



LEGISLATIVE COORDINATING COMMISSION
Office on the Economic Status of Women
Minnesota Legislative Session Summary 2007

This report highlights and summarizes selected legislative changes related to the economic status of women in Minnesota. In addition to the funding and policy bills highlighted here, three policy bills followed by the OESW did not pass this session, and will likely be addressed in upcoming debates.

Policy that extended health care benefits to domestic partners of state employees was in the original State Government Omnibus bill vetoed by the Governor. The section was not included in the bill that he later signed.

A second provision in the original State Government Omnibus bill required companies of a certain profile with large state contracts to participate in a pay equity reporting process similar to the one currently followed by the State of Minnesota and local governments. This provision was also not included in the omnibus bill signed by the governor.

A bill to regulate international marriage brokers who do business in Minnesota was not heard in committee. This issue is an extension of human trafficking work the OESW has been involved with in the past few years.

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Report Notes

- ♦ The policy changes included in this summary have various effective dates and related funding changes. Please see the individual bills and omnibus bill fiscal tracking sheets for additional information.
- ♦ Fiscal tracking sheets are available on the Minnesota House and Senate websites at:

<http://www.house.leg.state.mn.us/fiscal/tracking.htm>
<http://www.senate.leg.state.mn.us/departments/fiscalpol/tracking/index.php>
- ♦ Funding is general fund dollars unless otherwise specified.
- ♦ For definitions of abbreviations used in this report, see the abbreviations section on page 21.
- ♦ For corresponding dollar amounts to percentages of federal poverty guidelines (FPG) used to determine eligibility for various programs, see chart on page 22.

E-12 EDUCATION

CHAPTER 146, H.F. 2245

Adult Basic Education (ABE)

Provides education opportunities for adults who lack basic academic skills and whose low educational levels are barriers to employment and productive participation in their families and in society. Adults are eligible to participate when they are at least 16 years old, are not enrolled in school, and function below the high school completion level in basic skills.

	FY 08	FY 09	Total
Funding	\$40,347,000	\$41,745,000	\$82,092,000

Note: Total FY 08-09 funding reflects an increase of \$9,034,000 (12.4%).

All Day Kindergarten Grants (First Grade Preparedness)

Provides funding to ensure children in the state's highest poverty schools have the opportunity before first grade to develop the skills and abilities necessary to learn to read and succeed in school. School sites have used these funds to fund full-day kindergarten programs for five year olds.

	FY 08	FY 09	Total
Funding	\$7,250,000	\$7,250,000	\$14,500,000

Note: Figures reflect no increase in funding.

Early Childhood Family Education (ECFE)

Provides early childhood education, parent-child learning opportunities, and parent education that enhances the ability of parents to provide for their children's optimal learning and development. All Minnesota families with children ages birth to kindergarten are eligible for ECFE.

	FY 08	FY 09	Total
Funding	\$21,106,000	\$29,601,000	\$50,707,000

Note: Total FY 08-09 funding reflects an increase of \$21,214,000 (42.8%).

Early Childhood Health and Development Screening

Promotes educational readiness and improved health of children through the early detection of factors that may impede children's learning, growth and development. All children must participate in early childhood screening before entering kindergarten.

	FY 08	FY 09	Total
Funding	\$3,159,000	\$3,330,000	\$6,489,000

Note: Total FY 08-09 funding reflects an increase of \$98,000 (1.5%).

Head Start

Provides a comprehensive, individualized program of health, nutrition, education, parent involvement and social services to children and families with the overall goal of increasing the social competence and school readiness of young children in low-income families. Primarily serves children age three to five years. Some programs receive funds to serve infants, toddlers and pregnant mothers.

	FY 08	FY 09	Total
Funding	\$20,100,000	\$20,100,000	\$40,200,000

Note: Total FY 08-09 funding reflects an increase of \$2,000,000 (5.2%).

Lead Abatement Program

Program reduces the potential for lead poisoning in the homes of children from low-income families.

	FY 08	FY 09	Total
Funding	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$200,000

Note: Figures reflect no increase in funding. The lead abatement program is administered by the Department of Health.

E-12 EDUCATION

CHAPTER 146, H.F. 2245

School Age Care

Supports children with disabilities or children experiencing family or related problems of a temporary nature to participate in out-of-school time programming while parents are at work.

	FY 08	FY 09	Total
Funding	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$2,000

Note: Total FY 08-09 funding reflects a decrease of \$22,000 (-91.6%).

School Readiness

Funds school districts to prepare children age three years and over to enter kindergarten.

	FY 08	FY 09	Total
Funding	\$9,995,000	\$10,095,000	\$20,090,000

Note: Total FY 08-09 funding reflects an increase of \$2,028,000 (11.2%).

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

CHAPTER 135, H.F. 122

Family Homelessness Prevention and Assistance Program

Grants to counties and nonprofit organizations to assist families or youth who are homeless or at imminent risk of homelessness. Grant recipients are required to design or redesign an emergency response system to shift the focus to prevention of homelessness and a more rapid move to transitional or permanent housing.

	FY 08	FY 09	Total
Funding	\$7,465,000	\$7,465,000	\$14,930,000

Note: Total FY 08-09 funding represents an increase of \$7,500,000 (100.9%).

Learn to Earn

Provides summer employment, academic enrichment, and recreational opportunities to unemployed or underemployed youth in Minneapolis.

	FY 08	FY 09	Total
Funding	\$325,000	\$325,000	\$650,000

Note: Total FY 08-09 funding represents an increase of \$650,000.

Lifetrack Resources

Grant for immigrant and refugee collaborative programs, including those related to job-seeking skills, intensive job development, functional work English, and on-site job coaching.

	FY 08	FY 09	Total
Funding (WKDF & GF)	\$400,000	\$350,000	\$750,000

Note: Total FY 08-09 funding represents an increase of \$200,000, and an additional \$50,000 is for a one-time pilot project in Rochester (50%).

Minnesota Jobs Skills Partnership (MJSP)

MJSP provides grants to educational institutions partnered with businesses to develop training programs specific to business needs. The training grants in these projects may be for new jobs or retainment and skills upgrade for existing employees.

	FY 08	FY 09	Total
Funding	\$6,785,000	\$6,785,000	\$13,570,000

Note: Figures reflect no increase in funding.

Minnesota Opportunity Industrialization Center (OIC)

Grant to OICs that have plans to either initiate or expand health occupations and career ladder training programs for individuals seeking employment as nurses, nursing assistants, home health aides, phlebotomists, or in the field of medical coding.

	FY 08	FY 09	Total
Funding (WKDF)	\$1,375,000	\$1,375,000	\$2,750,000

Note: Total FY 08-09 funding represents an increase of \$1,750,000 (175%).

Minnesota Youth Program (MYP)

Provides economically disadvantaged and at-risk youth with employment and life skills training services.

	FY 08	FY 09	Total
Funding (WKDF)	\$3,500,000	\$3,500,000	\$7,000,000

Note: Total FY 08-09 funding represents an increase of \$1,000,000 (16.6%).

Twin Cities Rise!

Grant to provide job skills training to hard-to-train individuals.

	FY 08	FY 09	Total
Funding	\$455,000	\$455,000	\$910,000

Note: Total FY 08-09 funding represents an increase of \$300,000 (49%).

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT- CONTINUED

CHAPTER 135, H.F. 122

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT - CONTINUED

WomenVenture

Grant for women's business development programs.

	FY 08	FY 09	Total
Funding	\$250,000	\$250,000	\$500,000

Note: Total FY 08-09 funding represents an increase of \$200,000 (66.6%).

Youth Jobs Skills Development Project

Minnesota Alliance of Boys and Girls club will administer a statewide project to encourage, train, and assist youth in job-seeking skills, workplace orientation, and job-site knowledge through coaching.

	FY 08	FY 09	Total
Funding (WKDF)	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000	\$2,000,000

Note: Funding is a one-time grant and requires a 25% match of non-state resources.

Youthbuild

Program provides at-risk youth (including teen parents) with specialized training in the construction and building trades, leadership and basic academic skills, and construction-based work experience to build affordable housing.

	FY 08	FY 09	Total
Funding (WKDF & GF)	\$1,750,000	\$1,750,000	\$3,500,000

Note: Total FY 08-09 Funding reflects an increase of 1,500,000 (75%).

FAMILY LAW

CHILD SUPPORT LAWS

Chapter 118, S.F. 1271

Interest on Monetary Judgments

Previous law placed an additional 2% above the current interest rate placed on other monetary judgments in Minnesota. A new law intended to encourage obligors to stay current with child support payments eliminates the increase.

Children Residing in a Foreign Country

A new law allows a deviation from the order amount of child support if a child has lived in a country with a substantially higher or lower cost of living for more than one year.

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

CHAPTER 147, H.F. 1079

HUMAN SERVICES

CHILDREN AND ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE GRANT PROGRAMS

Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP)

CCAP includes the Minnesota Family Investment Program (MFIP), Transition Year (TY) and Basic Sliding Fee (BSF) child care assistance programs which subsidize the child care expenses of low-income families based on a sliding fee of family co-payments for authorized work, education, and job search activities.

Basic Sliding Fee Child Care Assistance Grants

	FY 08	FY 09	Total
Funding	\$42,995,000	\$45,008,000	\$88,003,000

Note: Total 08-09 funding reflects an increase of \$51,930,000 (143.9%).

MFIP Child Care Assistance Grants

	FY 08	FY 09	Total
Funding (TANF & GF)	\$74,654,000	\$71,951,000	\$146,605,000

Note: Funding includes general fund and federal TANF dollars and reflects a decrease of \$5,319,000 (-3.5%).

- ♦ For additional information, see the child care assistance program policy changes section on page 12 of this summary.

Child Care Development Grants

Child care development grants promote school readiness, healthy child development and family self-sufficiency by improving the quality and availability of child care for Minnesota. Grants are provided to public and private agencies to provide child care resource and referral services, improve the quality of child care programs, recruit and train child care center staff and family child care providers, and develop special child care services.

	FY 08	FY 09	Total
Funding	\$4,390,000	\$6,390,000	\$10,780,000

Note: Total 08-09 funding reflects an increase of \$7,700,000 (250%).

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES - CONTINUED

CHAPTER 147, H.F. 1078

HUMAN SERVICES - CONTINUED

CHILDREN AND ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE GRANT PROGRAMS - CONTINUED

Children's Services Grants

Children's services grants fund services to children and families, including adoption assistance, relative custody assistance, child protection, fetal alcohol syndrome prevention, homeless youth services, Indian child welfare services and children's mental health services.

	FY 08	FY 09	Total
Funding	\$64,137,000	\$71,487,000	\$135,624,000

Note: Funding includes general fund, Health Care Access, and TANF dollars. Total 08-09 funding reflects an increase of \$47,789,000 (54.4%).

Children and Community Services Grants

Children and community services grants provide funding to counties to purchase or provide social services for children and families. The Children and Community Services Act, enacted by the 2003 Minnesota legislature, consolidated 15 individual state and federal grants into a single program including: Crisis Nursery, Homeless Children, Children of Substance Abusing Mothers, Children whose Mothers are Incarcerated, Family Preservation, Mental Health Adolescent Services, and Juvenile Mental Health Screening.

	FY 08	FY 09	Total
Funding	\$101,369,000	\$69,208,000	\$170,577,000

Note: Total 08-09 funding reflects an increase of \$33,587,000 (24.5%).

Other Children's and Economic Assistance Grants

Includes food support and food shelves, asset development, housing assistance, Community Action, emergency services and fraud prevention grants.

	FY 08	FY 09	Total
Funding (TANF & GF)	\$21,683,000	\$17,833,000	\$39,516,000

Note: Funding includes general fund and federal TANF dollars. Total 08-09 funding reflects an increase of \$3,833,000 (10.7%).

Child Support Enforcement Grants

Child support enforcement helps families receive child support, an important component to help many families become self-sufficient and stay off public assistance. Services provided by the state and counties to help families include: establishing paternity; establishing and modifying child support, medical support and child care support orders; collecting and disbursing support; enforcing support orders; and using various tools to collect support.

	FY 08	FY 09	Total
Funding	\$11,038,000	\$3,705,000	\$14,743,000

Note: Funding includes a one-time supplement of \$7,333,000 in FY08 to help compensate for a loss of federal funds and reflects an additional increase of \$900,000 (13.8%, not including supplement).

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES – CONTINUED

CHAPTER 147, H.F. 1078

HUMAN SERVICES - CONTINUED

CHILDREN AND ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE GRANT PROGRAMS - CONTINUED

Minnesota Family Investment Program / Diversionary Work Program Grants

The Minnesota Family Investment Program (MFIP) is the state's welfare reform program for low-income families with children. MFIP includes both cash and food assistance. When most families first apply for cash assistance, they will participate in the Diversionary Work Program (DWP), a four-month program that helps parents go immediately to work rather than receive longer term assistance. To be eligible to participate in either MFIP or DWP a family must include a minor child or pregnant woman and meet citizenship, income, and asset requirements.

	FY 08	FY 09	Total
Funding (TANF & GF)	\$137,973,000	\$143,246,000	\$281,219,000
<i>Note: Funding includes general fund (approximately 44%) and federal TANF dollars (approximately 56%). Total funding represents a decline of \$17,648,000 (5.9%).</i>			

Support Services Grants

Provides employment, education, training, and other support services to help low-income families and people avoid or end public assistance dependency. Also funds a portion of county administration for the MFIP and DWP.

	FY 08	FY 09	Total
Funding (TANF & GF)	\$122,144,000	\$124,617,000	\$246,761,000
<i>Note: Funding includes general fund (approximately 7%) and federal TANF dollars (approximately 93%). Total funding represents an increase of \$24,123,000 (10.8%).</i>			

HEALTH CARE GRANTS

Health care grants purchase preventive and primary health care services, such as physician services, medications, and dental care for low-income families with children, elderly and people with disabilities. Minnesotans can receive health care through the state's three publicly funded health care grant programs – Medical Assistance (MA - Minnesota's Medicaid program), MinnesotaCare and General Assistance Medical Care (GAMC). Applicants for the programs must be Minnesota residents and meet program specific eligibility requirements including income and asset limits.

Medical Assistance – Families and Children

	FY 08	FY 09	Total
Funding (GF & HCAF)	\$741,629,000	\$838,874,000	\$1,580,503,000
<i>Note: Total FY 08-09 funding represents an increase of \$274,133,000 (21.0%).</i>			

Medical Assistance – Elderly and Disabled

	FY 08	FY 09	Total
Funding (GF)	\$995,560,000	\$1,101,390,000	\$2,681,893,000
<i>Note: Total FY 08-09 funding represents an increase of \$1,010,123,000 (60.4%).</i>			

MinnesotaCare

	FY 08	FY 09	Total
Funding (HCAF)	\$389,760,000	\$458,401,000	\$848,161,000
<i>Note: Total FY 08-09 funding represents an increase of \$151,313,000 (21.7%).</i>			

General Assistance Medical Care

	FY 08	FY 09	Total
Funding (GF)	\$238,822,000	\$251,412,000	\$490,234,000
<i>Note: Total FY 08-09 funding represents a decline of \$2,394,500 (-0.4%).</i>			

- ♦ For additional information, see the health care programs policy changes section beginning on page 12 of this summary. For further information on funding changes in the health care grant programs, see the health and human services fiscal tracking sheets.

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES – CONTINUED

CHAPTER 147, H.F. 1078

HUMAN SERVICES - CONTINUED

CONTINUING CARE GRANTS

Aging and Adult Services Grants

Aging and adult services grants provide: nutritional services; transportation, chore services and other social support services; health screening and promotion services; older adult volunteer community services projects; care and one-on-one attention for special needs children (through the Foster Grandparents program); assistance with daily activities for frail older adults; information, assistance, and counseling about Medicare and other supplemental insurance choices; assistance to access free or discounted prescription drugs; respite and other supportive assistance to family caregivers; and expansion and development of more home and community services and housing options. Services are targeted to people with the greatest social and economic needs.

	FY 08	FY 09	Total
Funding	\$14,357,000	\$14,727,000	\$29,084,000

Note: Total FY 08-09 funding represents an increase of \$1,170,000 (4.2%).

Alternative Care Grants

Grants pay for at-home care and community-based services for adults 65 and over who are assessed as needing nursing facility care, and have income and assets inadequate to fund nursing facility care for more than 180 days.

	FY 08	FY 09	Total
Funding	\$49,858,000	\$51,758,000	\$101,616,000

Note: Total FY 08-09 funding represents a decrease of \$2,606,000 (2.5%).

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES – CONTINUED

CHAPTER 147, H.F. 1078

CHILD CARE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (CCAP) POLICY CHANGES

Note: The following CCAP policy changes have various effective dates and related funding changes. Please see the health and human services omnibus bill and fiscal tracking sheets for further information.

Child Care Absent Day Policy

Exempts teen parents in specific supportive teen parent programs from being penalized when number of absent days exceeds 25 days per child, or 10 consecutive days, in a fiscal year. Allows for more flexibility for families who have a justified sick day.

Parent Co-payments

- Reduces the highest amount a parent might pay in CCAP co-payments from 18% of a family's gross income to 14% of a family's gross income.
- Reduces the co-pay for families between 75 and 100% of the FPG from \$10 per month to \$5 per month.
- Establishes a new fee schedule for families on the BSF, MFIP and TY child care assistance programs.

CCAP Parent Fee Schedule (effective July 1, 2007)							
Income Range (percent of the federal poverty guidelines)	Co-payment* (percentage of adjusted gross income)		Income Range (percent of the federal poverty guidelines)	Co-payment* (percentage of adjusted gross income)		Income Range (percent of the federal poverty guidelines)	Co-payment* (percentage of adjusted gross income)
0-74.99%	\$0/month		145.00-149.99%	3.21%		200.00-204.99%	7.58%
75.00-99.99%	\$5/month		150.00-154.99%	3.21%		205.00-209.99%	8.33%
100.00-104.99%	2.61%		155.00-159.99%	3.84%		210.00-214.99%	9.20%
105.00-109.99%	2.61%		160.00-164.99%	3.84%		215.00-219.99%	10.07%
110.00-114.99%	2.61%		165.00-169.99%	4.46%		220.00-224.99%	10.94%
115.00-119.99%	2.61%		170.00-174.99%	4.76%		225.00-229.99%	11.55%
120.00-124.99%	2.91%		175.00-179.99%	5.05%		230.00-234.99%	12.16%
125.00-129.99%	2.91%		180.00-184.99%	5.65%		235.00-239.99%	12.77%
130.00-134.99%	2.91%		185.00-189.99%	5.95%		240.00-244.99%	13.38%
135.00-139.99%	2.91%		190.00-194.99%	6.24%		245.00-249.99%	14.00%
140.00-144.99%	3.21%		195.00-199.99%	6.84%		250%	ineligible
*Note: A family's monthly co-payment is the fixed percentage established for the income range multiplied by the highest possible income within that income range.							

Effective July 1, 2008, CCAP income eligibility mechanism and co-pay schedule will be determined by State Median Income instead of Federal Poverty Guidelines.

OTHER CHILD CARE POLICY CHANGES

School Readiness Service Agreements

Allows the Commissioner to pay higher rates to approved child care providers who enter into school readiness service agreements (SRSA) and perform services that support school readiness for children and economic stability for parents. Providers are eligible for an SRSA if they provide full-time, full-year child care services, at least 25% of the children enrolled with the provider are subsidized through CCAP, and at least one of those children is expected to enter Kindergarten within 30 months. Providers who enter into an SRSA must comply with assessment and reporting requirements.

One-Time Visit with Unlicensed Providers Report

Requires the Departments of Human Services and Health to create a plan to have one face-to-face interaction with unlicensed child care providers who receive CCAP funds. The visit could include provision of safety resources or early childhood development information. Requires a report due in January 2008.

Family Child Care License Fees

- Caps the amount that counties can charge annually for family child care licenses at \$50.

At-Home Infant Care Program

Dedicated funding for At-Home Infant Care, a program that offered certain lower-income parents of infants a choice between returning to work and receiving a child-care subsidy or staying home and receiving a monthly stipend, was eliminated.

HEALTH CARE PROGRAMS POLICY CHANGES

Note: The following health care policy changes have various effective dates and related funding changes. Please see the health and human services omnibus bill and fiscal tracking sheets for further information.

Medical Assistance (MA)

Medical Assistance (MA), Minnesota's Medicaid program, is a program jointly funded from the state and federal governments to pay for health care services provided to low-income individuals and families who meet specified eligibility criteria, and income and asset limits.

Covered Services

- Provides coverage for coordination and patient education services provided by a licensed community health worker under the supervision of a medical assistance enrolled physician, registered nurse, or advanced practice registered nurse.
- Provides coverage for sign-language interpreter services during the course of direct health care service to enrolled recipients who have hearing loss.

Prohibits MA coverage of:

- Newborn circumcision, unless the procedure is medically necessary.

Co-Payments

- Eliminates all co-payments except for non-emergency trips to a hospital-based emergency room and prescription drugs effective January 1, 2009.
- Reduces the monthly maximum co-payment for prescription drugs from \$12 to \$7 effective January 1, 2009.

- ♦ For information on changes to children's eligibility for Minnesota's Health Programs, see page 14.

General Assistance Medical Care (GAMC)

GAMC is a state funded program that pays for certain health care services for low-income Minnesota residents who meet specified eligibility requirements and income and asset limits and are not eligible for other health care programs.

Co-Payments

- Eliminates all co-payments except for non-emergency trips to a hospital-based emergency room and prescription drugs effective January 1, 2009.
- Reduces the monthly maximum co-payment for prescription drugs from \$12 to \$7 effective January 1, 2009.
- Providers may not deny services to patients unable to pay co-payments.

Covered Services

- Provides coverage for coordination and patient education services provided by a licensed community health worker under the supervision of a medical assistance enrolled physician, registered nurse, or advanced practice registered nurse.
- Provides coverage for sign-language interpreter services during the course of direct health care service to enrolled recipients who have hearing loss.
- Limits drug coverage to prescription drugs included in Medical Assistance coverage.

HEALTH CARE PROGRAMS POLICY CHANGES - CONTINUED

MinnesotaCare

MinnesotaCare is a state funded program that provides subsidized health care coverage to low- and moderate-income families and individuals who meet specified eligibility requirements, income and asset limits, and do not have access to affordable health insurance. Enrollees pay a premium based on income.

Eligibility Changes

- Individual adults must have income below 200% of the federal poverty guidelines to remain eligible beginning January 1, 2008. Beginning July 1, 2009 individuals must have income below 215% of the federal poverty guideline to remain eligible.

Co-Payments

- Eliminates \$6 co-payments for non-emergency visits to a hospital-based emergency room for pregnant women and children under age 21.
- Excludes mental health services from list of non-preventative visits to health-care providers requiring a \$3 co-payment.

Premium Changes

- MinnesotaCare enrollees with income above 100% of the FPG will have premiums reduced by 0.5 to 1% instead of the scheduled increase of approximately 8%.

Outreach Grants

MinnesotaCare outreach grants address the importance of maintaining insurance coverage and on how to obtain coverage through the MinnesotaCare program in areas of the state with high uninsured populations. The Department of Human Services Commissioner must ensure that materials are available in relevant languages other than English.

Limited Benefit Set for Single Adults and Households without Children

This benefit set is expanded, and all adults without children will receive the same set of benefits effective January 1, 2008.

OTHER HEALTH CARE COVERAGE POLICY CHANGES

Health Programs for Children (Medical Assistance and MinnesotaCare)

Extends coverage for children under Medical Assistance for two months after they have been deemed ineligible due to excess income. The child is then deemed automatically eligible for MinnesotaCare until renewal. Children's eligibility for MinnesotaCare is to be reassessed every 12 months.

Requires the Commissioner to develop a shortened health program application for children that does not exceed four pages in length and is easy to understand. The Commissioner of Human Services must also provide resources to assist in choosing managed care organizations through which children can receive health program services.

These provisions are effective October 1, 2008, pending federal approval.

Family Planning Services

Raises reimbursement rates for family planning services provided by community clinics by 25%. This rate increase goes into effect July 1, 2007.

LONG-TERM AND CONTINUING CARE POLICY CHANGES

Nursing Facility Rate Increases

Increases nursing facility operating payment rates by 1.87% for the rate year beginning October 1, 2007. Specifies 75% of the rate increase in 2007 be used to increase wages, benefits, and pay associated with all employees, except management fees, the administrator, and central office staff.

A rebasing period will begin in the rate year beginning October 1, 2008 and continue through the rate year beginning 2014. This rebasing process is intended to shrink the disparity in funding to rural and metro-area nursing homes.

Home-Care and Supportive Housing for Seniors Report

Requires the Commissioner of Human Services to study how the State of Minnesota can best assist those aged 65 and older choose long-term care alternatives that meet their needs and preferences and allow them to remain self-sufficient for as long as possible. A preliminary report is to be submitted to the legislative human services policy and finance committees by February 15, 2008, and a final report is due December 15, 2008.

MINNESOTA FAMILY INVESTMENT PROGRAM (MFIP) POLICY CHANGES

*Note: The following policy changes have various effective dates and related funding changes.
Please see the Health and Human Services Omnibus bill and fiscal tracking sheets for further information.*

Treatment of Supplemental Security Income (SSI) Income

Eliminates the \$125 reduction of the cash portion of the MFIP grant for a household that includes one or more SSI recipients who reside in an MFIP household.

Family Stabilization Services

Establishes Family Stabilization Services to help MFIP participants who are at risk of long-term welfare dependency or family instability due to physical disability, mental disability, age, or providing care for a disabled household member to reach the greatest possible degree of self-sufficiency.

Asset Limits

Increases the asset limit for licensed vehicles owned by MFIP participants to \$15,000 loan value for families that own one vehicle and \$7,500 for additional vehicles. This change goes into effect January, 2008.

Work Participation Bonus

Provides a Work Participation Bonus of \$75 per month for up to 24 consecutive months for MFIP participants who are losing the cash portion of MFIP benefits because of increased earnings and who meet certain work requirements. Months in which a participant receives the work participation bonus do not count toward the 60-month time limit for receipt of MFIP. This change goes into effect February, 2009.

Educational Employment Plans

Changes requirements so that MFIP participants pursuing education are not required to work in unsubsidized employment as a condition of educational employment plan approval.

FOOD SUPPORT POLICY CHANGES

Eligibility Changes

Requires the development of a simplified food support application, and changes reporting requirements to no more than every six months.

Canceled Benefits

Repeals the requirement that food support benefits not access within 90 days of issuance be cancelled.

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES – CONTINUED

CHAPTER 147, H.F. 1078

HEALTH

COMMUNITY AND FAMILY HEALTH PROMOTION

Home Visiting and Nutritional Services

Promotes family health and economic self-sufficiency through public health nurse home visits and addresses nutritional issues of women, infants, and young children through WIC clinic services.

	FY 08	FY 09	Total
Funding	\$4,000,000	\$4,000,000	\$8,000,000

Note: Figures reflect no increase in funding.

Infant Mortality Rates: Decreasing Racial and Ethnic Disparities

Grants for local or regional projects and initiatives directed at reducing health disparities by decreasing racial and ethnic disparities in infant mortality rates.

	FY 08	FY 09	Total
Funding	\$2,000,000	\$2,000,000	\$4,000,000

Note: Figures reflect no increase in funding.

HEALTH POLICY CHANGES

Human Papilloma Virus Vaccine Study

Requires the Commissioner to reconvene a study of the human papilloma virus vaccine. The study shall include (1) the risks and benefits of the vaccine; (2) the availability and effectiveness of the vaccine; (3) the extent to which health insurance providers cover the cost of the vaccine; and (4) ways to cover the cost of the vaccine for those without health care coverage. The Commissioner shall submit a report to the legislature by February 1, 2008 along with recommendations as to whether the vaccinations should be mandatory statewide.

Services to Sexual Assault Victims in Hospital Emergency Rooms

Chapter 42, S.F.1266

Requires hospital emergency rooms to provide emergency contraception, prophylactic antibiotics, and information to sexual assault victims.

Family Planning Clinics

Chapter 139, H.F. 298

Permits family planning clinics in Minnesota to enter into cooperative purchasing agreements with governmental units to obtain pharmaceuticals and other supplies. The law also allows registered nurses to dispense oral contraceptives to women ages 12 and older. This law goes into effect August 1, 2007.

HIGHER EDUCATION

CHAPTER 144, H.F. 1063

Post-Secondary Child Care Grant Program

Helps low-income students with young children pay for child care while the student attends classes. Grant awards are based on family income and size and are made available to students who: have children 12 years and under (14 years and under if the child has a disability); do not receive assistance under the Minnesota Family Investment Program(MFIP); and need child care assistance in order to attend an eligible Minnesota post-secondary school.

- Increases the maximum child care grant by \$300 to \$2,600 per child, per academic year for a full-time student.

	FY 08	FY 09	Total
Funding	\$6,184,000	\$6,184,000	\$12,368,000

Note: Total FY 08-09 funding represents an increase of \$2,882,000 (30.4%).

HIGHER EDUCATION POLICY CHANGES

State Grant Calculations

Increases the tuition and fee maximums and living and miscellaneous expense allowances used to calculate state higher education grant awards. Also reduces the assigned family responsibility factor by 4%.

Financial Management Information

Each MnSCU institution is required to provide all students with personal financial management information. The University of Minnesota is requested to do the same.

PUBLIC SAFETY

REGULAR SESSION - CHAPTER 54, H.F. 829

SUPREME COURT

Civil Legal Services

Provides civil legal services for more than 20,000 vulnerable Minnesotans whose incomes are below the federal poverty guidelines to (1) protect the safety of children and help families break the cycle of abuse; (2) assist in securing child support and federal aid for low income families; (3) assist farm families to remain on their homesteads; (4) help prevent homelessness; (5) repair substandard housing; and (6) assist adults to move from welfare to work by overcoming legal obstacles.

- Specifies \$877,000 of the funding each year is to be used to improve the access of low-income clients to legal representation in family law matters.

	FY 08	FY 09	Total
Funding	\$13,300,000	\$13,300,000	\$26,600,000

Note: Total FY 08-09 funding represents an increase of \$1,960,000 (7.9%).

PUBLIC SAFETY

OFFICE OF JUSTICE PROGRAMS

Battered Women Shelter Grants

Battered women shelter grants are made to shelter programs and safe houses located throughout the state that provide 24-hour emergency housing and support services to victims of domestic abuse and their children. These grants reimburse providers for the costs of food, lodging and security.

	FY 08	FY 09	Total
Funding	\$15,779,000	\$15,779,000	\$31,558,000

Note: Figures reflect no increase in funding.

Crime Victim Assistance Grants

Crime victim assistance grants fund programs that serve victims of domestic abuse, sexual assault, child abuse and general crime.

	FY 08	FY 09	Total
Funding	\$8,154,000	\$8,154,000	\$16,308,000

Note: Total FY 08-09 funding reflects an increase of \$3,400,000 (26.3%).

Homelessness Outreach Grants

Grants intended to connect people experiencing homelessness to housing and services for purposes of reducing recidivism and promoting stronger communities. Grants will be awarded to agencies experienced in homeless outreach services and provide needed staff qualified to work with people with serious mental illness or chemical dependency, and employ outreach staff who are trained and qualified to work with racially and culturally diverse populations.

	FY 08	FY 09	Total
Funding	\$150,000	\$150,000	\$300,000

Note: This is a one-time appropriation.

PUBLIC SAFETY - CONTINUED

REGULAR SESSION - CHAPTER 54, H.F. 829

PUBLIC SAFETY - CONTINUED

Legal Advocacy for Human Trafficking Victims

Grant to provide 10 weekly international human trafficking screening clinics staffed by attorneys from a non-profit organization that provides multiple services to trafficking victims in Minnesota.

	FY 08	FY 09	Total
Funding	\$150,000	\$150,000	\$300,000

Note: This is a one-time appropriation.

Youth Intervention Program

Provides prevention and early intervention services for at-risk youth to prevent their involvement in the juvenile justice system, including: leadership development, mentoring, restorative justice services, pre-court diversion services, counseling services, education programs, and gender or culturally specific program services.

	FY 08	FY 09	Total
Funding	\$750,000	\$750,000	\$1,500,000

Note: This is a one-time appropriation.

Integrated Domestic Violence Response Framework

Provides a grant to the City of St. Paul to implement an integrated domestic violence response framework. The project must focus on developing training curricula, policies, procedures, and quality assurance for domestic violence responses from 911 operators, law enforcement, prosecutors, probation, district court, victim advocates, social service providers, and other interveners. The project must develop a statewide model for a domestic violence response framework that may be used by local criminal justice agencies and advocacy programs throughout Minnesota. The City of St. Paul must report to the legislature on the results of the project by February 2010.

	FY 08	FY 09	Total
Funding	\$500,000	\$0	\$500,000

Note: This is a one-time appropriation.

Children at Risk

Provides prevention and early intervention services for children under the age of 10 involved or at highest risk of involvement in the juvenile justice system, teen pregnancy, substance abuse, school failure, violent offending, or welfare dependency.

	FY 08	FY 09	Total
Funding	\$250,000	\$250,000	\$500,000

Note: This is a one-time appropriation.

Child Advocacy Center Grants

Provides funding for core functions relating to child maltreatment investigations, interviews, and treatment. Grant awards may be used for child interview or investigation programs and facilities, coordination of or referral for support services, or related statewide training programs.

	FY 08	FY 09	Total
Funding	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$100,000

Note: This is a one-time appropriation.

PUBLIC SAFETY - CONTINUED

REGULAR SESSION - CHAPTER 54, H.F. 829

PUBLIC SAFETY - CONTINUED

Re-Entry Grant Addressing Domestic Violence and Intimate Partner Violence

Provides services to re-entering offenders and their intimate partners to reduce the incidence of domestic violence among offenders re-entering the community, occurrences of domestic violence, serious injury, and death experienced by intimate partners who are in relationships with offenders recently released from jail or prison, and reduce criminal recidivism due to domestic violence.

	FY 08	FY 09	Total
Funding	\$200,000	\$200,000	\$400,000

Note: This is a one-time appropriation.

OTHER

Department of Human Rights

The mission of the Department of Human Rights is to stop illegal discrimination and further equal opportunity for all people in Minnesota. The department pursues this mission through a coordinated program of law enforcement, prevention education, and community-based conflict resolution.

	FY 08	FY 09	Total
Funding	\$4,986,000	\$3,733,000	\$8,719,000

Note: Total FY 08-09 funding represents an increase of \$1,739,000 (24.9%).

PUBLIC SAFETY POLICY CHANGES

Peace Officer Training Standards

The Peace Officer Standards and Training Board shall revise and update preservice courses and develop in-service training courses related to no contact orders in domestic violence cases and domestic violence dynamics. The training must include a component to instruct peace officers on doing risk assessments of the escalating factors of lethality in domestic violence cases, instruction in the laws relating to no contact orders, and address how to best coordinate law enforcement resources relating to no contact orders.

Right of Domestic Abuse Victims to Terminate Lease

A tenant to a residential lease who is a victim of domestic abuse and fears imminent domestic abuse against themselves or their minor children may terminate the written lease agreement without penalty. The tenant must provide advance written notice to the landlord accompanied by an order for protection or no contact order. The tenant is then responsible for the rent payment for the full month in which the tenancy terminates and an additional amount equal to one month's rent. The landlord may not disclose information by a tenant documenting domestic abuse.

Qualified domestic violence-related offenses

Expands the definition of definition of "qualified domestic violence-related offense" to include an attempt to violate any of the crimes listed. Also adds first and second-degree murder to the list of qualified domestic violence-related offenses (which allows enhanced penalties to apply when a person commits more than one qualified domestic violence-related offense within a certain time frame).

ABBREVIATIONS

ABE	Adult Basic Education	LCC	Legislative Coordinating Commission
BOA	Board on Aging	LEAP	Labor Education and Advancement Program
BSF	Basic Sliding Fee	MA	Medical Assistance
CCAP	Child Care Assistance Program	MCH	Maternal and Child Health
CCDF	Child Care Development Fund	MELF	Minnesota Early Learning Foundation
CPR	Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation	MJSP	Minnesota Jobs Skills Partnership
DHP	Displaced Homemakers Program	MFIP	Minnesota Family Investment Program
DHS	Department of Human Services	MYP	Minnesota Youth Program
DWP	Diversionary Work Program	PDP	Prescription Drug Program
ECFE	Early Childhood Family Education	OIC	Opportunity Industrialization Center
ENABL	MN Education Now and Babies Later	SR	Special Revenue
FPG	Federal Poverty Guidelines	SSI	Supplemental Security Income
FPSP	Family Planning Special Projects Grants	TANF	Temporary Assistance to Needy Families
FY	State Fiscal Year (July 1st to June 30th)	TY	Transition Year
GAMC	General Assistance Medical Care	WIC	Women, Infants and Children
GF	General Fund	WKDF	Workforce Development Fund
HCAF	Health Care Access Fund		
ICF/MR	Intermediate Care Facility for People with Mental Retardation		

2007 FEDERAL POVERTY GUIDELINES

2007 Federal Poverty Guidelines (FPG)								
Size of Family Unit	75% FPG	100% FPG	115% FPG	150% FPG	175% FPG	200% FPG	250% FPG	275% FPG
1	\$7,657	\$10,210	\$11,741	\$15,315	\$17,867	\$20,420	\$25,525	\$28,077
2	\$10,267	\$13,690	\$15,743	\$20,535	\$23,957	\$27,380	\$34,225	\$37,647
3	\$12,877	\$17,170	\$19,745	\$25,755	\$30,047	\$34,340	\$42,925	\$47,217
4	\$15,487	\$20,650	\$23,747	\$30,975	\$36,137	\$41,300	\$51,625	\$56,787
5	\$18,097	\$24,130	\$27,749	\$36,195	\$42,227	\$48,260	\$60,325	\$66,357
6	\$20,707	\$27,610	\$31,751	\$41,415	\$48,317	\$55,220	\$69,025	\$75,927
7	\$23,317	\$31,090	\$35,753	\$46,635	\$54,407	\$62,180	\$77,725	\$85,497
8	\$25,927	\$34,570	\$39,755	\$51,855	\$60,497	\$69,140	\$86,425	\$95,067
Add \$3,480 for each additional family member.								