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For Immediate Release:
Wednesday, June 20, 2001

**State Shutdown Coordinating Team Announces "Critical Services"
to be Continued in Event of Government Shutdown**

St. Paul, Minn. — Julien C. Carter, Commissioner for the Minnesota Department of Employee Relations (DOER), today announced the list of state agency functions identified as "critical services" for the purposes of a state government shutdown. Critical services are those functions that would continue to be provided by the State if government operations cease due to a lack of legislative appropriations on July 1, 2001.

Commissioner Carter provided a short list of state government services determined to be those most crucial to protecting and preserving life, health and safety in Minnesota – along with some functions needed to support such operations. The Shutdown Coordinating Team prioritized and selected services that made the list from among those submitted by the state agencies.

Some of the government functions named as critical services include custodial care of residents in state nursing homes, veterans homes and other facilities; operation/supervision of correctional facilities; basic law enforcement and emergency services; support of functions related to providing child support and public assistance nursing care; food and dairy inspection, etc.

According to Carter, important state government functions not included on the critical services list would probably not be provided during a shutdown. "We would have to suspend road construction and maintenance projects, close down the state parks, stop issuing documents that range from drivers licenses to fishing licenses, and cut back on a whole host of public services," he said. "This will not only cause a lot of inconvenience and dissatisfaction among citizens, but could end up costing taxpayers millions of dollars due to delays in completing state contracts and losses of public revenue."

Carter said that state agencies will immediately begin notifying customers (including counties and municipalities), contractors and employees about the critical services that they would provide and about the possible impact of suspending other services if government operations cease.



Minnesota State Government Shutdown Fast Facts

June 20, 2001

- **There are 52,677 State Employees.**
- **The number of state employees deemed critical is 8,076.**
- **24,025 state employees are scheduled for limited interruption.**
- **Minnesota State Colleges and Universities (MNSCU) have 19,306 employees who are not included in the employees affected by the shutdown because they have funds available through other sources to continue operations through mid-July.**
- **Daily lost productivity of individuals on limited interruption: \$3.8 million**
- **Over the last week, there have been over 20,000 hits on the State Government Shutdown Site.**
- **Over 500 requests for information and creditor letters have been received at the Shutdown Call Center.**
- **Never before has the State of Minnesota faced the possibility of reducing services to citizens because of a legislative impasse over the budget.**
- **In addition to lost productivity during a possible shutdown, the State will face expenses for "restarting" government once a shutdown ends.**
- **The effects of a government shutdown would likely linger far into the future, affecting citizen's confidence in state government. It would also impact organizations that utilize state government services and provide services and products to state government.**
- **May have a negative impact on the State's ability to retain skilled and dedicated employees.**



HOW WOULD A SHUTDOWN AFFECT THE OPERATIONS AND SERVICES OF STATE AGENCIES?

June 20, 2001

Department of Agriculture

While inspection of dairy farms, processing plants, and grocery stores would continue under a state government shutdown, there are many other important services that would cease. For example:

Food recalls

In a foodborne outbreak, it is very important for regulators to move quickly and have good information. Last December, in the midst of a major recall of E. coli contaminated ground beef, the Minnesota Department of Agriculture's laboratory facility helped confirm the contamination and its suspected source. As a result, the MDA, the Department of Health and the U.S. Department of Agriculture were able to move quickly to get the product off store shelves and investigate the facility to which the meat had been traced.

By greatly reducing our lab's operations capacity, a government shutdown would mean this important lab work would not be done nearly as quickly. This would increase the time required for government regulators to respond to an outbreak, meaning more people could become ill.

Agricultural Chemical Emergency Response

On the morning of Friday, May 11, an anhydrous ammonia nurse tank being pulled by a pickup truck tipped over while turning at an intersection. As a result, more than 800 gallons of anhydrous ammonia were released. A timely response by local officials and the Minnesota Department of Agriculture's agricultural chemical incident response personnel helped protect citizens from the effects of this dangerous chemical.

Unfortunately, in a government shutdown our ability to respond to such an incident would be significantly impaired. Only 11 of the 112 employees in the MDA's Agronomy and Plant Protection Division would be retained in a shutdown. These 11 would be responsible for responding to all pesticide and fertilizer spills, human exposures, and misuses in the state.

Department of Children Families & Learning

- All school districts will experience cash flow issues due to the loss of state categorical aid payments, and the absence of an inflationary increase in general education funding from the previous year. Some districts may be unable to cover payroll and other obligations on a timely basis, causing them to cash in investments early and pay penalties. Cancellation of services and teacher layoffs may also occur.
- Payments to Adult Basic Education providers (many of them small non-profit organizations) would cease, causing cash flow difficulties.
- General Education Development (GED) classes may be discontinued, causing delay in employment or enrollment at higher education institutions for GED program participants.
- Adult English as a Second Language classes may be discontinued, slowing full participation of immigrants in the workplace and community.

Department of Corrections

Prisoners would be locked in cells up to 23 hours daily at higher custody facilities, like Stillwater Prison. Medium-custody institutions cannot lock inmates in cells, intensifying concerns about safety with reduced staffing.

Offender Community Supervision/Related Activities

- Suspended activities:
 - Sex offender and chemical dependency services including programming, the community notification process, and drug and alcohol testing
 - Grants and subsidies activities related to pass-through funding for a wide variety of services at the local level including the community corrections act and county probation officer reimbursement
- Staffing levels will be maintained to ensure supervision of highest risk offenders (i.e., intensive supervision, sex offender supervision).
- Minimal staffing levels will be maintained for supervision of other offenders in the community and offenders controlled by the Interstate Compact.

Department of Economic Security

Certain functions available through the Minnesota Department of Economic Security will be closed, including Disability Determination Services, State Services for the Blind, Vocational Rehabilitation and the Energy Assistance.

Department of Health

The health and well-being of Minnesotans could be dramatically affected by a government shutdown, which would all but close the Minnesota Department of Health.

- Minnesotans will be at increased risk for infectious diseases because we won't have our full capacity to detect disease outbreaks.
- Minnesotans will be at higher risk for food-borne illness and disease because we won't be inspecting restaurants.
- Minnesotans will be at increased risk for disease from unsafe drinking water because we won't be inspecting public water supplies.
- The public's ability to exercise certain legal rights, such as obtaining passports or applying for licenses will be affected because they won't be able to get copies of birth and death certificates.
- The care of frail elderly residents in nursing homes and hospitals could be compromised because we won't be inspecting those facilities for safety and proper treatment.
- Minnesotans' access to needed health care services could be affected because we won't be responding to assistance that people may need from their HMOs.
- Some women may not get the needed follow-up for abnormal screening results because we won't be continuing our breast cancer detection program.
- Home and business construction projects could be delayed because contractors may not be able to get the licenses or inspections they need to do the work.
- Local public health agencies, nonprofits (such as United Way agencies) and other organizations in communities across the will not receive the funds they need to help us protect the public's health.

AGENCY	CRITICAL OPERATIONS OR OPERATIONS IN DIRECT SUPPORT OF CRITICAL OPERATIONS That May Remain Open
ACCOUNTANCY BOARD Total Employees: 5	Closed
ADMINISTRATION DEPT Total Employees: 902	Portions of plan submitted for support of critical operations approved . Included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • InterTech <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Network operation • Computing Services • Voice • Computer/Network Security • Contingency Planning • Mn Multistate Contracting for Pharmacy • Building operations. • Security for parked cars. • Limited Central Mail Services in order to further mission of "critical operations" or to secure mail of agencies or operations that have been closed. • Contract Purchasing, critical needs only • Risk Management emergency response • State Building Codes emergency response
ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS Total Employees: 93	Closed
AGRICULTURE DEPT Total Employees: 521	The following portions of your critical operations plan have been approved: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commercial Feed Regulation • Agricultural Chemical Emergency Response • Food Inspection • Dairy Inspection • Food Safety Emergency & Food Reinspection • State Meat Inspection • Laboratory Services <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agronomy Analysis/Ag Chemical Emergency Response • Food Safety Emergencies/Dairy and Food Inspection Services • Monitoring and Regulatory Analysis to State Meat Inspection Program. • Regulatory Analysis for Commercial Feed • Nuclear Response • Biological Control Program <p>Only staff and operating expenses that are minimally necessary to continue, secure, or support these operations are authorized in the event of a government shut down.</p>

AGENCY

**CRITICAL OPERATIONS OR OPERATIONS IN DIRECT SUPPORT OF CRITICAL OPERATIONS
That May Remain Open**

AMATEUR SPORTS COMM

Closed

Total Employees: 8

ANIMAL HEALTH BOARD

The following portions of your critical operations plan have been approved:

Total Employees: 31

- Investigate suspect rabies cases; and,
- Investigate suspect foreign animal disease cases.

Only staff and operating expenses that are **minimally** necessary to continue, secure, or support these operations are authorized in the event of a government shut down.

ARCHITECTURE, ENGINEERING BD

Closed

Total Employees: 9

ARTS BOARD

Closed

Total Employees: 21

ASIAN-PACIFIC COUNCIL

Closed

Total Employees: 4

ATTORNEY GENERAL

NA

Total Employees: 443

BARBERS BOARD

Closed

Total Employees: 2

BLACK MINNESOTANS COUNCIL

Closed

Total Employees: 4

CAMPAIGN FINANCE BOARD

Closed

Total Employees: 8

CAPITOL AREA ARCHITECT

Closed

Total Employees: 4

AGENCY**CRITICAL OPERATIONS OR OPERATIONS IN DIRECT SUPPORT OF CRITICAL OPERATIONS
That May Remain Open**

CENTER FOR ARTS EDUCATION

Closed

Total Employees: 95

CHICANO LATINO AFFAIRS COUNCIL

Closed

Total Employees: 5

CHILDREN, FAMILIES, & LEARNING

Portions of plan submitted for critical operations **approved**:

- Maltreatment of Minors Program

Total Employees: 561

Only staff and operating expenses that are **minimally** necessary to continue, secure, or support this operation is authorized in the event of a government shut down.

CHIROPRACTIC EXAMINERS BOARD

Closed

Total Employees: 5

COMMERCE DEPT

Plan submitted for critical operations **approved**. Included:

- Payment for the Minnesota Message Relay Service.

Total Employees: 328

CORRECTIONS DEPT

Plan submitted for critical operations **approved**. Included:

- Corrections Institutions
 - Inmate custody
 - Health Services
 - Transfer and Transportation
 - Special Investigations
 - Facility Support
 - Physical Plant
- Offender Community Supervision
- Support Services Directly Related to Institutional Care and Offender Community Supervision

Total Employees: 3810

Only staff and operating expenses that are **minimally** necessary to continue, secure, or support these operations are authorized in the event of a government shut down.

CRIME VICTIM OMBUDSMAN

Closed

Total Employees: 5

DENTISTRY BOARD

Closed

Total Employees: 10

AGENCY	CRITICAL OPERATIONS OR OPERATIONS IN DIRECT SUPPORT OF CRITICAL OPERATIONS That May Remain Open
DIETETICS & NUTRITION PRACTICE Total Employees: 2	Closed
DISABILITY COUNCIL Total Employees: 10	Closed
ECONOMIC SECURITY DEPT Total Employees: 1780	NA
ELECTRICITY BOARD Total Employees: 27	NA
EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES BD Total Employees: 15	<p>Plan submitted for support of critical operations approved on an as-needed basis. Included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensuring ambulance coverage in the area of disaster declared by Governor's emergency management response team (On-call only) <p>Only staff and operating expenses that are minimally necessary to continue, secure, or support these operations are authorized in the event of a government shut down.</p>
EMPLOYEE RELATIONS DEPT Total Employees: 226	<p>Plan submitted for support of critical operations approved. Included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Limited Information Systems Support for critical systems. • Limited support from SEMA4 unit only for July 13 payroll. • SEGIP program • Workers Compensation <p>Only staff and operating expenses that are minimally necessary to continue, secure, or support these operations are authorized in the event of a government shut down.</p>
ENVIRONMENTAL ASSISTANCE Total Employees: 65	Closed
FARIBAULT ACADEMIES Total Employees: 293	Closed

AGENCY	CRITICAL OPERATIONS OR OPERATIONS IN DIRECT SUPPORT OF CRITICAL OPERATIONS That May Remain Open
FINANCE DEPT Total Employees: 174	Plan submitted for support of critical operations approved . Included: Direct Support of Critical Operations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Periodically Opening MAPs for purchasing/payments • Periodically opening Payroll for paying critical employees or making last FY 01 payroll. Only staff and operating expenses that are minimally necessary to continue, secure, or support these operations are authorized in the event of a government shut down.
GAMBLING CONTROL BOARD Total Employees: 34	Closed
GOVERNORS OFFICE Total Employees: 51	As the Chief Executive Officer of government. The Office of Governor will continue with minimal staff during the shutdown to include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Governor • Lt. Governor • Senior Team • Communications • Policy Management • Operations
GOVT INNOV & COOPERATION BOARD Total Employees: 1	Closed
HEALTH DEPT Total Employees: 1311	Plan submitted for support of critical operations approved . Included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Investigate and respond to Disease Outbreaks • Core Public Health Laboratory Capacity • Health Facilities Complaint Investigation • Safeguard Public Health Data • Emergency Response to Nuclear Accidents and other toxic releases • Public Health Management & Communications • Facility Security • Minnesota Children With Special Health Needs • WIC Only staff and operating expenses that are minimally necessary to continue, secure, or support these operations are authorized in the event of a government shut down.
HIGHER ED FACILITIES AUTHORITY Total Employees: 3	NA

AGENCY	CRITICAL OPERATIONS OR OPERATIONS IN DIRECT SUPPORT OF CRITICAL OPERATIONS That May Remain Open
HIGHER ED SERVICES OFFICE Total Employees: 78	Closed
HOUSING FINANCE AGENCY Total Employees: 184	NA
HUMAN RIGHTS DEPT Total Employees: 64	Closed
HUMAN SERVICES DEPT Total Employees: 6739	<p>The following portions of your critical operations plan have been approved:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • State Operated Services- in-patient treatment for mentally ill, chemically dependent, psychopathic personalities, and nursing home services. Includes support and oversight for client treatment services. • Residential services for persons with developmental disabilities. • Mental Health initiative medication administration and crisis response teams. • Developmentally disabled community support services- In home support staff and crises. • Cash and Food Assistance to Families and Individuals. • Adoption Assistance Payments/Custody Assistance • Health care- Medical Assistance, General Assistance Medical Care, and Minnesota Care; • Payments to personal care attendants, private duty nursing services, home health agencies, waiver service providers, pharmacy services, and nursing homes. • Staff to process premium payments for MnCare enrollees. • Senior Nutrition and home delivered meals. • Guardianship Services. • State-wide Social Information Service Help-Line and Network Support to County Servers. <p>Only staff and operating expenses that are minimally necessary to continue, secure, or support these operations are authorized in the event of a government shut down.</p>
INDIAN AFFAIRS COUNCIL Total Employees: 8	Closed
INVESTMENT BOARD Total Employees: 25	Closed
IRON RANGE RESOURCES & REHAB Total Employees: 177	NA

AGENCY

**CRITICAL OPERATIONS OR OPERATIONS IN DIRECT SUPPORT OF CRITICAL OPERATIONS
That May Remain **Open****

LABOR AND INDUSTRY DEPT

Total Employees: 404

The following portions of your critical operations plan have been approved:

- Limited Workplace Safety/Health Regulation-Response to fatalities, imminent danger and catastrophic workplace events.
- Boiler Vessel & High Pressure Piping- Limited to Boiler/Piping system failures causing fatal or imminent danger.
- Child Labor Regulation
- Benefit Payments to Injured Workers
- DLI Central and Technology Services

Only staff and operating expenses that are **minimally** necessary to continue, secure, or support these operations are authorized in the event of a government shut down.

LOTTERY

Total Employees: 206

NA

MARRIAGE & FAMILY THERAPY BD

Total Employees: 2

Closed

MEDIATION SERVICES DEPT

Total Employees: 23

Closed

MEDICAL PRACTICE BOARD

Total Employees: 24

Closed

METROPOLITAN COUNCIL

The following portions of your critical operations plan have been approved:

- Metro-Mobility

Only staff and operating expenses that are **minimally** necessary to continue, secure, or support these operations are authorized in the event of a government shut down.

MILITARY AFFAIRS DEPT

Total Employees: 308

The following portions of your critical operations plan have been approved:

- Property Protection
- Emergency and Disaster Assistance
- Waste Water Treatment

Only staff and operating expenses that are **minimally** necessary to continue, secure, or support these operations are authorized in the event of a government shut down.

MN STATE COLLEGES/UNIVERSITIES

Total Employees: 19306

NA

AGENCY**CRITICAL OPERATIONS OR OPERATIONS IN DIRECT SUPPORT OF CRITICAL OPERATIONS****That May Remain Open****NATURAL RESOURCES DEPT**

Total Employees: 2629

The following portions of your critical operations plan have been approved:

- Securing /Protecting DNR properties
- Law enforcement/criminal investigations
- Emergency/Disaster Assistance
- Protection of Research Property Metro Goose Control Project

Only staff and operating expenses that are **minimally** necessary to continue, secure, or support these operations are authorized in the event of a government shut down.

NURSING BOARD

Total Employees: 36

The following portions of your critical operations plan have been approved:

- Processing complaints alleging unsafe nursing practices.
- Issuing of licenses/temporary permits to practice nursing
- Renewal of licensure

Only staff and operating expenses that are **minimally** necessary to continue, secure, or support these operations are authorized in the event of a government shut down.

NURSING HOME ADMIN BOARD

Total Employees: 2

Closed

OMBUDSMAN FOR CORRECTIONS

Total Employees: 5

Closed

OMBUDSMAN MH/MR

Total Employees: 20

The following portions of your critical operations plan have been approved:

- Individual Client Services/Investigations or Reviews
- Death and Serious Injury Review

Only staff and operating expenses that are **minimally** necessary to continue, secure, or support these operations are authorized in the event of a government shut down.

OMBUDSPERSON FOR FAMILIES

Total Employees: 4

Closed

OPTOMETRY BOARD

Total Employees: 2

Closed

PEACE OFFICERS BOARD (POST)

Total Employees: 13

Closed

AGENCY**CRITICAL OPERATIONS OR OPERATIONS IN DIRECT SUPPORT OF CRITICAL OPERATIONS
That May Remain Open**

PHARMACY BOARD

Closed

Total Employees: 15

PHYSICAL THERAPY BOARD

Closed

Total Employees: 1

PLANNING, STRATEGIC & L R

Closed

Total Employees: 88

PODIATRIC MEDICINE BOARD

Closed

Total Employees: 1

POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY

The following portions of your critical operations plan have been approved:

Total Employees: 763

- Emergency Response Remediation

Only staff and operating expenses that are **minimally** necessary to continue, secure, or support these operations are authorized in the event of a government shut down.

PRIVATE DETECTIVES BOARD

Closed

Total Employees: 2

PSYCHOLOGY BOARD

Closed

Total Employees: 8

AGENCY

CRITICAL OPERATIONS OR OPERATIONS IN DIRECT SUPPORT OF CRITICAL OPERATIONS

That May Remain Open

PUBLIC SAFETY DEPT

Total Employees: 1978

The following portions of your critical operations plan have been approved:

- Patrol
 - Road troopers and selected supervisors
 - Radio Communications Officers and supervisors
 - Capitol security- limited to protect state property including executive protection
- Emergency Management
 - Duty officers
 - Hazardous materials response
- Fire Marshal/Pipeline Safety
 - Arson investigation
 - Hazardous response
 - Skeleton engineers in pipeline
- BCA
 - CJIS (no trainers)
 - Lab
 - Investigations including communications
- Office of Technology
 - Voice and data communications
 - Security
 - Network operations

Only staff and operating expenses that are **minimally** necessary to continue, secure, or support these operations are authorized in the event of a government shut down.

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMM

Total Employees: 45

Closed

RACING COMMISSION

Total Employees: 6

Closed

REVENUE DEPT

Total Employees: 1196

Minimal Activities Associated For With Making Deposits

- Mail Receiving, Sorting, Depositing of Cash
- Electronic Receiving and Depositing of Cash
- Deposit Control
- Liens and License Release, Collections
- Computer Systems Support
- Ensure Safety and Security of Staff and Facilities
- Reception, Front Door Coordination
- Payroll, Receiving, Dockmaster

Minimal Activities Associated with posting to taxpayer accounts.

AGENCY	CRITICAL OPERATIONS OR OPERATIONS IN DIRECT SUPPORT OF CRITICAL OPERATIONS That May Remain Open
SENTENCING GUIDELINES COMM Total Employees: 7	Closed
SOCIAL WORK BOARD Total Employees: 12	Closed
TAX COURT Total Employees: 6	Closed
TRADE & ECON DEVELOPMENT DEPT Total Employees: 259	Closed
TRANSPORTATION DEPT Total Employees: 5350	<p>The following portions of your critical operations plan have been approved:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide highway operations and maintenance emergency services affecting the safety of the public: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Barricade replacement-repair damaged guardrails or replace any removed construction site barriers • Repair hazardous conditions that occur on the roadways • Hazardous material incident response. • Assessment of traffic damage to bridges • Traffic signal repair • Provide computer and communications affecting the State Patrol in shared facilities • Provide Gopher One responses. <p>Only staff and operating expenses that are minimally necessary to continue, secure, or support these operations are authorized in the event of a government shut down.</p>
VETERANS AFFAIRS DEPT Total Employees: 37	<p>The following portions of your critical operations plan have been approved:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Financial Guardian Program. • Financial Subsistence Payment Program.
VETERANS HOME BOARD Total Employees: 1180	<p>The following portions of your critical operations plan have been approved:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Direct Care and Supporting Operations <p>Only staff and operating expenses that are minimally necessary to continue, secure, or support these operations are authorized in the event of a government shut down.</p>

AGENCY

**CRITICAL OPERATIONS OR OPERATIONS IN DIRECT SUPPORT OF CRITICAL OPERATIONS
That May Remain **Open****

VETERINARY MEDICINE BOARD

Closed

Total Employees: 2

WATER & SOIL RESOURCES BOARD

Closed

Total Employees: 72

WORKERS COMP COURT OF APPEALS

Closed

Total Employees: 15

ZOOLOGICAL BOARD/Minnesota Zoo.

The following portions of your critical operations plan have been approved:

- Care of live animal collection, care

Total Employees: 266

Only staff and operating expenses that are **minimally** necessary to continue, secure, or support these operations are authorized in the event of a government shut down.

FUNCTIONS FOLLOWING WE HAVE
ASKED BE COORDINATED BY AG ---

SECRETARY OF STATE

AG to coordinate

Total Employees: 89

STATE AUDITOR

AG to coordinate

Total Employees: 141

STATE TREASURER

The following portions of your critical operations plan have been approved:

- Open from July 1-13 on limited basis to clear and process warrants issued prior to and including June 30. The Treasurer's office would not make deposits during this time period.
- May process other warrants during this time period provided has the capacity to process.
- AG TO COORDINATE

Total Employees: 13