

BUDGET PROPOSALS

Operating Deficiency – \$9M to maintain current service levels in FY25. These funds will be used to cover increased compensation needs as a result of higher than anticipated hiring, overtime, workers’ compensation, retiree insurance, and IT charges, among other cost increases.

Operating Adjustment – \$43.3M in FY26, \$66.9M in FY27 and each year ongoing to support current levels of service. This funding will help cover expected growth in employee compensation and insurance, rents, IT services, and operating costs.

Bed Costs for Theft of Public Funds Penalty Increase - \$12k in FY26, \$44k in FY27, \$87k in FY28, and \$145k in FY29 to account for additional best costs related to increased criminal penalties for theft of public funds.

Sentencing to Service Program Sunset – Ends the Sentencing to Service (STS) program, a sentencing alternative that provides the option to sentence nonviolent incarcerated individuals to a period of supervised work in the community. Ending the program will result in a reduction of \$1.8M annually.

Finance Technical Changes – Provides the DOC with the authority to transfer certain appropriated funds internally to align with recent budgetary and financial restructuring.

Interstate Compact Unit Cost Sharing – Requires all counties share the cost for the interstate unit, not just DOC counties, as the unit handles transfers of supervision throughout the state.

Mental Health Unit Pilot Extension – Extends the pilot program allowing for the transfer of individuals incarcerated in county jails to the Mental Health Unit at MCF-Oak Park Heights for treatment of serious and persistent mental illness.

Tribal Supervision Funding Language Updates – Streamlines the distribution of Tribal Nation supervision funding and clarifies what these funds can be used for.

Chapter 2940 Repeal / HRU Codification – Repeals Chapter 2940 and codifies in statute any necessary provisions. Chapter 2940 governs the agency’s Hearings and Release Unit (HRU) and much of the rule is either obsolete, duplicative, already in statute, or better addressed in policy.

Fictitious Emergency Definition Expansion – Expands the definition of “corrections employee” in the 2024 change making the reporting of a fictitious emergency of certain public officials a felony. Current language only covers those physically working in a correctional facility, and not supervision agents and central office staff who are exposed to similar risks of retribution.

BONDING

Asset Preservation – \$65.574M to maintain, repair, and improve existing correctional facility infrastructure to ensure safety and operational functionality.

MCF-Rush City Programming Expansion - \$57.97M to expand and repurpose space in the facility to provide more programming, health and behavioral health services in a way optimal for security.

POLICY PROPOSALS

Modernizing American Indian Cultural Programming Statute – Removes outdated language and policy requirements from the corrections American Indian cultural programming statute (M.S. 241.80). The statute is largely the same since it was enacted in 1985 and the language needs to be modernized.

Licensing Improvement and Simplification Act – Reconstructs the corrections licensing requirements statute (M.S. 241.021) to remove redundancies and outdated references, add plain language, and make clear which provisions apply to which type of facility. The proposal also clarifies death reporting requirements and applies the licensing structures required of adult facilities to juvenile facilities.

DOC Technical Omnibus – Proposes technical changes to statutes to create clarity and fix identified issues:

- **Protective Agent Exemption Fix** – Updates statute to add federal law enforcement to the group of excluded parties under M.S. 326.322. The licensing and background requirements for individuals who are employed as protective agents to transfer incarcerated individuals was changed in 2024 while exempting the DOC; however, it did not also exempt federal law enforcement employees.
- **Adjustments to Community Supervision Statutes** - Refines the reporting dates on statewide community supervision reports and consolidates those reports to make the content more meaningful.
- **CSAC Membership Changes** - Expands the membership of the Community Supervision Advisory Council (CSAC) to include members of the judicial system and clarify certain member backgrounds to be more inclusive, as requested by CSAC.
- **Civil Commitment Statute Cleanup** - Repeals M.S. 253.21 and 253.23 as they are no longer practice of the DOC. These statutes require Stillwater and St. Cloud to notify DCT of every individual that has or is suspected to have mental illness and that they be directed to a state hospital for treatment. This is not current practice.