

FIGHTING AND PREVENTING FRAUD

Every public dollar should be used for the public good — not to enrich scammers, shell companies, or criminals who exploit Minnesotans. DFLers are furious that taxpayer dollars meant to support families, seniors, people with disabilities, and children have been stolen through fraud. That's why we're serious about preventing and prosecuting fraud. We will stop fraud before it starts, hold those responsible fully accountable, and protect the programs that serve the most vulnerable Minnesotans.

Minnesotans deserve a government they can trust. Building on the work of the last few sessions, House DFLers are working on a broad agenda increasing accountability, transparency, and program integrity.

Holding Fraudsters Accountable

We will strengthen the state's ability to rapidly detect fraud, halt improper payments, and aggressively prosecute those who commit fraud to the fullest extent.

- Strengthening Medicaid Fraud enforcement — with more resources, more investigators, and more prosecution power.
- Requiring third party middlemen to report suspected fraud and overpayments promptly and return improperly paid funds.
- Establishing an independent, fully-funded and empowered Office of Inspector General to investigate misuse of public funds across state government.
- Strengthening audits to stop tax evasion and ensure everyone pays their fair share.

Excellence in Governance and Oversight

Minnesotans deserve services that work, which is why we care about protecting public dollars from fraudsters.

- Strengthening oversight with mandatory in-person site visits and tracking systems to ensure private providers are delivering services to Minnesotans.
- Strengthening systems upfront to make sure we're working with trustworthy businesses — including risk-based screening, comprehensive background checks, fingerprinting, and surety bonds for high-risk provider categories.
- Cracking down on worker misclassification and wage theft so employers cannot deny workers wages, benefits, and protections.

Updating Our Systems

Too much of state government runs on outdated and clunky systems that rely on multiple platforms and manual workarounds — the equivalent of using dial-up internet in 2026. This creates gaps and errors that lead to improper payments, increased fraud risk, and residents waiting for help.

- Modernizing IT systems, investing in high-powered data systems that allows us to prevent, catch, and stop payments to fraudsters.

Legislating Differently into the Future

For decades, Republicans have worked to dismantle government and outsource important services without accountability. The difference between Feeding Our Future and the Minnesota Universal School Meals program is that school meals weren't outsourced — and lunch ladies don't commit fraud. Our goal is clear: eliminate the business model of fraud, ensure public dollars remain public, and deliver effective, accountable services to Minnesotans.

- Reforming grant management to ensure every dollar is going to its intended purpose, performance standards are clear, reporting is timely, and misuse triggers real consequences.
- Stop counties from outsourcing case management responsibilities, tightening oversight, and evaluating whether functions should transition to the state — reducing the burden on counties while cutting bureaucratic hurdles.
- Reducing risky outsourcing of core government functions by keeping programs in-house, strengthening performance requirements, and rebuilding public capacity where it improves transparency and accountability.

