## STATE OF MINNESOTA

Executive Department



## **Emergency Executive Order 20-105**

## **Continuing Salary Reductions for Certain Officials**

**I, Tim Walz, Governor of the State of Minnesota,** by the authority vested in me by the Constitution and applicable statutes, issue the following Executive Order:

The COVID-19 pandemic continues to present an unprecedented and rapidly evolving challenge to our State. Minnesota has taken extraordinary steps to prevent and respond to the pandemic. On March 13, 2020, I issued Executive Order 20-01 and declared a peacetime emergency because this pandemic, an act of nature, threatens the lives of Minnesotans, and local resources are inadequate to address the threat. Since declaring the peacetime emergency, I have extended it every 30 days, with the most recent extension occurring on December 14, 2020.

This COVID-19 pandemic has disrupted Minnesota's economy and placed unexpected demands on the state budget. As we work to prevent the spread of COVID-19 and support communities across Minnesota, we remain focused on being diligent stewards of state resources. To lessen the impact of the pandemic on the state budget, members of my Cabinet, my Chief of Staff, and I voluntarily agreed to reduce our salaries from April 15, 2020 to December 31, 2020. The members of the Cabinet and the state employees at each of their agencies are working extraordinarily hard to serve the people of Minnesota during the pandemic, and the State's budget outlook has improved. Given these circumstances, the salary reduction for Cabinet members will expire as planned on December 31, 2020. In solidarity with all those in Minnesota who continue to experience hardship due to the pandemic, my Chief of Staff and I will continue to reduce our salaries into 2021.

Under Minnesota Statutes 2020, section 12.21, subdivision 3(10), the Governor may alter or adjust payroll laws regarding executive branch state employees as necessary to minimize the impact of the emergency.

For these reasons, I order as follows:

1. Notwithstanding Minnesota Laws 2013, Chapter 142, article 6, section 12, my gross salary will be reduced by 10 percent between January 1, 2021 and June 30, 2021. This temporary reduction in my salary must not affect the salaries of any other employees

- or officials whose salaries, pursuant to certain laws, are set proportionally to the Governor's salary.
- 2. Notwithstanding the Office of the Governor Compensation Plan adopted pursuant to Minnesota Statutes 2020, section 43A.18, subdivision 4(b), the gross salary of my Chief of Staff will be reduced by 10 percent between January 1, 2021 and June 30, 2021.

Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes 2020, section 12.21, subdivision 3(10), and section 4.035, subdivision 2, this Executive Order is effective immediately and remains in effect until July 1, 2021 or until it is rescinded by proper authority.

A determination that any provision of this Executive Order is invalid will not affect the enforceability of any other provision of this Executive Order. Rather, the invalid provision will be modified to the extent necessary so that it is enforceable.

Signed on December 23, 2020.

Tim Walz

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Governor

Filed According to Law:

**Steve Simon** 

Secretary of State