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State of Minnesota

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NINETY-SECOND SESSION

H. F. No. **4125**

03/10/2022 Authored by Nelson, M.,
The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on State Government Finance and Elections
03/31/2022 By motion, recalled and re-referred to the Committee on Judiciary Finance and Civil Law

1.1 A bill for an act

1.2 relating to the financing of state government; appropriating money for certain

1.3 constitutional offices, state agencies, and Veterans Affairs; modifying data practices

1.4 provisions; establishing the Office of Enterprise Translations and the language

1.5 access service account; establishing county and local cybersecurity grants;

1.6 modifying provisions governing burial grounds and cemeteries; modifying

1.7 provisions governing military veterans; establishing a Veterans Service

1.8 Organization grant program; amending Minnesota Statutes 2020, sections 13.04,

1.9 subdivision 4; 13.072, subdivision 1; 16A.126, subdivision 1; 16A.1286,

1.10 subdivision 2; 197.608, subdivisions 4, 6; 197.79, subdivisions 1, 2, 3, 5, 10;

1.11 307.08, as amended; Laws 2021, First Special Session chapter 12, article 5, section

1.12 2, subdivision 1; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapters

1.13 16B; 16E; 197.

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

1.15 ARTICLE 1

1.16 STATE GOVERNMENT APPROPRIATIONS

1.17 Section 1. STATE GOVERNMENT APPROPRIATIONS.

1.18 The sums shown in the columns marked "Appropriations" are added to or, if shown in

1.19 parentheses, subtracted from the appropriations in Laws 2021, First Special Session chapter

1.20 12, article 1, to the agencies and for the purposes specified in this article. The appropriations

1.21 are from the general fund, or another named fund, and are available for the fiscal years

1.22 indicated for each purpose. The figures "2022" and "2023" used in this article mean that

1.23 the appropriations listed under them are available for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022,

1.24 or June 30, 2023, respectively. All base adjustments identified within this article are

1.25 adjustments to the base contained in Laws 2021, First Special Session chapter 12, article

1.26 1.

2.1	<u>APPROPRIATIONS</u>			
2.2	<u>Available for the Year</u>			
2.3	<u>Ending June 30</u>			
2.4		<u>2022</u>		<u>2023</u>
2.5	Sec. 2. <u>ATTORNEY GENERAL</u>	<u>\$</u>	<u>3,165,000</u>	<u>\$</u> <u>4,156,000</u>
2.6	Sec. 3. <u>SECRETARY OF STATE</u>	<u>\$</u>	<u>.....</u>	<u>\$</u> <u>310,000</u>
2.7	Sec. 4. <u>MINNESOTA IT SERVICES</u>			
2.8	<u>Subdivision 1. Total Appropriation</u>	<u>\$</u>	<u>6,009,000</u>	<u>\$</u> <u>14,841,000</u>
2.9	<u>Appropriations by Fund</u>			
2.10		<u>2022</u>		<u>2023</u>
2.11	<u>General</u>	<u>6,009,000</u>		<u>14,691,000</u>
2.12	<u>Special Revenue</u>	<u>.....</u>		<u>150,000</u>
2.13	<u>The general fund base for this appropriation</u>			
2.14	<u>is increased by \$14,974,000 in fiscal year 2024</u>			
2.15	<u>and \$6,475,000 in fiscal year 2025. The</u>			
2.16	<u>special revenue fund base is increased by</u>			
2.17	<u>\$150,000 in fiscal year 2024 and each year</u>			
2.18	<u>thereafter.</u>			
2.19	<u>The amounts that may be spent for each</u>			
2.20	<u>purpose are specified in the following</u>			
2.21	<u>subdivisions.</u>			
2.22	<u>Subd. 2. Cybersecurity Grant Program</u>		<u>359,000</u>	<u>1,435,000</u>
2.23	<u>\$359,000 in fiscal year 2022 and \$1,435,000</u>			
2.24	<u>in fiscal year 2023 are for a cybersecurity</u>			
2.25	<u>improvement grant program for political</u>			
2.26	<u>subdivisions and Minnesota Tribal</u>			
2.27	<u>governments, as established in Minnesota</u>			
2.28	<u>Statutes, section 16E.35. The base for this</u>			
2.29	<u>program is \$1,614,000 in fiscal year 2024 and</u>			
2.30	<u>\$717,000 in fiscal year 2025.</u>			
2.31	<u>Subd. 3. Cloud-Based Services</u>		<u>5,400,000</u>	<u>7,000,000</u>
2.32	<u>\$5,400,000 in fiscal year 2022 and \$7,000,000</u>			
2.33	<u>in fiscal year 2023 are for supporting the</u>			

3.1 procurement and adoption of cloud-based
 3.2 services. The base for this program is
 3.3 \$2,100,000 in fiscal year 2024 and \$0 in fiscal
 3.4 year 2025.

3.5 **Subd. 4. Executive Branch Technology**
 3.6 **Modernization**

250,0005,000,000

3.7 \$250,000 in fiscal year 2022 and \$5,000,000
 3.8 in fiscal year 2023 are for the modernization
 3.9 of executive branch software applications and
 3.10 services. The base for this program is
 3.11 \$10,000,000 in fiscal year 2024 and
 3.12 \$4,625,000 in fiscal year 2025.

3.13 **Subd. 5. Accessibility Assessment**

.....256,000

3.14 \$256,000 in fiscal year 2023 is for conducting
 3.15 an accessibility assessment of digital service
 3.16 applications for compatibility of those
 3.17 applications with accessibility best practices.
 3.18 The base for this program is \$260,000 in fiscal
 3.19 year 2024 and \$133,000 in fiscal year 2025.

3.20 **Subd. 6. Interagency Innovation Fund**

.....1,000,000

3.21 \$1,000,000 in fiscal year 2023 is for creating
 3.22 an interagency innovation fund to center the
 3.23 priorities of family and children across agency
 3.24 priorities and to deliver agile technology
 3.25 solutions necessary to improve access to
 3.26 services and increase coordination across
 3.27 multiple state agencies.

3.28 **Subd. 7. Technology Accessibility and Usability**

150,000150,000

3.29 \$150,000 in fiscal year 2022 and \$150,000 in
 3.30 fiscal year 2023 are from the
 3.31 telecommunications access Minnesota fund
 3.32 account in the special revenue fund for
 3.33 coordinating technology accessibility and
 3.34 usability.

4.1 Sec. 5. **ADMINISTRATION**4.2 **Subdivision 1. Total Appropriation** \$ \$ **5,660,000**4.3 The base is increased \$2,508,000 in fiscal year
4.4 2024 and \$2,508,000 in fiscal year 2025.4.5 The amounts that may be spent for each
4.6 purpose are specified in the following
4.7 subdivisions.4.8 **Subd. 2. Government and Citizen Services** **5,660,000**4.9 The base is increased \$2,508,000 in fiscal year
4.10 2024 and \$2,508,000 in fiscal year 2025.4.11 The commissioner shall transfer \$250,000
4.12 each year, starting in fiscal year 2023, to the
4.13 language access service account in the special
4.14 revenue fund, authorized in article 2, section
4.15 6.4.16 **(a) Procurement Technical Assistance**
4.17 **Center.** \$400,000 in fiscal year 2023 is for
4.18 the Procurement Technical Assistance Center.4.19 **(b) Disparity Study.** \$1,500,000 in fiscal year
4.20 2023 is to conduct a disparity study required
4.21 under Minnesota Statutes, section 16C.16,
4.22 subdivision 5. This is a onetime appropriation.4.23 **(c) Enterprise Fleet Fund.** \$630,000 in fiscal
4.24 year 2023 is to address revenue loss in the
4.25 motor pool revolving account. This is a
4.26 onetime appropriation and is available until
4.27 June 30, 2025. Each fiscal year the
4.28 commissioner may transfer to the motor pool
4.29 revolving account, as authorized in Minnesota
4.30 Statutes, section 16B.54, an amount necessary
4.31 to continue operations of the enterprise fleet.
4.32 This paragraph expires June 30, 2025.

5.1 (d) Office of Small Agencies Study. \$102,500
5.2 in fiscal year 2023 is to complete the study
5.3 required in article 2, section 10. This is a
5.4 onetime appropriation.

5.5 (e) Office of Enterprise Translations.
5.6 \$1,056,000 in fiscal year 2023 is to establish
5.7 the Office of Enterprise Translations as
5.8 required in article 2, section 5. Of this amount,
5.9 \$147,000 is a onetime appropriation.

5.10 (f) Office of Collaboration and Dispute
5.11 Resolution. \$150,000 in fiscal year 2023 is
5.12 for the Office of Collaboration and Dispute
5.13 Resolution.

5.14 Subd. 3. Fiscal Agent \$..... \$773,000

5.15 Association of Minnesota Public
5.16 Educational Radio Stations. \$773,000 in
5.17 fiscal year 2023 is for a grant to the
5.18 Association of Minnesota Public Educational
5.19 Radio Stations to provide new programs in
5.20 community radio. Of this amount, up to
5.21 \$23,000 is for the administration of the grant.
5.22 This is a onetime appropriation.

5.23 Sec. 6. MINNESOTA MANAGEMENT AND
5.24 BUDGET

5.25 Subdivision 1. Total Appropriation \$ \$ 7,899,000

5.26 The base is increased \$11,720,000 in fiscal
5.27 year 2024, \$9,689,000 in fiscal year 2025, and
5.28 \$1,764,000 in fiscal year 2026 and thereafter.

5.29 The amounts that may be spent for each
5.30 purpose are specified in the following
5.31 subdivisions.

6.1	<u>Subd. 2. Statewide Systems Services</u>				<u>6,285,000</u>
6.2	<u>\$6,285,000 in fiscal year 2023 is for statewide</u>				
6.3	<u>systems services. The base is \$9,956,000 in</u>				
6.4	<u>fiscal year 2024, \$7,925,000 in fiscal year</u>				
6.5	<u>2025, and \$0 in fiscal year 2026 and thereafter.</u>				
6.6	<u>Subd. 3. Children's Cabinet</u>				<u>1,000,000</u>
6.7	<u>\$1,000,000 in fiscal year 2023 is for the</u>				
6.8	<u>administration and staffing of the Children's</u>				
6.9	<u>Cabinet established in Minnesota Statutes,</u>				
6.10	<u>section 4.045.</u>				
6.11	<u>Subd. 4. Analytical, Statistical, and Program</u>				
6.12	<u>Evaluation</u>				<u>300,000</u>
6.13	<u>\$300,000 in fiscal year 2023 is for analytical,</u>				
6.14	<u>statistical, and program evaluation as provided</u>				
6.15	<u>under Minnesota Statutes, section 16A.055,</u>				
6.16	<u>subdivision 1a. The base in fiscal year 2024</u>				
6.17	<u>and each year thereafter is \$450,000.</u>				
6.18	<u>Sec. 7. MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY</u>				
6.19	<u>Subdivision 1. Total Appropriation</u>	<u>\$</u>	<u>.....</u>	<u>\$</u>	<u>1,250,000</u>
6.20	<u>The base is increased \$500,000 in fiscal year</u>				
6.21	<u>2024 and \$500,000 in fiscal year 2025.</u>				
6.22	<u>The amounts that may be spent for each</u>				
6.23	<u>purpose are specified in the following</u>				
6.24	<u>subdivisions.</u>				
6.25	<u>Subd. 2. Operations and Programs</u>		<u>.....</u>		<u>1,250,000</u>
6.26	<u>The base is increased \$500,000 in fiscal year</u>				
6.27	<u>2024 and \$500,000 in fiscal year 2025.</u>				
6.28	<u>Sec. 8. MINNESOTA HUMANITIES CENTER</u>	<u>\$</u>	<u>.....</u>	<u>\$</u>	<u>22,000</u>
6.29	<u>Sec. 9. BOARD OF ACCOUNTANCY</u>	<u>\$</u>	<u>.....</u>	<u>\$</u>	<u>120,000</u>
6.30	<u>Sec. 10. MILITARY AFFAIRS</u>				
6.31	<u>Subdivision 1. Total Appropriation</u>	<u>\$</u>	<u>.....</u>	<u>\$</u>	<u>765,000</u>

7.1 The base is increased \$742,000 in fiscal year
7.2 2024 and \$742,000 in fiscal year 2025.

7.3 The amounts that may be spent for each
7.4 purpose are specified in the following
7.5 subdivisions.

7.6 Subd. 2. **General Support** 765,000

7.7 The base is increased \$742,000 in fiscal year
7.8 2024 and \$742,000 in fiscal year 2025.

7.9 **Holistic Health and Fitness Program**
7.10 \$765,000 in fiscal year 2023 is for
7.11 administrative and payroll costs to create and
7.12 operate Holistic Health and Fitness (H2F)
7.13 initiatives across the Minnesota Army National
7.14 Guard.

7.15 Sec. 11. **VETERANS AFFAIRS**

7.16 Subdivision 1. **Total Appropriation** \$ 500,000 \$ 53,041,000

7.17 The base is increased \$8,316,000 for fiscal
7.18 year 2024 and \$5,316,000 in fiscal year 2025.

7.19 The amounts that may be spent for each
7.20 purpose are specified in the following
7.21 subdivisions.

7.22 Subd. 2. **Veterans Programs and Services** 500,000 53,041,000

7.23 The base is increased \$8,316,000 in fiscal year
7.24 2024 and \$5,316,000 in fiscal year 2025.

7.25 (a) **Veterans Bonus Program.** \$40,000,000
7.26 in fiscal year 2023 is for service bonuses to
7.27 Post-9/11 Veterans and Gold Star families
7.28 under Minnesota Statutes, section 197.79. This
7.29 is a onetime appropriation.

7.30 (b) **Veterans Service Organizations Grant**
7.31 **Program.** \$147,000 in fiscal year 2023 and
7.32 each year thereafter is for grants to

8.1 congressionally chartered veterans service
8.2 organizations meeting eligibility requirements
8.3 under Minnesota Statutes, section 197.61,
8.4 subdivision 3, as designated by the
8.5 commissioner.

8.6 **(c) County Veterans Service Office.**
8.7 \$450,000 in fiscal year 2023 and each year
8.8 thereafter is for funding the County Veterans
8.9 Service Office grant program under Minnesota
8.10 Statutes, section 197.608.

8.11 **(d) Fisher House.** \$500,000 in fiscal year
8.12 2022 is for the purpose of contributing to the
8.13 construction of a Fisher House near the Fargo
8.14 Veterans Affairs (VA) Medical Center campus
8.15 to offer temporary accommodations at no
8.16 charge to families and caregivers of veterans
8.17 receiving care at the Fargo VA Health Care
8.18 System. This is a onetime appropriation.

8.19 **(e) Redwood Falls State Veterans Cemetery.**
8.20 \$830,000 in fiscal year 2023 and each year
8.21 thereafter is for operations of the state's
8.22 veterans cemeteries including operations in
8.23 Redwood County.

8.24 **(f) Minnesota Assistance Council for**
8.25 **Veterans.** \$8,800,000 in fiscal year 2023 is
8.26 for a grant to the Minnesota Assistance
8.27 Council for Veterans to provide assistance
8.28 throughout Minnesota to veterans and former
8.29 service members and their families who are
8.30 homeless or in danger of homelessness,
8.31 including assistance with the following:
8.32 (1) supportive services to maintain housing;
8.33 (2) employment;
8.34 (3) legal issues;

9.1 (4) housing and housing-related costs; and

9.2 (5) transportation.

9.3 The assistance authorized under this paragraph
9.4 must be made only to veterans or former
9.5 service members who have resided in
9.6 Minnesota for 30 days prior to application for
9.7 assistance and according to other guidelines
9.8 established by the commissioner. In order to
9.9 avoid duplication of services, the
9.10 commissioner must ensure that this assistance
9.11 is coordinated with all other available
9.12 programs for veterans.

9.13 \$8,800,000 of the total appropriation in fiscal
9.14 year 2023 must be used for the establishment
9.15 and management of permanent supportive
9.16 housing options for homeless veterans and
9.17 former service members.

9.18 The base in fiscal year 2024 is \$4,200,000 and
9.19 each year thereafter is \$1,200,000.

9.20 Any unencumbered balance remaining in this
9.21 subdivision in fiscal year 2023 is available in
9.22 fiscal years 2024 and 2025.

9.23 **(g) Increase Engagement and Outreach**
9.24 **Activities; Support Temporary Housing**
9.25 **Options.** \$1,714,000 in fiscal year 2023 and
9.26 each year thereafter is for temporary
9.27 alternative housing options for homeless
9.28 veterans and former service members, and for
9.29 staff to increase outreach activities to end
9.30 homelessness. The commissioner of veterans
9.31 affairs may use funds for personnel, research,
9.32 marketing, and professional or technical
9.33 contracts.

(h) Tenancy Supports and Landlord

Engagement. \$1,100,000 in fiscal year 2023

is for incentives for landlords to assist in

housing homeless veterans and former service

members, staff, and funding to remove barriers

to permanent housing. The commissioner of

veterans affairs may use funds for financial

assistance, personnel, research, marketing, and

professional or technical contracts. The base

in fiscal year 2024 and each year thereafter is

\$975,000.

ARTICLE 2

POLICY PROVISIONS

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2020, section 13.04, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

Subd. 4. **Procedure when data is not accurate or complete.** (a) An individual subject of the data may contest the accuracy or completeness of public or private data about themselves.

(b) To exercise this right, an individual shall notify in writing the responsible authority of the government entity that maintains the data, describing the nature of the disagreement.

(c) Upon receiving the notification from the data subject, the responsible authority shall within 30 days either:

(1) correct the data found to be inaccurate or incomplete and attempt to notify past recipients of inaccurate or incomplete data, including recipients named by the individual; or

(2) notify the individual that the authority believes the data to be correct. If the challenged data are determined to be accurate or complete, the responsible authority shall inform the individual of the right to appeal the determination to the commissioner under this section. Data in dispute shall be disclosed only if the individual's statement of disagreement is included with the disclosed data.

(d) A data subject may appeal the determination of the responsible authority ~~may be~~ appealed pursuant to the provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act relating to contested cases. An individual must submit an appeal to the commissioner within 60 days of the responsible authority's notice of the right to appeal or as otherwise provided by the rules of

11.1 the commissioner. Upon receipt of an appeal by an individual, the commissioner shall,
11.2 before issuing the order and notice of a contested case hearing required by chapter 14, try
11.3 to resolve the dispute through education, conference, conciliation, or persuasion. If the
11.4 parties consent, the commissioner may refer the matter to mediation. Following these efforts,
11.5 the commissioner shall dismiss the appeal or issue the order and notice of hearing.

11.6 (e) The commissioner may dismiss an appeal without first attempting to resolve the
11.7 dispute or before issuing an order and notice of a contested case hearing if:

11.8 (1) an appeal to the commissioner is not timely;

11.9 (2) an appeal concerns data previously admitted as evidence in a court proceeding in
11.10 which the data subject was a party; or

11.11 (3) an individual is not the subject of the data challenged as inaccurate or incomplete.

11.12 ~~(b)~~ (f) Data on individuals that have been successfully challenged by an individual must
11.13 be completed, corrected, or destroyed by a government entity without regard to the
11.14 requirements of section 138.17.

11.15 (g) After completing, correcting, or destroying successfully challenged data, a government
11.16 entity may retain a copy of the commissioner of administration's order issued under chapter
11.17 14 or, if no order were issued, a summary of the dispute between the parties that does not
11.18 contain any particulars of the successfully challenged data.

11.19 Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2020, section 13.072, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

11.20 Subdivision 1. **Opinion; when required.** (a) Upon request of a government entity, the
11.21 commissioner may give a written opinion on any question relating to public access to
11.22 government data, rights of subjects of data, or classification of data under this chapter or
11.23 other Minnesota statutes governing government data practices. Upon request of any person
11.24 who disagrees with a determination regarding data practices made by a government entity,
11.25 the commissioner may give a written opinion regarding the person's rights as a subject of
11.26 government data or right to have access to government data.

11.27 (b) Upon request of a body subject to chapter 13D, the commissioner may give a written
11.28 opinion on any question relating to the body's duties under chapter 13D. Upon request of a
11.29 person who disagrees with the manner in which members of a governing body perform their
11.30 duties under chapter 13D, the commissioner may give a written opinion on compliance with
11.31 chapter 13D. ~~A governing body or person requesting an opinion under this paragraph must~~
11.32 ~~pay the commissioner a fee of \$200. Money received by the commissioner under this~~
11.33 ~~paragraph is appropriated to the commissioner for the purposes of this section.~~

(c) If the commissioner determines that no opinion will be issued, the commissioner shall give the government entity or body subject to chapter 13D or person requesting the opinion notice of the decision not to issue the opinion within five business days of receipt of the request. Notice must be in writing. For notice by mail, the decision not to issue an opinion is effective when placed with the United States Postal Service or with the central mail system of the state. If this notice is not given, the commissioner shall issue an opinion within ~~20~~ 50 days of receipt of the request.

~~(d) For good cause and upon written notice to the person requesting the opinion, the commissioner may extend this deadline for one additional 30-day period. The notice must state the reason for extending the deadline.~~ The government entity or the members of a body subject to chapter 13D must be provided a reasonable opportunity to explain the reasons for its decision regarding the data or how they perform their duties under chapter 13D. The commissioner or the government entity or body subject to chapter 13D may choose to give notice to the subject of the data concerning the dispute regarding the data or compliance with chapter 13D.

(e) This section does not apply to a determination made by the commissioner of health under section 13.3805, subdivision 1, paragraph (b), or 144.6581.

(f) A written, numbered, and published opinion issued by the attorney general shall take precedence over an opinion issued by the commissioner under this section.

Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2020, section 16A.126, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Set rates.** The commissioner shall approve the rates an agency must pay to a revolving fund for services. Funds subject to this subdivision include, but are not limited to, the revolving funds established in sections 14.46; 14.53; 16B.2975, subdivision 4; 16B.48; 16B.54; 16B.58; 16B.85; 16E.14; 43A.55; and 176.591; ~~and the fund established in section 43A.30; and the account established in section 16A.1286.~~

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective July 1, 2024.

Sec. 4. Minnesota Statutes 2020, section 16A.1286, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Billing procedures.** The commissioner may bill ~~up to \$10,000,000 in each~~ fiscal year for statewide systems services provided to state agencies, ~~judicial branch agencies in the executive, judicial, and legislative branches, the University of Minnesota, the~~ Minnesota State Colleges and Universities, and other entities. Each agency shall transfer from agency operating appropriations to the statewide systems account the amount billed

13.1 by the commissioner. ~~Billing policies and procedures related to statewide systems services~~
13.2 ~~must be developed by the commissioner in consultation with the commissioners of~~
13.3 ~~management and budget and administration, the University of Minnesota, and the Minnesota~~
13.4 ~~State Colleges and Universities.~~ The commissioner shall develop billing policies and
13.5 procedures.

13.6 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2025.

13.7 Sec. 5. **[16B.372] OFFICE OF ENTERPRISE TRANSLATIONS.**

13.8 The commissioner shall establish an Office of Enterprise Translations. The office must:

13.9 (1) provide translation services for written material for state agencies;

13.10 (2) create and maintain language-specific landing webpages in Spanish, Hmong, and
13.11 Somali with links to translated materials at state agency websites; and

13.12 (3) serve as a resource to executive branch agencies in areas that include best practices
13.13 and standards for the translation of written materials.

13.14 Sec. 6. **[16B.3721] LANGUAGE ACCESS SERVICE ACCOUNT ESTABLISHED.**

13.15 The language access service account is created in the special revenue fund for reimbursing
13.16 state agencies for expenses incurred in providing language translation services.

13.17 Sec. 7. **[16E.35] COUNTY AND LOCAL CYBERSECURITY GRANTS.**

13.18 Subdivision 1. **Cybersecurity grant program established.** Minnesota IT Services may
13.19 make grants to political subdivisions to support addressing cybersecurity risks and
13.20 cybersecurity threats to information systems owned or operated by, or on behalf of, state,
13.21 local, or Tribal governments, as provided in section 70612 of Public Law 117-58.

13.22 Subd. 2. **Match requirement.** The political subdivision receiving a grant must provide
13.23 for the remainder of the costs of the project.

13.24 Subd. 3. **Criteria.** The department may set criteria for program priorities and standards
13.25 of review.

14.1 Sec. 8. Minnesota Statutes 2020, section 307.08, as amended by Laws 2021 chapter 31,
14.2 article 2, section 16, is amended to read:

14.3 **307.08 DAMAGES; ILLEGAL MOLESTATION OF HUMAN REMAINS;**
14.4 **BURIALS; CEMETERIES; PENALTY; AUTHENTICATION.**

14.5 Subdivision 1. **Legislative intent; scope.** It is a declaration and statement of legislative
14.6 intent that all human burials, human remains, and human burial grounds shall be accorded
14.7 equal treatment and respect for human dignity without reference to their ethnic origins,
14.8 cultural backgrounds, or religious affiliations. The provisions of this section shall apply to
14.9 all human burials, human remains, or human burial grounds found on or in all nonfederal
14.10 public or private lands or waters in Minnesota.

14.11 Subd. 2. **Felony; gross misdemeanor.** (a) A person who intentionally, willfully, and
14.12 knowingly does any of the following is guilty of a felony:

14.13 (1) destroys, mutilates, or injures human burials or human burial grounds; or

14.14 (2) without the consent of the appropriate authority, disturbs human burial grounds or
14.15 removes human remains.

14.16 (b) A person who, without the consent of the appropriate authority and the landowner,
14.17 intentionally, willfully, and knowingly does any of the following is guilty of a gross
14.18 misdemeanor:

14.19 (1) removes any tombstone, monument, or structure placed in any public or private
14.20 cemetery or authenticated human burial ground; or

14.21 (2) removes any fence, railing, or other work erected for protection or ornament, or any
14.22 tree, shrub, or plant or grave goods and artifacts within the limits of a public or private
14.23 cemetery or authenticated human burial ground; or

14.24 (3) discharges any firearms upon or over the grounds of any public or private cemetery
14.25 or authenticated burial ground.

14.26 Subd. 3. **Protective posting.** Upon the agreement of the appropriate authority and the
14.27 landowner, an authenticated or recorded human burial ground may be posted for protective
14.28 purposes every 75 feet around its perimeter with signs listing the activities prohibited by
14.29 subdivision 2 and the penalty for violation of it. Posting is at the discretion of the Indian
14.30 affairs council in the case of American Indian burials or at the discretion of the state
14.31 archaeologist in the case of ~~non-Indian~~ non-American Indian burials. This subdivision does
14.32 not require posting of a burial ground. The size, description, location, and information on

15.1 the signs used for protective posting must be approved by the appropriate authority and the
15.2 landowner.

15.3 Subd. 3a. **Authentication** . The state archaeologist shall authenticate all burial grounds
15.4 for purposes of this section. The state archaeologist may retain the services of a qualified
15.5 professional archaeologist, a qualified physical anthropologist, or other appropriate experts
15.6 for the purpose of gathering information that the state archaeologist can use to authenticate
15.7 or identify burial grounds. If probable American Indian burial grounds are to be disturbed
15.8 or probable American Indian remains analyzed, the Indian Affairs Council must approve
15.9 the professional archaeologist, qualified anthropologist, or other appropriate expert.
15.10 Authentication is at the discretion of the state archaeologist based on the needs identified
15.11 in this section or upon request by an agency, a landowner, or other appropriate authority.

15.12 Subd. 5. ~~**Cost; use of data.**~~ The cost of authentication, recording, surveying, and marking
15.13 burial grounds and the cost of identification, analysis, rescue, and reburial of human remains
15.14 on public lands or waters shall be the responsibility of the state or political subdivision
15.15 controlling the lands or waters. On private lands or waters these costs shall be borne by the
15.16 state, but may be borne by the landowner upon mutual agreement with the state. ~~The state~~
15.17 ~~archaeologist must make the data collected for this activity available using standards adopted~~
15.18 ~~by the Department of Information Technology Services and geospatial technology standards~~
15.19 ~~and guidelines published by the Minnesota Geospatial Information Office. Costs associated~~
15.20 ~~with this data delivery must be borne by the state.~~

15.21 Subd. 7. **Remains found outside of recorded cemeteries.** (a) All unidentified human
15.22 remains or burials found outside of recorded cemeteries or unplatted graves or burials found
15.23 within recorded cemeteries and in contexts which indicate antiquity greater than 50 years
15.24 shall be treated with utmost respect for all human dignity and dealt with according to the
15.25 provisions of this section.

15.26 (b) If such burials are not American Indian or their ethnic identity cannot be ascertained,
15.27 as determined by the state archaeologist, they shall be dealt with in accordance with
15.28 provisions established by the state archaeologist and other appropriate authority.

15.29 (c) If such burials are American Indian, as determined by the state archaeologist and
15.30 Indian Affairs Council, efforts shall be made by the state archaeologist and the Indian Affairs
15.31 Council to ascertain their the Tribal identity. ~~If their probable tribal identity can be determined~~
15.32 ~~and the remains have been removed from their original context, such remains shall be turned~~
15.33 ~~over to contemporary tribal leaders for disposition.~~ of the remains in consultation with
15.34 appropriate experts designated by the Indian Affairs Council.

(d) If Tribal identity of the remains cannot be determined, the American Indian remains must be dealt with in accordance with provisions established by ~~the state archaeologist and the Indian Affairs Council if they are from public land. If removed Indian remains are from private land they shall be dealt with in accordance with provisions established by the Indian Affairs Council.~~ If it is deemed desirable by the state archaeologist or the Indian Affairs Council, removed remains shall be studied in a timely and respectful manner by a qualified professional archaeologist or a qualified physical anthropologist before being delivered to tribal leaders or before being reburied.

Subd. 7a. Landowner responsibilities. (a) Application by a landowner for permission to develop or disturb nonburial areas within authenticated or recorded burial grounds shall be made to the:

(1) state archaeologist and other appropriate authority in the case of ~~non-Indian~~ non-American Indian burials; and

(2) to the Indian Affairs Council and other appropriate authority in the case of American Indian burials.

(b) Landowners with authenticated or suspected human burial grounds on their property are obligated to inform prospective buyers of the burial ground.

Subd. 8. Burial ground relocation. No ~~non-Indian~~ non-American Indian burial ground may be relocated without the consent of the appropriate authority. No American Indian burial ground may be relocated unless the request to relocate is approved by the Indian Affairs Council. When a burial ground is located on public lands or waters, any burial relocations must be duly licensed under section 138.36 and the cost of removal is the responsibility of and shall be paid by the state or political subdivision controlling the lands or waters. If burial grounds are authenticated on private lands, efforts may be made by the state to purchase and protect them instead of removing them to another location.

Subd. 9. Interagency cooperation. (a) The state archaeologist and the Indian Affairs Council shall enter into a memorandum of understanding to coordinate their responsibilities under this section.

(b) The Department of Natural Resources, the Department of Transportation, and all other state agencies and local governmental units whose activities may be affected, shall cooperate with the state archaeologist and the Indian Affairs Council to carry out the provisions of this section.

Subd. 10. **Construction and development plan review.** When human burials are known or suspected to exist, on public lands or waters, the state or political subdivision controlling the lands or waters or, in the case of private lands, the landowner or developer, shall submit construction and development plans to the state archaeologist for review prior to the time ~~bids are advertised~~ development is proposed and prior to any disturbance within the burial area. If the known or suspected burials are thought to be American Indian, plans shall also be submitted to the Indian Affairs Council. The state archaeologist and the Indian Affairs Council shall review the plans within ~~30~~ 45 days of receipt and make recommendations for the preservation in place or removal of the human burials or remains, which may be endangered by construction or development activities.

Subd. 11. **Burial sites data.** ~~(a) Burial sites locational and related data maintained by data under the authority of the Office of the State Archaeologist and accessible through the office's "Unplatted Burial Sites and Earthworks in Minnesota" website or Indian Affairs Council are security information for purposes of section 13.37. Persons who gain access to the data maintained on the site this data are subject to liability under section 13.08 and the penalty established by section 13.09 if they improperly use or further disseminate the data.~~

Subd. 12. **Right of entry.** The state archaeologist or a designee may enter on property for the purpose of authenticating burial sites. A designated representative of the Indian Affairs Council may enter on property for the purpose of identifying or authenticating American Indian cemeteries. Only after obtaining permission from the property owner or lessee, descendants of persons buried in burial grounds covered by this section may enter the burial grounds for the purpose of conducting religious or commemorative ceremonies. This right of entry must not unreasonably burden property owners or unnecessarily restrict their use of the property.

Subd. 13. **Definitions.** As used in this section, the following terms have the meanings given.

(a) "Abandoned cemetery" means a cemetery where the cemetery association has disbanded or the cemetery is neglected and contains marked graves older than 50 years.

(b) "Appropriate authority" means:

(1) the trustees when the trustees have been legally defined to administer burial grounds;

(2) the Indian Affairs Council in the case of American Indian burial grounds lacking trustees;

(3) the county board in the case of abandoned cemeteries under section 306.243; and

18.1 (4) the state archaeologist in the case of ~~non-Indian~~ non-American Indian burial grounds
18.2 lacking trustees or not officially defined as abandoned.

18.3 (c) "Artifacts" means natural or artificial articles, objects, implements, or other items of
18.4 archaeological interest.

18.5 (d) "Authenticate" means to establish the presence of or high potential of human burials
18.6 or human skeletal remains being located in a discrete area, delimit the boundaries of human
18.7 burial grounds or graves, and attempt to determine the ethnic, cultural, or religious affiliation
18.8 of individuals interred.

18.9 (e) "Burial" means the organic remnants of the human body that were intentionally
18.10 interred as part of a mortuary process.

18.11 (f) "Burial ground" means a discrete location that is known to contain or has high potential
18.12 to contain human remains based on physical evidence, historical records, or reliable informant
18.13 accounts.

18.14 (g) "Cemetery" means a discrete location that is known to contain or intended to be used
18.15 for the interment of human remains.

18.16 (h) "Disturb" means any activity that ~~significantly~~ harms the physical integrity or setting
18.17 of a human burial or human burial ground.

18.18 (i) "Grave goods" means objects or artifacts directly associated with human burials or
18.19 human burial grounds that were placed as part of a mortuary ritual at the time of interment.

18.20 (j) "Human remains" means the ~~calcified portion of the human body~~ of a deceased person,
18.21 in whole or in part, regardless of the state of decomposition, not including isolated teeth,
18.22 ~~or cremated remains deposited in a container or discrete feature.~~

18.23 (k) "Identification" means to analyze organic materials to attempt to determine if they
18.24 represent human remains and to attempt to establish the ethnic, cultural, or religious
18.25 affiliations of such remains.

18.26 (l) "Marked" means a burial that has a recognizable tombstone or obvious grave marker
18.27 in place or a legible sign identifying an area as a burial ground or cemetery.

18.28 (m) "Qualified physical anthropologist" means a specialist in identifying human remains
18.29 who holds an advanced degree in anthropology or a closely related field.

18.30 (n) "Qualified professional archaeologist" means an archaeologist who meets the United
18.31 States Secretary of the Interior's professional qualification standards in Code of Federal
18.32 Regulations, title 36, part 61, appendix A, or subsequent revisions.

19.1 (o) "Recorded cemetery" means a cemetery that has a surveyed plat filed in a county
19.2 recorder's office.

19.3 (p) "State" or "the state" means the state of Minnesota or an agency or official of the
19.4 state acting in an official capacity.

19.5 (q) "Trustees" means the recognized representatives of the original incorporators, board
19.6 of directors, or cemetery association.

19.7 Sec. 9. Laws 2021, First Special Session chapter 12, article 5, section 2, subdivision 1, is
19.8 amended to read:

19.9 Subdivision 1. **Account created.** The COVID-19 flexible response account is created
19.10 within the state fiscal recovery federal fund in the state treasury to pay expenditures eligible
19.11 under federal guidance for the state fiscal recovery federal fund. ~~\$425,000,000~~ \$574,931,000
19.12 is transferred from the state fiscal recovery federal fund to the COVID-19 flexible response
19.13 account and is appropriated to the commissioner of management and budget. The
19.14 commissioner may transfer funds appropriated under this subdivision to state agencies as
19.15 necessary. This is a onetime appropriation. Any money in the account that remains
19.16 unallocated on ~~July 1, 2022~~ December 15, 2024, cancels to the state fiscal recovery federal
19.17 fund. ~~Allocated funds are available until June 30, 2023,~~ and is appropriated to the
19.18 commissioner of management and budget, and may be expended subject to the Legislative
19.19 COVID-19 Response Commission review process established in subdivision 2.

19.20 Sec. 10. **OFFICE OF SMALL AGENCIES STUDY.**

19.21 Subdivision 1. **Study; requirements.** The commissioner of administration must review
19.22 the unique issues faced by small agencies other than the departments of the state government
19.23 as designated in Minnesota Statutes, section 15.01. Small agencies include boards,
19.24 commissions, councils, task forces, and authorities. The commissioner must assess whether
19.25 the current support model provides adequate support for the small agencies as well as the
19.26 volunteer board members. The study must examine how other states support their small
19.27 agencies and provide recommendations on how to most effectively support small agencies
19.28 in delivery of important functions of government.

19.29 Subd. 2. **Report.** By February 1, 2023, the commissioner of administration must submit
19.30 the findings and recommendations of the study to the governor and the chairs and ranking
19.31 minority members of the legislative committees with primary jurisdiction over state
19.32 government.

Sec. 11. COVID-19 RESPONSE AND RECOVERY; APPROPRIATIONS.

21.1 (3) to collaborate with other social service agencies, educational institutions, and other
21.2 community organizations for the purposes of enhancing services offered to veterans;

21.3 (4) to reduce homelessness among veterans; and

21.4 (5) to enhance the operations of the county veterans service office.

21.5 (b) In addition to the grant amount in paragraph (a), each county is eligible to receive
21.6 an additional annual grant under this paragraph. The amount of each additional annual grant
21.7 must be determined by the commissioner and may not exceed:

21.8 (1) \$0, if the county's veteran population is less than 1,000;

21.9 (2) \$2,500, if the county's veteran population is 1,000 or more but less than 3,000;

21.10 (3) \$5,000, if the county's veteran population is 3,000 or more but less than ~~4,999~~ 5,000;

21.11 (4) \$7,500, if the county's veteran population is 5,000 or more but less than ~~9,999~~ 10,000;

21.12 (5) \$10,000, if the county's veteran population is 10,000 or more but less than ~~19,999~~
21.13 20,000;

21.14 (6) \$15,000, if the county's veteran population is 20,000 or more but less than ~~29,999~~
21.15 30,000; or

21.16 (7) \$20,000, if the county's veteran population is 30,000 or more.

21.17 (c) The Minnesota Association of County Veterans Service Officers is eligible to receive
21.18 an annual grant of ~~\$50,000~~ \$100,000. The grant shall be used for administrative costs of
21.19 the association, certification of mandated county veterans service officer training and
21.20 accreditation, and costs associated with reintegration services.

21.21 The veteran population of each county shall be determined by the figure supplied by the
21.22 United States Department of Veterans Affairs, as adopted by the commissioner.

21.23 Sec. 3. [197.61] VETERANS SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS GRANT PROGRAM.

21.24 Subdivision 1. Grant program. A veterans service organization grant program is
21.25 established to provide grants to congressionally chartered veterans service organizations
21.26 (VSO) to enhance the effectiveness of veterans services. The program shall be administered
21.27 by the commissioner of veterans affairs.

21.28 Subd. 2. Definitions. (a) For purposes of this section, the following terms have the
21.29 meanings given them.

22.1 (b) "Commissioner" means the commissioner of the Department of Veterans Affairs or
22.2 designee.

22.3 (c) "Department" means the Department of Veterans Affairs.

22.4 (d) "Congressionally chartered veterans service organizations" are organizations that
22.5 have been granted charters by Congress through the enactment of public laws. Each
22.6 congressionally chartered VSO is listed in United States Code, title 36, subtitle II: Patriotic
22.7 and National Organizations.

22.8 (e) "VA" means the United States Department of Veterans Affairs.

22.9 (f) "Accredited representation" means providing representation under the authority
22.10 granted by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to representatives, agents,
22.11 and attorneys to assist claimants in the preparation, presentation, and prosecution of claims
22.12 for VA benefits.

22.13 (g) "Full member" means a veteran who meets the requirements for membership in a
22.14 congressionally chartered veterans service organization and is entitled to all of the rights
22.15 and privileges thereof. Full member does not include an associate or auxiliary member.

22.16 Subd. 3. **Eligibility.** To be eligible for a grant under subdivision 6, a veterans service
22.17 organization must provide:

22.18 (1) accredited representation for the preparation and presentation of veteran claims to
22.19 the United States government for compensation and other benefits to which a veteran is
22.20 entitled as a result of the veteran's military service;

22.21 (2) a state or department level veterans service officer to provide programs and services
22.22 to veterans; or

22.23 (3) statewide transportation services to veterans.

22.24 Subd. 4. **Grant process.** (a) A grant may be used only for the purpose of enhancing the
22.25 operations of congressionally chartered veterans service organizations.

22.26 (b) The commissioner shall provide a list of qualifying uses for grant expenditures as
22.27 required in subdivision 5 and shall approve a grant for a qualifying use if there is sufficient
22.28 grant money remaining in the grant program to cover the full amount of the grant.

22.29 Subd. 5. **Qualifying uses.** The commissioner shall develop a list of qualifying uses for
22.30 grants awarded under this section.

22.31 Subd. 6. **Grant amount.** (a) Each congressionally chartered veterans service organization
22.32 is eligible to receive an annual grant determined by the commissioner as follows:

23.1 (1) a dollar amount per full member for each organization member to be established by
23.2 the commissioner. The dollar amount may be adjusted every biennium, subject to available
23.3 funding; and

23.4 (2) a dollar amount for each organization, established by the commissioner, based on
23.5 the organization's share of the VA claims workload for veterans and their dependents who
23.6 reside in Minnesota. The VA claims workload must be reported as a percentage of the state's
23.7 total VA workload.

23.8 (b) The VA claims workload for each congressionally chartered veterans service
23.9 organization must be determined by a report supplied by the VA, as adopted by the
23.10 commissioner.

23.11 Subd. 7. **Recapture.** If a congressionally chartered veterans service organization fails
23.12 to use the grant for a qualified use approved by the commissioner or does not spend the
23.13 allocated grant money, the commissioner shall seek recovery of the grant from the
23.14 organization and the organization must repay the grant amount or any unused grant money.

23.15 Sec. 4. Minnesota Statutes 2020, section 197.79, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

23.16 Subdivision 1. **Definitions.** For purposes of this section, the following terms have the
23.17 meanings given them.

23.18 (a) "Applicant" means a veteran or a veteran's guardian, conservator, or personal
23.19 representative or a beneficiary or a beneficiary's guardian, conservator, or personal
23.20 representative who has filed an application with the commissioner for a bonus under this
23.21 section.

23.22 (b) "Application" means a request for a bonus payment by a veteran, a veteran's
23.23 beneficiary, or a veteran's guardian, conservator, or personal representative through
23.24 submission of written information on a form designed by the commissioner for this purpose.

23.25 (c) "Beneficiary" means in relation to a deceased veteran and in the order named:

23.26 (1) the surviving spouse, if not remarried;

23.27 (2) the children of the veteran, if there is no surviving spouse or the surviving spouse
23.28 has remarried;

23.29 (3) the veteran's surviving parent or parents;

23.30 (4) the veteran's surviving sibling or siblings; or

23.31 (5) the veteran's estate.

24.1 (d) "Commissioner" means the commissioner of the Department of Veterans Affairs.

24.2 (e) "Department" means the Department of Veterans Affairs.

24.3 (f) "Eligibility period for the bonus" means the period from ~~August 2, 1990, to July 31,~~
24.4 ~~1991~~ September 11, 2001, to August 30, 2021.

24.5 (g) "Guardian" or "conservator" means the legally appointed representative of a minor
24.6 or incapacitated beneficiary or ~~incompetent~~ veteran, the chief officer of a hospital or
24.7 institution in which the ~~incompetent~~ incapacitated veteran is placed if the officer is authorized
24.8 to accept money for the benefit of the minor or ~~incompetent~~ incapacitated, the person
24.9 determined by the commissioner to be the person who is legally charged with the
24.10 responsibility for the care of the minor or incapacitated beneficiary or ~~incompetent~~ veteran,
24.11 or the person determined by the commissioner to be the person who has assumed the
24.12 responsibility for the care of the minor or incapacitated beneficiary or ~~incompetent~~ veteran.

24.13 (h) "Honorable service" means honorable federal service in the United States armed
24.14 forces, as evidenced by:

24.15 (1) an honorable discharge;

24.16 (2) a general discharge under honorable conditions;

24.17 (3) in the case of an officer, a certificate of honorable service; or

24.18 (4) in the case of an applicant who is currently serving in active duty in the United States
24.19 armed forces, a certificate from an appropriate service authority that the applicant's service
24.20 to date has been honorable.

24.21 (i) "Incapacitated person" means an individual who, for reasons other than being a minor,
24.22 lacks sufficient understanding or the capacity to make personal decisions and who is unable
24.23 to meet the individual's own personal needs for medical care, nutrition, clothing, shelter, or
24.24 safety even when assisted by appropriate technology or supported decision making.

24.25 ~~(i)~~ (j) "Resident veteran" means a veteran who served in active duty in the United States
24.26 armed forces at any time during the eligibility period for the bonus, and who also:

24.27 (1) has been separated or discharged from the United States armed forces, and ~~whose~~
24.28 ~~home of record at the time of entry into active duty in the United States armed forces, as~~
24.29 ~~indicated on the person's form DD-214 or other documents the commissioner may authorize,~~
24.30 ~~is the state of Minnesota~~ has lived in Minnesota for at least 30 days at the time of application
24.31 with the intention of residing in the state and not for any temporary purpose. An applicant
24.32 may verify a residence address by presenting a valid state driver's license, a state

25.1 identification card, a voter registration card, a rent receipt, a statement by the landlord,
 25.2 apartment manager, or homeowner verifying that the individual is residing at the address,
 25.3 or other form of verification approved by the commissioner; or

25.4 (2) is currently serving in the United States armed forces, and has a certificate from an
 25.5 appropriate service authority stating that the person: (i) served in active duty in the United
 25.6 States armed forces at any time during the eligibility period for the bonus; and (ii) ~~had~~ has
 25.7 Minnesota listed as the veteran's home of record ~~at the time of entry into active duty in the~~
 25.8 ~~United States armed forces~~ in the veteran's official military personnel file.

25.9 ~~(j)~~ (k) "Service connected" means caused by an injury or disease incurred or aggravated
 25.10 while on active duty, as determined by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs.

25.11 ~~(k)~~ (l) "Veteran" has the meaning given in section 197.447; and does not include a
 25.12 member of the National Guard or the reserve components of the United States armed forces
 25.13 ordered to active duty for the sole purpose of training. Veteran also includes:

25.14 ~~(1)~~ a person who is providing honorable service on active duty in the United States
 25.15 armed forces and has not been separated or discharged; ~~or.~~

25.16 ~~(2) a member of a reserve component of the armed forces of the United States, including~~
 25.17 ~~the National Guard, who was ordered to active duty under United States Code, title 10,~~
 25.18 ~~section 673b, during the eligibility period for the bonus and who was deployed to a duty~~
 25.19 ~~station outside the state of Minnesota, as verified by the appropriate service authority. An~~
 25.20 ~~applicant's DD-214 form showing eligibility for or award of the Southwest Asia service~~
 25.21 ~~medal during the eligibility period for the bonus will suffice as verification.~~

25.22 ~~"Veteran" does not include a member of the National Guard or the reserve components~~
 25.23 ~~of the United States armed forces ordered to active duty for the sole purpose of training.~~

25.24 Sec. 5. Minnesota Statutes 2020, section 197.79, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

25.25 Subd. 2. **Bonus amount.** (a) For a resident veteran who provided honorable service in
 25.26 the United States armed forces at any time during the eligibility period for the bonus, the
 25.27 bonus amount is:

25.28 (1) ~~\$300~~ \$600, if the veteran did not receive the ~~Southwest Asia service medal~~ Armed
 25.29 Forces Expeditionary Medal, Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, Iraq Campaign
 25.30 Medal, or Afghanistan Campaign Medal during the eligibility period for the bonus;

(2) ~~\$600~~ \$1200, if the veteran received the ~~Southwest Asia service medal~~ Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, Iraq Campaign Medal, or Afghanistan Campaign Medal during the eligibility period for the bonus; or

(3) \$2,000, if the veteran was eligible for the ~~Southwest Asia service medal~~ Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, Iraq Campaign Medal, or Afghanistan Campaign Medal during the eligibility period for the bonus, and died during that time period as a direct result of a service connected injury, disease, or condition.

(b) In the case of a deceased veteran, the commissioner shall pay the bonus to the veteran's beneficiary.

~~(c) No payment may be made to a veteran or beneficiary who has received a similar bonus payment from another state.~~

Sec. 6. Minnesota Statutes 2020, section 197.79, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

Subd. 3. **Application process.** A veteran, or the beneficiary of a veteran, entitled to a bonus may make application for a bonus to the department ~~on a form~~ as prescribed by the commissioner and verified by the applicant. If the veteran is ~~incompetent~~ incapacitated or the veteran's beneficiary is a minor or ~~incompetent~~ incapacitated, the application must be made by the person's guardian or conservator. An application must be accompanied by evidence of residency, honorable service, active duty service during the eligibility period for the bonus, and any other information the commissioner requires. The applicant must indicate on the application form the bonus amount for which the applicant expects to be eligible.

If the information provided in the application is incomplete, the department must notify the applicant in writing of that fact and must identify the items of information needed to make a determination. After notifying an applicant that the person's application is incomplete, the department shall hold the application open for up to 120 days while awaiting further information from the applicant, and the applicant may submit that information within the 120-day period without filing an appeal and request for review.

Sec. 7. Minnesota Statutes 2020, section 197.79, subdivision 5, is amended to read:

Subd. 5. **Notices.** Notices and correspondence to an applicant must be directed to the applicant by mail at the address listed in the application or electronically. Notices and

27.1 correspondence to the commissioner must be addressed to the commissioner's office in ~~St.~~
27.2 ~~Paul~~ or the designated department system.

27.3 Sec. 8. Minnesota Statutes 2020, section 197.79, subdivision 10, is amended to read:

27.4 Subd. 10. **Deadline for applications.** The application period for the bonus program
27.5 established in this section shall be ~~November 1, 1997, to June 30, 2001~~ July 1, 2022, to
27.6 June 30, 2024. The department may not receive or accept new applications after June 30,
27.7 ~~2001~~ 2024.