. DLI estimates around \$700,000 could roll forward into FY22. DLI would like to extend the expiration of the funds to implement changes to Work Comp Campus resulting from stakeholder feedback. After completing a review, the department will purchase additional vendor services to expedite implementation of changes requested by stakeholders.

## CONTINUING INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY MODERNIZATION



The supplemental budget withdraws a prior recommendation to reduce funding for the agency's information technology modernization project by \$848,000. As such, DLI will be able to fully modernize software applications, increasing transparency and decreasing transaction time for stakeholders interacting with the agency. DLI received \$2.8 million in modernization funds between FY2020 and FY2023 to update agency applications running on aged technology that began losing vendor support in January 2021.