1.2	Delete everything after the enacting clause and insert:
1.3	"Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 119B.011, subdivision 3, is amended to read
1.4	Subd. 3. <b>Application.</b> "Application" means the submission to a county agency, by or
1.5	on behalf of a family, of a completed, signed, and dated:
1.6	(1) child care assistance universal application form; or
1.7	(2) child care addendum form in combination with a combined application form for
1.8	MFIP <del>, DWP,</del> or Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits.
1.9	EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective July 1, 2024.
1.10	Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 119B.011, subdivision 15, is amended to read:
1.11	Subd. 15. Income. "Income" means earned income as defined under section 256P.01,
1.12	subdivision 3, unearned income as defined under section 256P.01, subdivision 8, and public
1.13	assistance cash benefits, including the Minnesota family investment program, diversionary
1.14	work program, work benefit, Minnesota supplemental aid, general assistance, refugee cash
1.15	assistance, at-home infant child care subsidy payments, and child support and maintenance
1.16	distributed to the a family under section 256.741, subdivision 2a-, and nonrecurring income
1.17	over \$60 per quarter unless the nonrecurring income is:
1.18	(1) from tax refunds, tax rebates, or tax credits;
1.19	(2) from a reimbursement, rebate, award, grant, or refund of personal or real property
1.20	or costs or losses incurred when these payments are made by a public agency, a court, a
1.21	solicitation through public appeal, the federal government, a state or local unit of government
1.22	or a disaster assistance organization;

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(3) provided as an in-kind benefit; or

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(4) earmarked and used for the purpose for which it was intended.

The following are deducted from income: funds used to pay for health insurance premiums for family members, and child or spousal support paid to or on behalf of a person or persons who live outside of the household. Income sources not included in this subdivision and section 256P.06, subdivision 3, are not counted as income.

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

- Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 119B.02, subdivision 4, is amended to read:
- Subd. 4. **Universal application form.** The commissioner must develop and make available to all counties a universal application form for child care assistance under this chapter. The commissioner may develop and make available to all counties a child care addendum form to be used to supplement the combined application form for MFIP, DWP, or Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits or to supplement other statewide application forms for public assistance programs for families applying for one of these programs in addition to child care assistance. The application must provide notice of eligibility requirements for assistance and penalties for wrongfully obtaining assistance.

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

- Sec. 4. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 119B.025, subdivision 4, is amended to read:
- Subd. 4. **Changes in eligibility.** (a) The county shall process a change in eligibility factors according to paragraphs (b) to (g).
  - (b) A family is subject to the reporting requirements in section 256P.07, subdivision 6.
- 2.22 (c) If a family reports a change or a change is known to the agency before the family's regularly scheduled redetermination, the county must act on the change. The commissioner shall establish standards for verifying a change.
  - (d) A change in income occurs on the day the participant received the first payment reflecting the change in income.
  - (e) During a family's 12-month eligibility period, if the family's income increases and remains at or below 85 percent of the state median income, adjusted for family size, there is no change to the family's eligibility. The county shall not request verification of the change. The co-payment fee shall not increase during the remaining portion of the family's 12-month eligibility period.

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(f) During a family's 12-month eligibility period, if the family's income increases and exceeds 85 percent of the state median income, adjusted for family size, the family is not eligible for child care assistance. The family must be given 15 calendar days to provide verification of the change. If the required verification is not returned or confirms ineligibility, the family's eligibility ends following a subsequent 15-day adverse action notice.

(g) Notwithstanding Minnesota Rules, parts 3400.0040, subpart 3, and 3400.0170, subpart 1, if an applicant or participant reports that employment ended, the agency may accept a signed statement from the applicant or participant as verification that employment ended.

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

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- Sec. 5. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 119B.03, subdivision 3, is amended to read:
- Subd. 3. **Eligible participants.** Families that meet the eligibility requirements under sections 119B.09 and 119B.10, except MFIP participants, diversionary work program, and transition year families are eligible for child care assistance under the basic sliding fee program. Families enrolled in the basic sliding fee program shall be continued until they are no longer eligible. Child care assistance provided through the child care fund is considered assistance to the parent.

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

- Sec. 6. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 119B.03, subdivision 4, is amended to read:
  - Subd. 4. **Funding priority.** (a) First priority for child care assistance under the basic sliding fee program must be given to eligible non-MFIP families who do not have a high school diploma or commissioner of education-selected high school equivalency certification or who need remedial and basic skill courses in order to pursue employment or to pursue education leading to employment and who need child care assistance to participate in the education program. This includes student parents as defined under section 119B.011, subdivision 19b. Within this priority, the following subpriorities must be used:
  - (1) child care needs of minor parents;
  - (2) child care needs of parents under 21 years of age; and
- 3.29 (3) child care needs of other parents within the priority group described in this paragraph.

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(b) Second priority must be given to parents who have completed their MFIP or DWP transition year, or parents who are no longer receiving or eligible for diversionary work program supports.

- (c) Third priority must be given to families who are eligible for portable basic sliding fee assistance through the portability pool under subdivision 9.
- (d) Fourth priority must be given to families in which at least one parent is a veteran asdefined under section 197.447.
  - (e) Families under paragraph (b) must be added to the basic sliding fee waiting list on the date they begin the transition year under section 119B.011, subdivision 20, and must be moved into the basic sliding fee program as soon as possible after they complete their transition year.

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

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- Sec. 7. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 119B.03, subdivision 4a, is amended to read:
- Subd. 4a. **Temporary reprioritization.** (a) Notwithstanding subdivision 4, priority for child care assistance under the basic sliding fee assistance program shall be determined according to this subdivision beginning July 1, 2021, through May 31, 2024.
  - (b) First priority must be given to eligible non-MFIP families who do not have a high school diploma or commissioner of education-selected high school equivalency certification or who need remedial and basic skill courses in order to pursue employment or to pursue education leading to employment and who need child care assistance to participate in the education program. This includes student parents as defined under section 119B.011, subdivision 19b. Within this priority, the following subpriorities must be used:
  - (1) child care needs of minor parents;
- 4.24 (2) child care needs of parents under 21 years of age; and
- 4.25 (3) child care needs of other parents within the priority group described in this paragraph.
- 4.26 (c) Second priority must be given to families in which at least one parent is a veteran, 4.27 as defined under section 197.447.
- (d) Third priority must be given to eligible families who do not meet the specifications
  of paragraph (b), (c), (e), or (f).
- (e) Fourth priority must be given to families who are eligible for portable basic sliding fee assistance through the portability pool under subdivision 9.

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(f) Fifth priority must be given to eligible families receiving services under section 119B.011, subdivision 20a, if the parents have completed their MFIP or DWP transition year, or if the parents are no longer receiving or eligible for DWP supports. (g) Families under paragraph (f) must be added to the basic sliding fee waiting list on the date they complete their transition year under section 119B.011, subdivision 20. **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2024. Sec. 8. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 119B.05, subdivision 1, is amended to read: Subdivision 1. Eligible participants. Families eligible for child care assistance under the MFIP child care program are: (1) MFIP participants who are employed or in job search and meet the requirements of 5.10 section 119B.10; 5.11 (2) persons who are members of transition year families under section 119B.011, 5.12 subdivision 20, and meet the requirements of section 119B.10; 5.13 (3) families who are participating in employment orientation or job search, or other 5.14 5.15 employment or training activities that are included in an approved employability development plan under section 256J.95; 5.16 5.17 (4) (3) MFIP families who are participating in work job search, job support, employment, or training activities as required in their employment plan, or in appeals, hearings, 5.18 assessments, or orientations according to chapter 256J; 5.19 (5) (4) MFIP families who are participating in social services activities under chapter 5.20 256J as required in their employment plan approved according to chapter 256J; 5.21 (6) (5) families who are participating in services or activities that are included in an 5.22 approved family stabilization plan under section 256J.575; 5.23 (7) (6) families who are participating in programs as required in tribal contracts under 5.24 section 119B.02, subdivision 2, or 256.01, subdivision 2; 5.25 (8) (7) families who are participating in the transition year extension under section 5.26 119B.011, subdivision 20a; 5.27 (9) (8) student parents as defined under section 119B.011, subdivision 19b; and 5.28 (10) (9) student parents who turn 21 years of age and who continue to meet the other 5.29 requirements under section 119B.011, subdivision 19b. A student parent continues to be 5.30

eligible until the student parent is approved for basic sliding fee child care assistance or

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until the student parent's redetermination, whichever comes first. At the student parent's redetermination, if the student parent was not approved for basic sliding fee child care assistance, a student parent's eligibility ends following a 15-day adverse action notice.

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

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Sec. 9. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 119B.09, subdivision 7, is amended to read:

- Subd. 7. **Date of eligibility for assistance.** (a) The date of eligibility for child care assistance under this chapter is the later of the date the application was received by the county; the beginning date of employment, education, or training; the date the infant is born for applicants to the at-home infant care program; or the date a determination has been made that the applicant is a participant in employment and training services under Minnesota Rules, part 3400.0080, or chapter 256J.
- (b) Payment ceases for a family under the at-home infant child care program when a family has used a total of 12 months of assistance as specified under section 119B.035. Payment of child care assistance for employed persons on MFIP is effective the date of employment or the date of MFIP eligibility, whichever is later. Payment of child care assistance for MFIP or DWP participants in employment and training services is effective the date of commencement of the services or the date of MFIP or DWP eligibility, whichever is later. Payment of child care assistance for transition year child care must be made retroactive to the date of eligibility for transition year child care.
- (c) Notwithstanding paragraph (b), payment of child care assistance for participants eligible under section 119B.05 may only be made retroactive for a maximum of three months from the date of application for child care assistance.

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

- 6.24 Sec. 10. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 119B.095, subdivision 2, is amended to read:
- Subd. 2. **Maintain steady child care authorizations.** (a) Notwithstanding Minnesota Rules, chapter 3400, the amount of child care authorized under section 119B.10 for employment, education, or an MFIP or DWP employment plan shall continue at the same number of hours or more hours until redetermination, including:
  - (1) when the other parent moves in and is employed or has an education plan under section 119B.10, subdivision 3, or has an MFIP or DWP employment plan; or
  - (2) when the participant's work hours are reduced or a participant temporarily stops working or attending an approved education program. Temporary changes include, but are

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not limited to, a medical leave, seasonal employment fluctuations, or a school break between semesters.

- (b) The county may increase the amount of child care authorized at any time if the participant verifies the need for increased hours for authorized activities.
- 7.5 (c) The county may reduce the amount of child care authorized if a parent requests a
   7.6 reduction or because of a change in:
- 7.7 (1) the child's school schedule;
- 7.8 (2) the custody schedule; or

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- 7.9 (3) the provider's availability.
- (d) The amount of child care authorized for a family subject to subdivision 1, paragraph
  (b), must change when the participant's activity schedule changes. Paragraph (a) does not
  apply to a family subject to subdivision 1, paragraph (b).
- 7.13 (e) When a child reaches 13 years of age or a child with a disability reaches 15 years of age, the amount of child care authorized shall continue at the same number of hours or more hours until redetermination.

#### 7.16 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2024.

- 7.17 Sec. 11. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 119B.095, subdivision 3, is amended to read:
  - Subd. 3. **Assistance for persons who are homeless.** An applicant who is homeless and eligible for child care assistance is exempt from the activity participation requirements under this chapter for three months. The applicant under this subdivision is eligible for 60 hours of child care assistance per service period for three months from the date the county receives the application. Additional hours may be authorized as needed based on the applicant's participation in employment, education, or MFIP or DWP employment plan. To continue receiving child care assistance after the initial three months, the applicant must verify that the applicant meets eligibility and activity requirements for child care assistance under this chapter.

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

- 7.28 Sec. 12. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 119B.10, subdivision 1, is amended to read:
- Subdivision 1. **Assistance for persons seeking and retaining employment.** (a) Persons who are seeking employment and who are eligible for assistance under this section are eligible to receive up to 240 hours of child care assistance per calendar year.

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(b) At application and redetermination, employed persons who work at least an average of 20 hours and full-time students who work at least an average of ten hours a week and receive at least a minimum wage for all hours worked are eligible for child care assistance for employment. For purposes of this section, work-study programs must be counted as employment. An employed person with an MFIP or DWP employment plan shall receive child care assistance as specified in the person's employment plan. Child care assistance during employment must be authorized as provided in paragraphs (c) and (d).

- (c) When the person works for an hourly wage and the hourly wage is equal to or greater than the applicable minimum wage, child care assistance shall be provided for the hours of employment, break, and mealtime during the employment and travel time up to two hours per day.
- (d) When the person does not work for an hourly wage, child care assistance must be provided for the lesser of:
- (1) the amount of child care determined by dividing gross earned income by the applicable minimum wage, up to one hour every eight hours for meals and break time, plus up to two hours per day for travel time; or
- (2) the amount of child care equal to the actual amount of child care used during employment, including break and mealtime during employment, and travel time up to two hours per day.

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

- Sec. 13. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 119B.10, subdivision 3, is amended to read:
- Subd. 3. Assistance for persons attending an approved education or training program. (a) Money for an eligible person according to sections 119B.03, subdivision 3, and 119B.05, subdivision 1, shall be used to reduce child care costs for a student. The county shall not limit the duration of child care subsidies for a person in an employment or educational program unless the person is ineligible for child care funds. Any other limitation must be based on county policies included in the approved child care fund plan.
- (b) To be eligible, the student must be in good standing and be making satisfactory progress toward the degree. The maximum length of time a student is eligible for child care assistance under the child care fund for education and training is no more than the time necessary to complete the credit requirements for an associate's or baccalaureate degree as determined by the educational institution. Time limitations for child care assistance do not apply to basic or remedial educational programs needed for postsecondary education or

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employment. Basic or remedial educational programs include high school, commissioner of education-selected high school equivalency, and English as a second language programs. A program exempt from this time limit must not run concurrently with a postsecondary program.

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- (c) If a student meets the conditions of paragraphs (a) and (b), child care assistance must be authorized for all hours of class time and credit hours, including independent study and internships, and up to two hours of travel time per day. A postsecondary student shall receive four hours of child care assistance per credit hour for study time and academic appointments per service period.
- (d) For an MFIP or DWP participant, child care assistance must be authorized according to the person's approved employment plan. If an MFIP or DWP participant receiving MFIP or DWP child care assistance under this chapter moves to another county, continues to participate in an authorized educational or training program, and remains eligible for MFIP or DWP child care assistance, the participant must receive continued child care assistance from the county responsible for the person's current employment plan under section 256G.07.
- (e) If a person with an approved education program under section 119B.03, subdivision 3, or 119B.05, subdivision 1, begins receiving MFIP or DWP assistance, the person continues to receive child care assistance for the approved education program until the person's education is included in an approved MFIP or DWP employment plan or until redetermination, whichever occurs first.
- (f) If a person's MFIP or DWP assistance ends and the approved MFIP or DWP employment plan included education, the person continues to be eligible for child care assistance for education under transition year child care assistance until the person's education is included in an approved education plan or until redetermination.

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

Sec. 14. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 119B.105, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. Extended eligibility and redetermination. (a) If the family received three months of extended eligibility and redetermination is not due, to continue receiving child care assistance the participant must be employed or have an education plan that meets the requirements of section 119B.10, subdivision 3, or have an MFIP or DWP employment plan. If child care assistance continues, the amount of child care authorized shall continue at the same number or more hours until redetermination, unless a condition in section 119B.095, subdivision 2, paragraph (c), applies. A family subject to section 119B.095,

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subdivision 1, paragraph (b), shall have child care authorized based on a verified activity schedule.

(b) If the family's redetermination occurs before the end of the three-month extended eligibility period to continue receiving child care assistance, the participant must verify that the participant meets eligibility and activity requirements for child care assistance under this chapter. If child care assistance continues, the amount of child care authorized is based on section 119B.10. A family subject to section 119B.095, subdivision 1, paragraph (b), shall have child care authorized based on a verified activity schedule.

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

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- Sec. 15. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 168B.07, subdivision 3, is amended to read:
- Subd. 3. **Retrieval of contents.** (a) For purposes of this subdivision:
  - (1) "contents" does not include any permanently affixed mechanical or nonmechanical automobile parts; automobile body parts; or automobile accessories, including audio or video players; and
  - (2) "relief based on need" includes, but is not limited to, receipt of MFIP and Diversionary Work Program, medical assistance, general assistance, emergency general assistance, Minnesota supplemental aid, MSA-emergency assistance, MinnesotaCare, Supplemental Security Income, energy assistance, emergency assistance, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits, earned income tax credit, or Minnesota working family tax credit.
  - (b) A unit of government or impound lot operator shall establish reasonable procedures for retrieval of vehicle contents, and may establish reasonable procedures to protect the safety and security of the impound lot and its personnel.
  - (c) At any time before the expiration of the waiting periods provided in section 168B.051, a registered owner who provides documentation from a government or nonprofit agency or legal aid office that the registered owner is homeless, receives relief based on need, or is eligible for legal aid services, has the unencumbered right to retrieve any and all contents without charge and regardless of whether the registered owner pays incurred charges or fees, transfers title, or reclaims the vehicle.

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

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Sec. 16. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 256.046, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

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Subdivision 1. **Hearing authority.** A local agency must initiate an administrative fraud disqualification hearing for individuals accused of wrongfully obtaining assistance or intentional program violations, in lieu of a criminal action when it has not been pursued, in the Minnesota family investment program and any affiliated program to include the diversionary work program and the work participation cash benefit program, child care assistance programs, general assistance, family general assistance program formerly codified in section 256D.05, subdivision 1, clause (15), Minnesota supplemental aid, the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), MinnesotaCare for adults without children, and upon federal approval, all categories of medical assistance and remaining categories of MinnesotaCare except for children through age 18. The Department of Human Services, in lieu of a local agency, may initiate an administrative fraud disqualification hearing when the state agency is directly responsible for administration or investigation of the program for which benefits were wrongfully obtained. The hearing is subject to the requirements of sections 256.045 and 256.0451 and the requirements in Code of Federal Regulations, title 7, section 273.16.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective July 1, 2024, and applies to acts of wrongfully obtaining assistance and intentional program violations that occur on or after that date.

Sec. 17. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 256.98, subdivision 8, is amended to read:

Subd. 8. **Disqualification from program.** (a) Any person found to be guilty of wrongfully obtaining assistance by a federal or state court or by an administrative hearing determination, or waiver thereof, through a disqualification consent agreement, or as part of any approved diversion plan under section 401.065, or any court-ordered stay which carries with it any probationary or other conditions, in the Minnesota family investment program and any affiliated program to include the diversionary work program and the work participation cash benefit program, the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), the general assistance program, housing support under chapter 256I, or the Minnesota supplemental aid program shall be disqualified from that program. In addition, any person disqualified from the Minnesota family investment program shall also be disqualified from SNAP. The needs of that individual shall not be taken into consideration in determining the grant level for that assistance unit:

- (1) for one year after the first offense;
- (2) for two years after the second offense; and

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(3) permanently after the third or subsequent offense.

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The period of program disqualification shall begin on the date stipulated on the advance notice of disqualification without possibility of postponement for administrative stay or administrative hearing and shall continue through completion unless and until the findings upon which the sanctions were imposed are reversed by a court of competent jurisdiction. The period for which sanctions are imposed is not subject to review. The sanctions provided under this subdivision are in addition to, and not in substitution for, any other sanctions that may be provided for by law for the offense involved. A disqualification established through hearing or waiver shall result in the disqualification period beginning immediately unless the person has become otherwise ineligible for assistance. If the person is ineligible for assistance, the disqualification period begins when the person again meets the eligibility criteria of the program from which they were disqualified and makes application for that program.

- (b) A family receiving assistance through child care assistance programs under chapter 119B with a family member who is found to be guilty of wrongfully obtaining child care assistance by a federal court, state court, or an administrative hearing determination or waiver, through a disqualification consent agreement, as part of an approved diversion plan under section 401.065, or a court-ordered stay with probationary or other conditions, is disqualified from child care assistance programs. The disqualifications must be for periods of one year and two years for the first and second offenses, respectively. Subsequent violations must result in permanent disqualification. During the disqualification period, disqualification from any child care program must extend to all child care programs and must be immediately applied.
- (c) A provider caring for children receiving assistance through child care assistance programs under chapter 119B is disqualified from receiving payment for child care services from the child care assistance program under chapter 119B when the provider is found to have wrongfully obtained child care assistance by a federal court, state court, or an administrative hearing determination or waiver under section 256.046, through a disqualification consent agreement, as part of an approved diversion plan under section 401.065, or a court-ordered stay with probationary or other conditions. The disqualification must be for a period of three years for the first offense. Any subsequent violation must result in permanent disqualification. The disqualification period must be imposed immediately after a determination is made under this paragraph. During the disqualification period, the provider is disqualified from receiving payment from any child care program under chapter 119B.

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(d) Any person found to be guilty of wrongfully obtaining MinnesotaCare for adults without children and upon federal approval, all categories of medical assistance and remaining categories of MinnesotaCare, except for children through age 18, by a federal or state court or by an administrative hearing determination, or waiver thereof, through a disqualification consent agreement, or as part of any approved diversion plan under section 401.065, or any court-ordered stay which carries with it any probationary or other conditions, is disqualified from that program. The period of disqualification is one year after the first offense, two years after the second offense, and permanently after the third or subsequent offense. The period of program disqualification shall begin on the date stipulated on the advance notice of disqualification without possibility of postponement for administrative stay or administrative hearing and shall continue through completion unless and until the findings upon which the sanctions were imposed are reversed by a court of competent jurisdiction. The period for which sanctions are imposed is not subject to review. The sanctions provided under this subdivision are in addition to, and not in substitution for, any other sanctions that may be provided for by law for the offense involved.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2024, and applies to acts of wrongfully obtaining assistance that occur on or after that date.

Sec. 18. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 256.987, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

- Subd. 4. **Disqualification.** (a) Any person found to be guilty of purchasing tobacco products or alcoholic beverages with their EBT debit card by a federal or state court or by an administrative hearing determination, or waiver thereof, through a disqualification consent agreement, or as part of any approved diversion plan under section 401.065, or any court-ordered stay which carries with it any probationary or other conditions, in the: (1) Minnesota family investment program and any affiliated program to include the diversionary work program and the work participation cash benefit program under chapter 256J; (2) general assistance program under chapter 256D; or (3) Minnesota supplemental aid program under chapter 256D, shall be disqualified from all of the listed programs.
- (b) The needs of the disqualified individual shall not be taken into consideration in determining the grant level for that assistance unit: (1) for one year after the first offense; (2) for two years after the second offense; and (3) permanently after the third or subsequent offense.
- (c) The period of program disqualification shall begin on the date stipulated on the advance notice of disqualification without possibility for postponement for administrative stay or administrative hearing and shall continue through completion unless and until the

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	findings upon which the sanctions were imposed are reversed by a court of competent
	jurisdiction. The period for which sanctions are imposed is not subject to review.
	<b>EFFECTIVE DATE.</b> This section is effective July 1, 2024, and applies to purchases
	made on or after that date.
	Sec. 19. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 256D.03, is amended by adding a subdivision
	to read:
	Subd. 2b. Budgeting and reporting. Every county agency shall determine eligibility
	and calculate benefit amounts for general assistance according to chapter 256P.
	<b>EFFECTIVE DATE.</b> This section is effective July 1, 2024.
	Sec. 20. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 256D.63, subdivision 2, is amended to read:
	Subd. 2. <b>SNAP reporting requirements.</b> The commissioner of human services shall
	implement simplified reporting as permitted under the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008, as
	amended, and the SNAP regulations in Code of Federal Regulations, title 7, part 273. SNAP
	benefit recipient households required to report periodically shall not be required to report
	more often than one time every six months. This provision shall not apply to households
	receiving food benefits under the Minnesota family investment program waiver.
	EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective July 1, 2024.
	Sec. 21. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 256I.03, subdivision 13, is amended to read:
	Subd. 13. <b>Prospective budgeting.</b> "Prospective budgeting" means estimating the amount
(	of monthly income a person will have in the payment month has the meaning given in
	section 256P.01, subdivision 9.
	EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective July 1, 2024.
	Sec. 22. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 256I.06, subdivision 6, is amended to read:
	Subd. 6. <b>Reports.</b> Recipients must report changes in circumstances according to section
	256P.07 that affect eligibility or housing support payment amounts, other than changes in earned income, within ten days of the change. Recipients with countable earned income
	must complete a household report form at least once every six months according to section
	256P.10. If the report form is not received before the end of the month in which it is due,
	the county agency must terminate eligibility for housing support payments. The termination
	shall be effective on the first day of the month following the month in which the report was

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due. If a complete report is received within the month eligibility was terminated, the individual is considered to have continued an application for housing support payment effective the first day of the month the eligibility was terminated.

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

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Sec. 23. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 256I.06, subdivision 8, is amended to read:

- Subd. 8. **Amount of housing support payment.** (a) The amount of a room and board payment to be made on behalf of an eligible individual is determined by subtracting the individual's countable income under section 256I.04, subdivision 1, for a whole calendar month from the room and board rate for that same month. The housing support payment is determined by multiplying the housing support rate times the period of time the individual was a resident or temporarily absent under section 256I.05, subdivision 2a.
- (b) For an individual with earned income under paragraph (a), prospective budgeting according to section 256P.09 must be used to determine the amount of the individual's payment for the following six-month period. An increase in income shall not affect an individual's eligibility or payment amount until the month following the reporting month. A decrease in income shall be effective the first day of the month after the month in which the decrease is reported.
- (c) For an individual who receives housing support payments under section 256I.04, subdivision 1, paragraph (c), the amount of the housing support payment is determined by multiplying the housing support rate times the period of time the individual was a resident.

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

- 15.22 Sec. 24. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 256J.01, subdivision 1, is amended to read:
- Subdivision 1. Implementation of Minnesota family investment program

  (MFIP). Except for section 256J.95, This chapter and chapter 256K may be cited as the

  Minnesota family investment program (MFIP). MFIP is the statewide implementation of

  components of the Minnesota family investment plan (MFIP) authorized and formerly

  codified in section 256.031 and Minnesota family investment plan-Ramsey County (MFIP-R)

  formerly codified in section 256.047.
- 15.29 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2024.

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Sec. 25. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 256J.02, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Use of money.** State money appropriated for purposes of this section and TANF

- 16.4 (1) financial assistance to or on behalf of any minor child who is a resident of this state 16.5 under section 256J.12;
- 16.6 (2) the health care and human services training and retention program under chapter
  16.7 116L, for costs associated with families with children with incomes below 200 percent of
  16.8 the federal poverty guidelines;
- 16.9 (3) the pathways program under section 116L.04, subdivision 1a;
- (4) welfare to work transportation authorized under Public Law 105-178;
- 16.11 (5) reimbursements for the federal share of child support collections passed through to
  the custodial parent;
- 16.13 (6) program administration under this chapter;

block grant money must be used for:

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- 16.14 (7) the diversionary work program under section 256J.95;
- 16.15 (8) (7) the MFIP consolidated fund under section 256J.626; and
- 16.16 (9) (8) the Minnesota Department of Health consolidated fund under Laws 2001, First
  16.17 Special Session chapter 9, article 17, section 3, subdivision 2.
- 16.18 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2024.
- Sec. 26. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 256J.08, subdivision 65, is amended to read:
- Subd. 65. **Participant.** (a) "Participant" includes any of the following:
- 16.21 (1) a person who is currently receiving cash assistance or the food portion available through MFIP;
- 16.23 (2) a person who withdraws a cash or food assistance payment by electronic transfer or receives and cashes an MFIP assistance check or food coupons and is subsequently determined to be ineligible for assistance for that period of time is a participant, regardless whether that assistance is repaid;
- 16.27 (3) the caregiver relative and the minor child whose needs are included in the assistance payment;
- 16.29 (4) a person in an assistance unit who does not receive a cash and food assistance payment 16.30 because the case has been suspended from MFIP; and

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(5) a person who receives cash payments under the diversionary work program under 17.1 section 256J.95 is a participant; and 17.2 (6) (5) a person who receives cash payments under family stabilization services under 17.3 section 256J.575. 17.4 (b) "Participant" does not include a person who fails to withdraw or access electronically 17.5 any portion of the person's cash and food assistance payment by the end of the payment 17.6 month, who makes a written request for closure before the first of a payment month and 17.7 repays cash and food assistance electronically issued for that payment month within that 17.8 payment month, or who returns any uncashed assistance check and food coupons and 17.9 17.10 withdraws from the program. **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2024. 17.11 Sec. 27. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 256J.08, subdivision 71, is amended to read: 17.12 Subd. 71. **Prospective budgeting.** "Prospective budgeting" means a method of 17.13 determining the amount of the assistance payment in which the budget month and payment 17.14 month are the same has the meaning given in section 256P.01, subdivision 9. 17.15 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2024. 17.16 Sec. 28. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 256J.08, subdivision 79, is amended to read: 17.17 Subd. 79. Recurring income. "Recurring income" means a form of income which is: 17.18 (1) received periodically, and may be received irregularly when receipt can be anticipated 17.19 even though the date of receipt cannot be predicted; and 17.20 (2) from the same source or of the same type that is received and budgeted in a 17.21 prospective month and is received in one or both of the first two retrospective months. 17.22 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2024. 17.23 Sec. 29. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 256J.09, subdivision 10, is amended to read: 17.24 Subd. 10. **Ineligibility for MFIP or the diversionary work program.** When an applicant 17.25 is not eligible for MFIP or the diversionary work program under section 256J.95 because 17.26 the applicant does not meet eligibility requirements, the county agency must determine 17.27 whether the applicant is eligible for SNAP, or health care programs. The county must also 17.28 inform applicants about resources available through the county or other agencies to meet 17.29 short-term emergency needs. 17.30

Sec. 29. 17

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

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Sec.	30.	Minnesota	Statutes	2022.	section	256J.21.	subdi	vision 3	. is	amended	to	read:
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- Subd. 3. **Initial income test.** (a) The agency shall determine initial eligibility by considering all earned and unearned income as defined in section 256P.06. To be eligible for MFIP, the assistance unit's countable income minus the earned income disregards in paragraph (a) and section 256P.03 must be below the family wage level according to section 256J.24, subdivision 7, for that size assistance unit.
- (a) (b) The initial eligibility determination must disregard the following items:
- (1) the earned income disregard as determined in section 256P.03;
  - (2) dependent care costs must be deducted from gross earned income for the actual amount paid for dependent care up to a maximum of \$200 per month for each child less than two years of age, and \$175 per month for each child two years of age and older;
  - (3) all payments made according to a court order for spousal support or the support of children not living in the assistance unit's household shall be disregarded from the income of the person with the legal obligation to pay support; and
    - (4) an allocation for the unmet need of an ineligible spouse or an ineligible child under the age of 21 for whom the caregiver is financially responsible and who lives with the caregiver according to section 256J.36.
- (b) After initial eligibility is established, (c) The income test is for a six-month period.

  The assistance payment calculation is based on the monthly income test prospective budgeting according to section 256P.09.

#### 18.22 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2024.

- Sec. 31. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 256J.21, subdivision 4, is amended to read:
- Subd. 4. Monthly Income test and determination of assistance payment. The county
  agency shall determine ongoing eligibility and the assistance payment amount according
  to the monthly income test. To be eligible for MFIP, the result of the computations in
  paragraphs (a) to (e) applied to prospective budgeting must be at least \$1.
  - (a) Apply an income disregard as defined in section 256P.03, to gross earnings and subtract this amount from the family wage level. If the difference is equal to or greater than the MFIP transitional standard, the assistance payment is equal to the MFIP transitional standard. If the difference is less than the MFIP transitional standard, the assistance payment

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is equal to the difference. The earned income disregard in this paragraph must be deducted every month there is earned income.

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- (b) All payments made according to a court order for spousal support or the support of children not living in the assistance unit's household must be disregarded from the income of the person with the legal obligation to pay support.
- (c) An allocation for the unmet need of an ineligible spouse or an ineligible child under the age of 21 for whom the caregiver is financially responsible and who lives with the caregiver must be made according to section 256J.36.
- (d) Subtract unearned income dollar for dollar from the MFIP transitional standard to determine the assistance payment amount.
- (e) When income is both earned and unearned, the amount of the assistance payment must be determined by first treating gross earned income as specified in paragraph (a). After determining the amount of the assistance payment under paragraph (a), unearned income must be subtracted from that amount dollar for dollar to determine the assistance payment amount.
- (f) When the monthly income is greater than the MFIP transitional standard after deductions and the income will only exceed the standard for one month, the county agency must suspend the assistance payment for the payment month.
  - **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2024.
- 19.20 Sec. 32. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 256J.33, subdivision 1, is amended to read:
- Subdivision 1. **Determination of eligibility.** (a) A county agency must determine MFIP eligibility prospectively for a payment month based on retrospectively assessing income and the county agency's best estimate of the circumstances that will exist in the payment month.
- (b) Except as described in section 256J.34, subdivision 1, when prospective eligibility

  exists, A county agency must calculate the amount of the assistance payment using

  retrospective prospective budgeting. To determine MFIP eligibility and the assistance

  payment amount, a county agency must apply countable income, described in sections

  256P.06 and 256J.37, subdivisions 3 to 10 9, received by members of an assistance unit or

  by other persons whose income is counted for the assistance unit, described under sections

  256J.37, subdivisions 1 to 2, and 256P.06, subdivision 1.

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(c) This income must be applied to the MFIP standard of need or family wage level 20.1 subject to this section and sections 256J.34 to 256J.36. Countable income as described in 20.2 section 256P.06, subdivision 3, received in a calendar month must be applied to the needs 20.3 of an assistance unit. 20.4 (d) An assistance unit is not eligible when the countable income equals or exceeds the 20.5 MFIP standard of need or the family wage level for the assistance unit. 20.6 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2024. 20.7 Sec. 33. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 256J.33, subdivision 2, is amended to read: 20.8 Subd. 2. **Prospective eligibility.** An agency must determine whether the eligibility 20.9 requirements that pertain to an assistance unit, including those in sections 256J.11 to 256J.15 20.10 and 256P.02, will be met prospectively for the payment month period. Except for the 20.11 provisions in section 256J.34, subdivision 1, The income test will be applied retrospectively 20.12 prospectively. 20.13 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2024. 20.14 Sec. 34. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 256J.37, subdivision 3, is amended to read: 20.15 Subd. 3. Earned income of wage, salary, and contractual employees. The agency 20.16 must include gross earned income less any disregards in the initial and monthly income 20.17 test. Gross earned income received by persons employed on a contractual basis must be 20.18 prorated over the period covered by the contract even when payments are received over a 20.19 lesser period of time. 20.20 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2024. 20.21 Sec. 35. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 256J.37, subdivision 3a, is amended to read: 20.22 Subd. 3a. **Rental subsidies; unearned income.** (a) Effective July 1, 2003, the agency 20.23 shall count \$50 of the value of public and assisted rental subsidies provided through the 20.24 Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) as unearned income to the cash 20.25 portion of the MFIP grant. The full amount of the subsidy must be counted as unearned 20.26 income when the subsidy is less than \$50. The income from this subsidy shall be budgeted 20.27 according to section 256J.34 256P.09. 20.28 (b) The provisions of this subdivision shall not apply to an MFIP assistance unit which 20.29 includes a participant who is: 20.30 (1) age 60 or older; 20.31

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(2) a caregiver who is suffering from an illness, injury, or incapacity that has been certified by a qualified professional when the illness, injury, or incapacity is expected to continue for more than 30 days and severely limits the person's ability to obtain or maintain suitable employment; or

- (3) a caregiver whose presence in the home is required due to the illness or incapacity of another member in the assistance unit, a relative in the household, or a foster child in the household when the illness or incapacity and the need for the participant's presence in the home has been certified by a qualified professional and is expected to continue for more than 30 days.
- 21.10 (c) The provisions of this subdivision shall not apply to an MFIP assistance unit where 21.11 the parental caregiver is an SSI participant.

# 21.12 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2024.

Sec. 36. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 256J.40, is amended to read:

#### 256J.40 FAIR HEARINGS.

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- Caregivers receiving a notice of intent to sanction or a notice of adverse action that includes a sanction, reduction in benefits, suspension of benefits, denial of benefits, or termination of benefits may request a fair hearing. A request for a fair hearing must be submitted in writing to the county agency or to the commissioner and must be mailed within 30 days after a participant or former participant receives written notice of the agency's action or within 90 days when a participant or former participant shows good cause for not submitting the request within 30 days. A former participant who receives a notice of adverse action due to an overpayment may appeal the adverse action according to the requirements in this section. Issues that may be appealed are:
- 21.24 (1) the amount of the assistance payment;
- 21.25 (2) a suspension, reduction, denial, or termination of assistance;
- 21.26 (3) the basis for an overpayment, the calculated amount of an overpayment, and the level of recoupment;
- 21.28 (4) the eligibility for an assistance payment; and
- (5) the use of protective or vendor payments under section 256J.39, subdivision 2, clauses (1) to (3).
- Except for benefits issued under section 256J.95, A county agency must not reduce, suspend, or terminate payment when an aggrieved participant requests a fair hearing prior

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to the effective date of the adverse action or within ten days of the mailing of the notice of adverse action, whichever is later, unless the participant requests in writing not to receive continued assistance pending a hearing decision. An appeal request cannot extend benefits for the diversionary work program under section 256J.95 beyond the four-month time limit. Assistance issued pending a fair hearing is subject to recovery under section 256P.08 when as a result of the fair hearing decision the participant is determined ineligible for assistance or the amount of the assistance received. A county agency may increase or reduce an assistance payment while an appeal is pending when the circumstances of the participant change and are not related to the issue on appeal. The commissioner's order is binding on a county agency. No additional notice is required to enforce the commissioner's order.

A county agency shall reimburse appellants for reasonable and necessary expenses of attendance at the hearing, such as child care and transportation costs and for the transportation expenses of the appellant's witnesses and representatives to and from the hearing. Reasonable and necessary expenses do not include legal fees. Fair hearings must be conducted at a reasonable time and date by an impartial human services judge employed by the department. The hearing may be conducted by telephone or at a site that is readily accessible to persons with disabilities.

The appellant may introduce new or additional evidence relevant to the issues on appeal. Recommendations of the human services judge and decisions of the commissioner must be based on evidence in the hearing record and are not limited to a review of the county agency action.

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

- Sec. 37. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 256J.42, subdivision 5, is amended to read:
- Subd. 5. Exemption for certain families. (a) Any cash assistance received by an assistance unit does not count toward the 60-month limit on assistance during a month in which the caregiver is age 60 or older.
  - (b) From July 1, 1997, until the date MFIP is operative in the caregiver's county of financial responsibility, any cash assistance received by a caregiver who is complying with Minnesota Statutes 1996, section 256.73, subdivision 5a, and Minnesota Statutes 1998, section 256.736, if applicable, does not count toward the 60-month limit on assistance. Thereafter, any cash assistance received by a minor caregiver who is complying with the requirements of sections 256J.14 and 256J.54, if applicable, does not count towards the 60-month limit on assistance.

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(c) Any diversionary assistance or emergency assistance received prior to July 1, 2003, 23.1 does not count toward the 60-month limit. 23.2 (d) Any cash assistance received by an 18- or 19-year-old caregiver who is complying 23.3 with an employment plan that includes an education option under section 256J.54 does not 23.4 count toward the 60-month limit. 23.5 (e) Payments provided to meet short-term emergency needs under section 256J.626 and 23.6 diversionary work program benefits provided under section 256J.95 do not count toward 23.7 the 60-month time limit. 23.8 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2024. 23.9 Sec. 38. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 256J.425, subdivision 1, is amended to read: 23.10 Subdivision 1. Eligibility. (a) To be eligible for a hardship extension, a participant in 23.11 an assistance unit subject to the time limit under section 256J.42, subdivision 1, must be in 23.12 compliance in the participant's 60th counted month. For purposes of determining eligibility 23.13 for a hardship extension, a participant is in compliance in any month that the participant 23.14 has not been sanctioned. In order to maintain eligibility for any of the hardship extension 23.15 eategories a participant shall develop and comply with either an employment plan or a 23.16 family stabilization services plan, whichever is appropriate. 23.17 23.18 (b) If one participant in a two-parent assistance unit is determined to be ineligible for a hardship extension, the county shall give the assistance unit the option of disqualifying the 23.19 ineligible participant from MFIP. In that case, the assistance unit shall be treated as a 23.20 one-parent assistance unit. 23.21 (c) Prior to denying an extension, the county must review the sanction status and 23.22 determine whether the sanction is appropriate or if good cause exists under section 256J.57. 23.23 If the sanction was inappropriately applied or the participant is granted a good cause 23.24 exception before the end of month 60, the participant shall be considered for an extension. 23.25 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective January 1, 2025. 23.26 Sec. 39. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 256J.425, subdivision 4, is amended to read: 23.27 Subd. 4. Employed participants. (a) An assistance unit subject to the time limit under 23.28 section 256J.42, subdivision 1, is eligible to receive assistance under a hardship extension 23.29

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if the participant who reached the time limit belongs to:

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(1) a one-parent assistance unit in which the participant is participating in work activities for at least 30 hours per week, of which an average of at least 25 hours per week every month are spent participating in employment;

- (2) a two-parent assistance unit in which the participants are participating in work activities for at least 55 hours per week, of which an average of at least 45 hours per week every month are spent participating in employment; or
- (3) an assistance unit in which a participant is participating in employment for fewer hours than those specified in clause (1), and the participant submits verification from a qualified professional, in a form acceptable to the commissioner, stating that the number of hours the participant may work is limited due to illness or disability, as long as the participant is participating in employment for at least the number of hours specified by the qualified professional. The participant must be following the treatment recommendations of the qualified professional providing the verification. The commissioner shall develop a form to be completed and signed by the qualified professional, documenting the diagnosis and any additional information necessary to document the functional limitations of the participant that limit work hours. If the participant is part of a two-parent assistance unit, the other parent must be treated as a one-parent assistance unit for purposes of meeting the work requirements under this subdivision.
- 24.19 (b) For purposes of this section, employment means:

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- 24.20 (1) unsubsidized employment under section 256J.49, subdivision 13, clause (1);
- 24.21 (2) subsidized employment under section 256J.49, subdivision 13, clause (2);
- 24.22 (3) on-the-job training under section 256J.49, subdivision 13, clause (2);
- 24.23 (4) an apprenticeship under section 256J.49, subdivision 13, clause (1);
- 24.24 (5) supported work under section 256J.49, subdivision 13, clause (2);
- 24.25 (6) a combination of clauses (1) to (5); or
- 24.26 (7) child care under section 256J.49, subdivision 13, clause (7), if it is in combination with paid employment.
  - (c) If a participant is complying with a child protection plan under chapter 260C, the number of hours required under the child protection plan count toward the number of hours required under this subdivision.
- 24.31 (d) The county shall provide the opportunity for subsidized employment to participants needing that type of employment within available appropriations.

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(e) To be eligible for a hardship extension for employed participants under this 25.1 subdivision, a participant must be in compliance for at least ten out of the 12 months the 25.2 participant received MFIP immediately preceding the participant's 61st month on assistance. 25.3 If ten or fewer months of eligibility for TANF assistance remain at the time the participant 25.4 from another state applies for assistance, the participant must be in compliance every month. 25.5 (f) (e) The employment plan developed under section 256J.521, subdivision 2, for 25.6 participants under this subdivision must contain at least the minimum number of hours 25.7 specified in paragraph (a) for the purpose of meeting the requirements for an extension 25.8 under this subdivision. The job counselor and the participant must sign the employment 25.9 plan to indicate agreement between the job counselor and the participant on the contents of 25.10 the plan. 25.11 (g) (f) Participants who fail to meet the requirements in paragraph (a), without eligibility 25.12 for another hardship extension or good cause under section 256J.57, shall be sanctioned 25.13 subject to sanction or permanently disqualified under subdivision 6. Good cause may only 25.14 be granted for that portion of the month for which the good cause reason applies case closure. 25.15 Participants must meet all remaining requirements in the approved employment plan or be 25.16 subject to sanction or permanent disqualification case closure. 25.17 (h) (g) If the noncompliance with an employment plan is due to the involuntary loss of 25.18 employment, the participant is exempt from the hourly employment requirement under this 25.19 subdivision for one month. Participants must meet all remaining requirements in the approved 25.20 employment plan or be subject to sanction or permanent disqualification case closure if 25.21 ineligible for another hardship extension. 25.22 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective January 1, 2025. 25.23 Sec. 40. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 256J.425, subdivision 5, is amended to read: 25.24 Subd. 5. Accrual of certain exempt months. (a) Participants who are not eligible for 25.25 assistance under a hardship extension under this section shall be eligible for a hardship 25.26 extension for a period of time equal to the number of months that were counted toward the 25.27 60-month time limit while the participant was a caregiver with a child or an adult in the 25.28 household who meets the disability or medical criteria for home care services under section 25.29 25.30 256B.0651, subdivision 1, paragraph (c), or a home and community-based waiver services program under chapter 256B, or meets the criteria for severe emotional disturbance under 25.31 section 245.4871, subdivision 6, or for serious and persistent mental illness under section 25.32

245.462, subdivision 20, paragraph (c), and who was subject to the requirements in section

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256J.561, subdivision 2.

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(b) A participant who received MFIP assistance that counted toward the 60-month time limit while the participant met the state time limit exemption criteria under section 256J.42, subdivision 4 or 5, is eligible for assistance under a hardship extension for a period of time equal to the number of months that were counted toward the 60-month time limit while the participant met the state time limit exemption criteria under section 256J.42, subdivision 4 or 5.

- (c) After the accrued months have been exhausted, the county agency must determine if the assistance unit is eligible for an extension under another extension category in subdivision 2, 3, or 4.
- (d) At the time of the case review, a county agency must explain to the participant the basis for receiving a hardship extension based on the accrual of exempt months. The participant must provide documentation necessary to enable the county agency to determine whether the participant is eligible to receive a hardship extension based on the accrual of exempt months or authorize a county agency to verify the information.
- (e) While receiving extended MFIP assistance under this subdivision, a participant is subject to the MFIP policies that apply to participants during the first 60 months of MFIP, unless the participant is a member of a two-parent family in which one parent is extended under subdivision 3 or 4. For two-parent families in which one parent is extended under subdivision 3 or 4, the sanction provisions in subdivision 6 shall apply.

# **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective January 1, 2025.

- Sec. 41. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 256J.425, subdivision 7, is amended to read:
- Subd. 7. **Status of disqualified participants** closed cases. (a) An assistance unit that is disqualified has its case closed under subdivision 6, paragraph (a) section 256J.46, may be approved for MFIP if the participant complies with MFIP program requirements and demonstrates compliance for up to one month. No assistance shall be paid during this period.
  - (b) An assistance unit that is disqualified has its case closed under subdivision 6, paragraph (a) section 256J.46, and that reapplies under paragraph (a) is subject to sanction under section 256J.46, subdivision 1, paragraph (c), clause (1), for a first occurrence of noncompliance. A subsequent occurrence of noncompliance results in a permanent disqualification.
  - (c) If one participant in a two-parent assistance unit receiving assistance under a hardship extension under subdivision 3 or 4 is determined to be out of compliance with the employment and training services requirements under sections 256J.521 to 256J.57, the

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county shall give the assistance unit the option of disqualifying the noncompliant participant 27.1 from MFIP. In that case, the assistance unit shall be treated as a one-parent assistance unit 27.2 for the purposes of meeting the work requirements under subdivision 4. An applicant who 27.3 is disqualified from receiving assistance under this paragraph may reapply under paragraph 27.4 (a). If a participant is disqualified from MFIP under this subdivision a second time, the 27.5 participant is permanently disqualified from MFIP. 27.6 (d) (c) Prior to a disqualification case closure under this subdivision, a county agency 27.7 must review the participant's case to determine if the employment plan is still appropriate 27.8 and attempt to meet with the participant face-to-face. If a face-to-face meeting is not 27.9 conducted, the county agency must send the participant a notice of adverse action as provided 27.10 in section 256J.31. During the face-to-face meeting, the county agency must: 27.11 (1) determine whether the continued noncompliance can be explained and mitigated by 27.12 providing a needed preemployment activity, as defined in section 256J.49, subdivision 13, 27.13 clause (9); 27.14 (2) determine whether the participant qualifies for a good cause exception under section 27.15 256J.57; 27.16 (3) inform the participant of the family violence waiver criteria and make appropriate 27.17 referrals if the waiver is requested; 27.18 (4) inform the participant of the participant's sanction status and explain the consequences 27.19 of continuing noncompliance; 27.20 (5) identify other resources that may be available to the participant to meet the needs of 27.21 the family; and 27.22 (6) inform the participant of the right to appeal under section 256J.40. 27.23 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective January 1, 2025. 27.24 Sec. 42. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 256J.46, subdivision 1, is amended to read: 27.25 Subdivision 1. Participants not complying with program requirements. (a) A 27.26 participant who fails without good cause under section 256J.57 to comply with the 27.27 requirements of this chapter for orientation under section 256J.45, or employment and 27.28 training services under sections 256J.515 to 256J.57, and who is not subject to a sanction 27.29 under subdivision 2, shall be subject to a sanction or case closure as provided in this 27.30 subdivision section. Good cause may only be granted for the month for which the good 27.31 cause reason applies. Prior to the imposition of a sanction, a county agency shall provide a 27.32

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notice of intent to sanction under section 256J.57, subdivision 2, and, when applicable, a notice of adverse action as provided in section 256J.31, subdivision 5.

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- (b) A sanction under this subdivision becomes effective the month following the month in which a required notice is given. A sanction must not be imposed when a participant comes into compliance with the requirements for orientation under section 256J.45 prior to the effective date of the sanction. A sanction must not be imposed when a participant comes into compliance with the requirements for employment and training services under sections 256J.515 to 256J.57 ten days prior to the effective date of the sanction. For purposes of this subdivision, each month that a participant fails to comply with a requirement of this chapter shall be considered a separate occurrence of noncompliance. If both participants in a two-parent assistance unit are out of compliance at the same time, it is considered one occurrence of noncompliance.
  - (c) Sanctions for noncompliance shall be imposed as follows:
- (1) For the first occurrence of noncompliance by a participant in an assistance unit, the assistance unit's grant shall be reduced by ten percent of the MFIP standard of need for an assistance unit of the same size with the residual grant paid to the participant. The reduction in the grant amount must be in effect for a minimum of one month and shall be removed in the month following the month that the participant returns to compliance.
- (2) for a the first, second, third, fourth, fifth, or sixth consecutive occurrence of noncompliance by a participant in an assistance unit, the assistance unit's shelter costs shall be vendor paid up to the amount of the cash portion of the MFIP grant for which the assistance unit is eligible. At county option, the assistance unit's utilities may also be vendor paid up to the amount of the cash portion of the MFIP grant remaining after vendor payment of the assistance unit's shelter costs. The residual amount of the grant after vendor payment, if any, must be reduced by an amount are equal to 30 a reduction of five percent of the cash portion of the MFIP standard of need for an grant received by the assistance unit of the same size before the residual grant is paid to the assistance unit. The reduction in the grant amount must be in effect for a minimum of one month and shall be removed in the month following the month that the participant in a one-parent assistance unit returns to compliance, unless the requirements in paragraph (h) are met. In a two-parent assistance unit, the grant reduction must be in effect for a minimum of one month and shall be removed in the month following the month both participants return to compliance, unless the requirements in paragraph (h) are met. The vendor payment of shelter costs and, if applicable, utilities shall be removed six months after the month in which the participant or participants return to compliance. When an assistance unit comes into compliance with the requirements in section

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256.741, or shows good cause under section 256.741, subdivision 10, or 256J.57, the sanction occurrences for that assistance unit shall be equal to zero sanctions. If an assistance unit is sanctioned under this clause, the participant's case file must be reviewed to determine if the employment plan is still appropriate.

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- (d) For a seventh <u>consecutive</u> occurrence of noncompliance by a participant in an assistance unit, or when the participants in a two-parent assistance unit have a total of seven occurrences of noncompliance, the county agency shall close the MFIP assistance unit's financial assistance case, <u>both including</u> the cash and food portions, and redetermine the family's <u>continued</u> eligibility for Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) payments. The MFIP case must remain closed for a minimum of one full month. Before the case is closed, the county agency must review the participant's case to determine if the employment plan is still appropriate and attempt to meet with the participant face-to-face. The participant may bring an advocate to the face-to-face meeting. If a face-to-face meeting is not conducted, the county agency must send the participant a written notice that includes the information required under clause (1).
  - (1) During the face-to-face meeting, the county agency must:
- 29.17 (i) determine whether the continued noncompliance can be explained and mitigated by providing a needed preemployment activity, as defined in section 256J.49, subdivision 13, clause (9);
- 29.20 (ii) determine whether the participant qualifies for a good cause exception under section 29.21 256J.57, or if the sanction is for noncooperation with child support requirements, determine 29.22 if the participant qualifies for a good cause exemption under section 256.741, subdivision 29.23 10;
- 29.24 (iii) determine whether the work activities in the employment plan are appropriate based on the criteria in section 256J.521, subdivision 2 or 3;
- 29.26 (iv) determine whether the participant qualifies for the family violence waiver;
- 29.27 (v) inform the participant of the participant's sanction status and explain the consequences 29.28 of continuing noncompliance;
- 29.29 (vi) identify other resources that may be available to the participant to meet the needs
  29.30 of the family; and
- 29.31 (vii) inform the participant of the right to appeal under section 256J.40.
- 29.32 (2) If the lack of an identified activity or service can explain the noncompliance, the county must work with the participant to provide the identified activity.

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(3) The grant must be restored to the full amount for which the assistance unit is eligible retroactively to the first day of the month in which the participant was found to lack preemployment activities or to qualify for a family violence waiver or for a good cause exemption under section 256.741, subdivision 10, or 256J.57.

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- (e) For the purpose of applying sanctions under this section, only <u>consecutive</u> occurrences of noncompliance that occur <u>after July 1, 2003</u> <u>on or after January 1, 2025</u>, shall be considered <u>when counting the number of sanction occurrences under this subdivision.</u> Active <u>cases under sanction on January 1, 2025</u>, shall be considered to have one sanction occurrence. If the participant <u>is in 30 percent sanction in the month this section takes effect</u>, that month <u>counts as the first occurrence for purposes of applying the sanctions under this section, but the sanction shall remain at 30 percent for that month comes into compliance, the assistance unit is considered to have zero sanctions.</u>
- (f) An assistance unit whose case is closed under paragraph (d) or (g), may reapply for MFIP using a form prescribed by the commissioner and shall be eligible if the participant complies with MFIP program requirements and demonstrates compliance for up to one month. No assistance shall be paid during this period. The county agency shall not start a new certification period for a participant who has submitted the reapplication form within 30 calendar days of case closure. The county agency must process the form according to section 256P.04, except that the county agency shall not require additional verification of information in the case file unless the information is inaccurate, questionable, or no longer current. When a participant does not reapply for MFIP within 30 calendar days of case closure, a new application must be completed.
- (g) An assistance unit whose case has been closed for noncompliance, that reapplies under paragraph (f), is subject to sanction under paragraph (c), clause (2), for a first occurrence of noncompliance. Any subsequent occurrence of noncompliance shall result in and case closure under paragraph (d).
- (h) If an assistance unit is in compliance by the 15th of the month in which the assistance unit has a sanction imposed, the reduction to the assistance unit's cash grant shall be restored retroactively for the current month and the sanction occurrences shall be equal to zero.

# **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective January 1, 2025.

- Sec. 43. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 256J.46, subdivision 2, is amended to read:
- Subd. 2. **Sanctions for refusal to cooperate with support requirements.** The grant of an MFIP caregiver who refuses to cooperate, as determined by the child support enforcement

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agency, with support requirements under section 256.741, shall be subject to sanction as specified in this subdivision and subdivision 1. For a first occurrence of noncooperation, the assistance unit's grant must be reduced by 30 percent of the applicable MFIP standard of need. Subsequent occurrences of noncooperation shall be subject to sanction under subdivision 1, paragraphs (c), clause (2), and (d)., paragraphs (b) to (h), except the assistance unit's cash portion of the grant must be reduced by 25 percent of the MFIP cash received by the assistance unit. The residual amount of the grant, if any, must be paid to the caregiver. A sanction under this subdivision becomes effective the first month following the month in which a required notice is given. A sanction must not be imposed when a caregiver comes into compliance with the requirements under section 256.741 prior to the effective date of the sanction. The sanction shall be removed in the month following the month that the caregiver cooperates with the support requirements, unless the requirements in subdivision 1, paragraph (h), are met. Each month that an MFIP caregiver fails to comply with the requirements of section 256.741 must be considered a separate occurrence of noncompliance for the purpose of applying sanctions under subdivision 1, paragraphs (c), clause (2), and (d).

# **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective January 1, 2025.

Sec. 44. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 256J.46, subdivision 2a, is amended to read:

Subd. 2a. **Dual sanctions.** (a) Notwithstanding the provisions of subdivisions 1 and 2, for a participant subject to a sanction for refusal to comply with child support requirements under subdivision 2 and subject to a concurrent sanction for refusal to cooperate with other program requirements under subdivision 1, sanctions shall be imposed in the manner prescribed in this subdivision.

Any vendor payment of shelter costs or utilities under this subdivision must remain in effect for six months after the month in which the participant is no longer subject to sanction under subdivision 1.

- (b) If the participant was subject to sanction for:
- 31.28 (1) noncompliance under subdivision 1 before being subject to sanction for noncooperation under subdivision 2; or
  - (2) noncooperation under subdivision 2 before being subject to sanction for noncompliance under subdivision 1, the participant is considered to have a second occurrence of noncompliance and shall be sanctioned as provided in subdivision 1, paragraph (c), clause (2). Each subsequent occurrence of noncompliance shall be considered one additional

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32.1	occurrence and shall be subject to the applicable level of sanction under subdivision 1. The
32.2	requirement that the county conduct a review as specified in subdivision 1, paragraph (d),
32.3	remains in effect.
32.4	(e) (b) A participant who first becomes subject to sanction under both subdivisions 1
32.5	and 2 in the same month is subject to sanction as follows:
32.6	(1) in the first month of noncompliance and noncooperation, the participant's cash portion
32.7	of the grant must be reduced by 30 25 percent of the applicable MFIP standard of need cash
32.8	received by the assistance unit, with any residual amount paid to the participant;
32.9	(2) in the second and subsequent months of noncompliance and noncooperation, the
32.10	participant shall be subject to the applicable level of sanction under subdivision 1.
32.11	The requirement that the county conduct a review as specified in subdivision 1, paragraph
32.12	(d), remains in effect.
32.13	(d) (c) A participant remains subject to sanction under subdivision 2 if the participant:
32.14	(1) returns to compliance and is no longer subject to sanction for noncompliance with
32.15	section 256J.45 or sections 256J.515 to 256J.57; or
32.16	(2) has the sanction for noncompliance with section 256J.45 or sections 256J.515 to
32.17	256J.57 removed upon completion of the review under subdivision 1, paragraph (e).
32.18	A participant remains subject to the applicable level of sanction under subdivision 1 if
32.19	the participant cooperates and is no longer subject to sanction under subdivision 2.
32.20	EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective January 1, 2025.
32.21	Sec. 45. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 256J.49, subdivision 9, is amended to read:
32.22	Subd. 9. Participant. "Participant" means a recipient of MFIP assistance who participates
32.23	or is required to participate in employment and training services under sections 256J.515
32.24	to 256J.57 <del>and 256J.95</del> .
32.25	<b>EFFECTIVE DATE.</b> This section is effective July 1, 2024.
32.26	Sec. 46. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 256J.50, subdivision 1, is amended to read:
32.27	Subdivision 1. Employment and training services component of MFIP. (a) Each
32.28	county must develop and provide an employment and training services component which
32.29	is designed to put participants on the most direct path to unsubsidized employment.
32.30	Participation in these services is mandatory for all MFIP caregivers.

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(b) A county must provide employment and training services under sections 256J.515 to 256J.74 within 30 days after the caregiver is determined eligible for MFIP, or within ten days when the caregiver participated in the diversionary work program under section 256J.95 within the past 12 months.

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

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Sec. 47. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 256J.521, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Assessments.** (a) For purposes of MFIP employment services, assessment is a continuing process of gathering information related to employability for the purpose of identifying both participant's strengths and strategies for coping with issues that interfere with employment. The job counselor must use information from the assessment process to develop and update the employment plan under subdivision 2 or 3, as appropriate, to determine whether the participant qualifies for a family violence waiver including an employment plan under subdivision 3, and to determine whether the participant should be referred to family stabilization services under section 256J.575.

- (b) The scope of assessment must cover at least the following areas:
- (1) basic information about the participant's ability to obtain and retain employment, including: a review of the participant's education level; interests, skills, and abilities; prior employment or work experience; transferable work skills; child care and transportation needs;
- (2) identification of personal and family circumstances that impact the participant's ability to obtain and retain employment, including: any special needs of the children, the level of English proficiency, family violence issues, and any involvement with social services or the legal system;
- (3) the results of a mental and chemical health screening tool designed by the commissioner and results of the brief screening tool for special learning needs. Screening tools for mental and chemical health and special learning needs must be approved by the commissioner and may only be administered by job counselors or county staff trained in using such screening tools. Participants must be told of the purpose of the screens and how the information will be used to assist the participant in identifying and overcoming barriers to employment. Screening for mental and chemical health and special learning needs must be completed by participants three months after development of the initial employment plan or earlier if there is a documented need. Failure to complete the screens will result in sanction under section 256J.46; and

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(4) a comprehensive review of participation and progress for participants who have received MFIP assistance and have not worked in unsubsidized employment during the past 12 months. The purpose of the review is to determine the need for additional services and supports, including placement in subsidized employment or unpaid work experience under section 256J.49, subdivision 13, or referral to family stabilization services under section 256J.575.

- (c) Information gathered during a caregiver's participation in the diversionary work program under section 256J.95 must be incorporated into the assessment process.
- (d) (c) The job counselor may require the participant to complete a professional chemical use assessment to be performed according to the rules adopted under section 254A.03, subdivision 3, including provisions in the administrative rules which recognize the cultural background of the participant, or a professional psychological assessment as a component of the assessment process, when the job counselor has a reasonable belief, based on objective evidence, that a participant's ability to obtain and retain suitable employment is impaired by a medical condition. The job counselor may assist the participant with arranging services, including child care assistance and transportation, necessary to meet needs identified by the assessment. Data gathered as part of a professional assessment must be classified and disclosed according to the provisions in section 13.46.

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

- Sec. 48. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 256J.621, subdivision 1, is amended to read:
- Subdivision 1. **Program characteristics.** (a) Within 30 days of exiting the Minnesota family investment program with earnings, the county must assess eligibility for work participation cash benefits of \$25 per month to assist in meeting the family's basic needs as the participant continues to move toward self-sufficiency. Payment begins effective the first of the month following exit or termination for MFIP and DWP participants.
  - (b) To be eligible for work participation cash benefits, the participant shall not receive MFIP or diversionary work program assistance during the month and the participant or participants must meet the following work requirements:
  - (1) if the participant is a single caregiver and has a child under six years of age, the participant must be employed at least 87 hours per month;
- 34.31 (2) if the participant is a single caregiver and does not have a child under six years of age, the participant must be employed at least 130 hours per month; or

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(3) if the household is a two-parent family, at least one of the parents must be employed 130 hours per month.

Whenever a participant exits the diversionary work program or is terminated from MFIP and meets the other criteria in this section, work participation cash benefits are available for up to 24 consecutive months.

(c) Expenditures on the program are maintenance of effort state funds under a separate state program for participants under paragraph (b), clauses (1) and (2). Expenditures for participants under paragraph (b), clause (3), are nonmaintenance of effort funds. Months in which a participant receives work participation cash benefits under this section do not count toward the participant's MFIP 60-month time limit.

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

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- Sec. 49. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 256J.626, subdivision 2, is amended to read:
- Subd. 2. **Allowable expenditures.** (a) The commissioner must restrict expenditures under the consolidated fund to benefits and services allowed under title IV-A of the federal Social Security Act. Allowable expenditures under the consolidated fund may include, but are not limited to:
  - (1) short-term, nonrecurring shelter and utility needs that are excluded from the definition of assistance under Code of Federal Regulations, title 45, section 260.31, for families who meet the residency requirement in section 256J.12, subdivisions 1 and 1a. Payments under this subdivision are not considered TANF cash assistance and are not counted towards the 60-month time limit;
  - (2) transportation needed to obtain or retain employment or to participate in other approved work activities or activities under a family stabilization plan;
  - (3) direct and administrative costs of staff to deliver employment services for MFIP, the diversionary work program, or family stabilization services; to administer financial assistance; and to provide specialized services intended to assist hard-to-employ participants to transition to work or transition from family stabilization services to MFIP;
- 35.28 (4) costs of education and training including functional work literacy and English as a second language;
- 35.30 (5) cost of work supports including tools, clothing, boots, telephone service, and other work-related expenses;

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(6) county administrative expenses as defined in Code of Federal Regulations, title 45, 36.1 section 260(b); 36.2 (7) services to parenting and pregnant teens; 36.3 (8) supported work; 36.4 (9) wage subsidies; 36.5 (10) child care needed for MFIP, the diversionary work program, or family stabilization 36.6 services participants to participate in social services; 36.7 (11) child care to ensure that families leaving MFIP or diversionary work program will 36.8 36.9 continue to receive child care assistance from the time the family no longer qualifies for transition year child care until an opening occurs under the basic sliding fee child care 36.10 program; 36.11 (12) services to help noncustodial parents who live in Minnesota and have minor children 36.12 receiving MFIP or DWP assistance, but do not live in the same household as the child, 36.13 obtain or retain employment; and 36.14 (13) services to help families participating in family stabilization services achieve the 36.15 greatest possible degree of self-sufficiency. 36.16 (b) Administrative costs that are not matched with county funds as provided in subdivision 36.17 8 may not exceed 7.5 percent of a county's or 15 percent of a tribe's allocation under this 36.18 section. The commissioner shall define administrative costs for purposes of this subdivision. 36.19 (c) The commissioner may waive the cap on administrative costs for a county or tribe 36.20 that elects to provide an approved supported employment, unpaid work, or community work 36.21 experience program for a major segment of the county's or tribe's MFIP population. The 36.22 county or tribe must apply for the waiver on forms provided by the commissioner. In no 36.23 case shall total administrative costs exceed the TANF limits. 36.24 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2024. 36.25 Sec. 50. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 256J.626, subdivision 3, is amended to read: 36.26 Subd. 3. Eligibility for services. Families with a minor child, a pregnant woman, or a 36.27 36.28 noncustodial parent of a minor child receiving assistance, with incomes below 200 percent of the federal poverty guideline for a family of the applicable size, are eligible for services 36.29 funded under the consolidated fund. Counties and tribes must give priority to families 36.30

currently receiving MFIP, the diversionary work program, or family stabilization services,

and families at risk of receiving MFIP or diversionary work program. A county or tribe

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shall not impose a residency requirement on families, except for the residency requirement under section 256J.12.

- **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2024.
- Sec. 51. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 256J.751, subdivision 2, is amended to read:
- Subd. 2. Quarterly comparison report. (a) The commissioner shall report quarterly to
- all counties on each county's performance on the following measures:
- 37.7 (1) percent of MFIP caseload working in paid employment;
- 37.8 (2) percent of MFIP caseload receiving only the food portion of assistance;
- 37.9 (3) number of MFIP cases that have left assistance;
- 37.10 (4) median placement wage rate;

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- 37.11 (5) caseload by months of TANF assistance;
- 37.12 (6) percent of MFIP <del>and diversionary work program (DWP)</del> cases off cash assistance
- or working 30 or more hours per week at one-year, two-year, and three-year follow-up
- points from a baseline quarter. This measure is called the self-support index. The
- 37.15 commissioner shall report quarterly an expected range of performance for each county,
- 37.16 county grouping, and tribe on the self-support index. The expected range shall be derived
- by a statistical methodology developed by the commissioner in consultation with the counties
- and tribes. The statistical methodology shall control differences across counties in economic
- 37.19 conditions and demographics of the MFIP <del>and DWP</del> case load; and
- 37.20 (7) the TANF work participation rate, defined as the participation requirements specified
- under Public Law 109-171, the Deficit Reduction Act of 2005.
- 37.22 (b) The commissioner shall not apply the limits on vocational educational training and
- education activities under Code of Federal Regulations, title 45, section 261.33(c), when
- determining TANF work participation rates for individual counties under this subdivision.
- 37.25 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2024.
- Sec. 52. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 256P.01, is amended by adding a subdivision
- 37.27 to read:
- Subd. 9. **Prospective budgeting.** "Prospective budgeting" means estimating the amount
- of monthly income that an assistance unit will have in the payment month.
- 37.30 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2024.

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Sec. 53. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 256P.04, subdivision 4, is amended to read: 38.1 Subd. 4. **Factors to be verified.** (a) The agency shall verify the following at application: 38.2 (1) identity of adults; 38.3 (2) age, if necessary to determine eligibility; 38.4 (3) immigration status; 38.5 (4) income; 38.6 (5) spousal support and child support payments made to persons outside the household; 38.7 (6) vehicles; 38.8 (7) checking and savings accounts, including but not limited to any business accounts 38.9 used to pay expenses not related to the business; 38.10 (8) inconsistent information, if related to eligibility; 38.11 (9) residence; and 38.12 (10) Social Security number; and. 38.13 (11) use of nonrecurring income under section 256P.06, subdivision 3, clause (2), item 38.14 (ix), for the intended purpose for which it was given and received. 38.15 (b) Applicants who are qualified noncitizens and victims of domestic violence as defined 38.16 under section 256J.08, subdivision 73, clauses (8) and (9), are not required to verify the 38.17 information in paragraph (a), clause (10). When a Social Security number is not provided 38.18 to the agency for verification, this requirement is satisfied when each member of the 38.19 assistance unit cooperates with the procedures for verification of Social Security numbers, 38.20 issuance of duplicate cards, and issuance of new numbers which have been established 38.21 jointly between the Social Security Administration and the commissioner. 38.22 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2024. 38.23 Sec. 54. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 256P.04, subdivision 8, is amended to read: 38.24 Subd. 8. **Recertification.** The agency shall recertify eligibility annually. During 38.25 recertification and reporting under section 256P.10, the agency shall verify the following: 38.26 (1) income, unless excluded, including self-employment earnings; 38.27 (2) assets when the value is within \$200 of the asset limit; and 38.28 (3) inconsistent information, if related to eligibility. 38.29

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**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2024. 39.1 Sec. 55. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 256P.06, subdivision 3, is amended to read: 39.2 Subd. 3. **Income inclusions.** The following must be included in determining the income 39.3 of an assistance unit: 39.4 (1) earned income; and 39.5 (2) unearned income, which includes: 39.6 (i) interest and dividends from investments and savings; 39.7 (ii) capital gains as defined by the Internal Revenue Service from any sale of real property; 39.8 (iii) proceeds from rent and contract for deed payments in excess of the principal and 39.9 39.10 interest portion owed on property; (iv) income from trusts, excluding special needs and supplemental needs trusts; 39.11 (v) interest income from loans made by the participant or household; 39.12 (vi) cash prizes and winnings; 39.13 (vii) unemployment insurance income that is received by an adult member of the 39.14 assistance unit unless the individual receiving unemployment insurance income is: 39.15 39.16 (A) 18 years of age and enrolled in a secondary school; or (B) 18 or 19 years of age, a caregiver, and is enrolled in school at least half-time; 39.17 (viii) retirement, survivors, and disability insurance payments; 39.18 (ix) nonrecurring income over \$60 per quarter unless the nonrecurring income is: (A) 39.19 39.20 from tax refunds, tax rebates, or tax credits; (B) a reimbursement, rebate, award, grant, or refund of personal or real property or costs or losses incurred when these payments are 39.21 made by: a public agency; a court; solicitations through public appeal; a federal, state, or 39.22 local unit of government; or a disaster assistance organization; (C) provided as an in-kind 39.23 benefit; or (D) earmarked and used for the purpose for which it was intended, subject to 39.24 verification requirements under section 256P.04; 39.25 (x) (ix) retirement benefits; 39.26 (xi) (x) cash assistance benefits, as defined by each program in chapters 119B, 256D, 39.27

(xii) (xi) Tribal per capita payments unless excluded by federal and state law;

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256I, and 256J;

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(xii) income and payments from service and rehabilitation programs that meet or exceed 40.1 the state's minimum wage rate; 40.2 (xiii) income from members of the United States armed forces unless excluded from 40.3 income taxes according to federal or state law; 40.4 40.5 (xiv) all child support payments for programs under chapters 119B, 256D, and 256I; (xv) the amount of child support received that exceeds \$100 for assistance units with 40.6 40.7 one child and \$200 for assistance units with two or more children for programs under chapter 256J; 40.8 (xvi) spousal support; and 40.9 40.10 (xvii) workers' compensation. **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2024. 40.11 Sec. 56. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 256P.07, subdivision 1, is amended to read: 40.12 Subdivision 1. Exempted programs. Participants who receive Supplemental Security 40.13 Income and qualify for Minnesota supplemental aid under chapter 256D and or for housing 40.14 support under chapter 256I on the basis of eligibility for Supplemental Security Income are 40.15 exempt from this section reporting income under this chapter. 40.16 40.17 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2024. Sec. 57. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 256P.07, is amended by adding a subdivision 40.18 to read: 40.19 40.20 Subd. 1a. Child care assistance programs. Participants who qualify for child care assistance programs under chapter 119B are exempt from this section except the reporting 40.21 requirements in subdivision 6. 40.22 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2024. 40.23 Sec. 58. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 256P.07, subdivision 2, is amended to read: 40.24 Subd. 2. Reporting requirements. An applicant or participant must provide information 40.25 on an application and any subsequent reporting forms about the assistance unit's 40.26 circumstances that affect eligibility or benefits. An applicant or assistance unit must report 40.27 changes that affect eligibility or benefits as identified in subdivision subdivisions 3, 4, 5, 40.28 7, 8, and 9 during the application period or by the tenth of the month following the month 40.29 the assistance unit's circumstances changed. When information is not accurately reported, 40.30

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both an overpayment and a referral for a fraud investigation may result. When information or documentation is not provided, the receipt of any benefit may be delayed or denied, depending on the type of information required and its effect on eligibility.

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

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Sec. 59. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 256P.07, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

Subd. 3. Changes that must be reported. An assistance unit must report the changes or anticipated changes specified in clauses (1) to (12) within ten days of the date they occur, at the time of recertification of eligibility under section 256P.04, subdivisions 8 and 9, or within eight calendar days of a reporting period, whichever occurs first. An assistance unit must report other changes at the time of recertification of eligibility under section 256P.04, subdivisions 8 and 9, or at the end of a reporting period, as applicable. When an agency could have reduced or terminated assistance for one or more payment months if a delay in reporting a change specified under clauses (1) to (12) had not occurred, the agency must determine whether a timely notice could have been issued on the day that the change occurred. When a timely notice could have been issued, each month's overpayment subsequent to that notice must be considered a client error overpayment under section 119B.11, subdivision 2a, or 256P.08. Changes in circumstances that must be reported within ten days must also be reported for the reporting period in which those changes occurred. Within ten days, an assistance unit must report:

- 41.20 (1) a change in earned income of \$100 per month or greater with the exception of a program under chapter 119B;
- 41.22 (2) a change in unearned income of \$50 per month or greater with the exception of a
  41.23 program under chapter 119B;
- 41.24 (3) a change in employment status and hours with the exception of a program under chapter 119B;
- 41.26 (4) a change in address or residence;
- 41.27 (5) a change in household composition with the exception of programs under chapter 41.28 256I;
- 41.29 (6) a receipt of a lump-sum payment with the exception of a program under chapter 41.30 119B;
- 41.31 (7) an increase in assets if over \$9,000 with the exception of programs under chapter
  41.32 119B;

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42.1	(8) a change in citizenship or immigration status;
42.2	(9) a change in family status with the exception of programs under chapter 256I;
42.3 42.4	(10) a change in disability status of a unit member, with the exception of programs under chapter 119B;
42.5 42.6	(11) a new rent subsidy or a change in rent subsidy with the exception of a program under chapter 119B; and
42.7 42.8	(12) a sale, purchase, or transfer of real property with the exception of a program under chapter 119B.
42.9 42.10	(a) An assistance unit must report changes or anticipated changes as described in this section.
42.11	(b) An assistance unit must report:
42.12 42.13	(1) a change in eligibility for Supplemental Security Income, Retirement Survivors  Disability Insurance, or another federal income support;
42.14	(2) a change in address or residence;
42.15 42.16	(3) a change in household composition with the exception of programs under chapter 256I;
42.17 42.18	(4) cash prizes and winnings according to guidance provided for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program;
42.19	(5) a change in citizenship or immigration status;
42.20	(6) a change in family status with the exception of programs under chapter 256I; and
42.21	(7) a change that makes the value of the unit's assets at or above the asset limit.
42.22	(c) When an agency could have reduced or terminated assistance for one or more payment
42.23	months if a delay in reporting a change specified under paragraph (b) had not occurred, the
42.24	agency must determine whether the agency could have issued a timely notice on the day
42.25	that the change occurred. When a timely notice could have been issued, each month's
42.26	overpayment subsequent to the notice must be considered a client error overpayment under
42.27	section 256P.08.
42.28	EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective July 1, 2024.

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43.1	Sec. 60. Minnesota Statutes 2022	, section 256P.07, subdivision	n 4, is amend	ed to read:
43.2	Subd. 4. MFIP-specific report	ing. In addition to subdivision	3, an assistar	nce unit under
43.3	chapter 256J, within ten days of the	<del>e change,</del> must report:		
43.4	(1) a pregnancy not resulting in	birth when there are no othe	r minor child	ren; <del>and</del>
43.5	(2) a change in school attendance	ce of a parent under 20 years	of age or of a	<del>an employed</del>
43.6	child.; and			
43.7	(3) an individual in the househo	-	ge attending	high school
43.8	who graduates or drops out of scho	<u>ool.</u>		
43.9	EFFECTIVE DATE. This sec	tion is effective July 1, 2024.		
43.10	Sec. 61. Minnesota Statutes 2022	, section 256P.07, subdivision	n 6, is amend	ed to read:
43.11	Subd. 6. Child care assistance	programs-specific reportin	<b>g.</b> (a) <del>In addi</del>	<del>tion to</del>
43.12	subdivision 3, An assistance unit u	nder chapter 119B, within ter	n days of the	change, must
43.13	report:			
43.14	(1) a change in a parentally resp	consible individual's custody	schedule for	any child
43.15	receiving child care assistance prog	gram benefits;		
43.16	(2) a permanent end in a parent	ally responsible individual's a	authorized ac	tivity; <del>and</del>
43.17	(3) if the unit's family's annual	included income exceeds 85 p	percent of the	state median
43.18	income, adjusted for family size-;			
43.19	(4) a change in address or resid	ence;		
43.20	(5) a change in household comp	position;		
43.21	(6) a change in citizenship or in	nmigration status; and		
43.22	(7) a change in family status.			

(b) An assistance unit subject to section 119B.095, subdivision 1, paragraph (b), must

(c) An assistance unit must notify the county when the unit wants to reduce the number

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

report a change in the unit's authorized activity status.

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of authorized hours for children in the unit.

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14.1	Sec. 62. Withnesota Statutes 2022, Section 230P.07, Subdivision 7, is amended to read:
14.2	Subd. 7. Minnesota supplemental aid-specific reporting. (a) In addition to subdivision
14.3	3, an assistance unit participating in the Minnesota supplemental aid program under section
14.4	256D.44, subdivision 5, paragraph (g), within ten days of the change, chapter 256D and no
14.5	receiving Supplemental Security Income must report shelter expenses.:
14.6	(1) a change in unearned income of \$50 per month or greater; and
14.7	(2) a change in earned income of \$100 per month or greater.
14.8	(b) An assistance unit receiving housing assistance under section 256D.44, subdivision
14.9	5, paragraph (g), including assistance units that also receive Supplemental Security Income
14.10	must report:
14.11	(1) a change in shelter expenses; and
14.12	(2) a new rent subsidy or a change in rent subsidy.
14.13	EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective July 1, 2024.
14.14	Sec. 63. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 256P.07, is amended by adding a subdivision
14.15	to read:
14.16	Subd. 8. Housing support-specific reporting. (a) In addition to subdivision 3, an
14.17	assistance unit participating in the housing support program under chapter 256I and not
14.18	receiving Supplemental Security Income must report:
14.19	(1) a change in unearned income of \$50 per month or greater; and
14.20	(2) a change in earned income of \$100 per month or greater, unless the assistance unit
14.21	is already subject to six-month reporting requirements in section 256P.10.
14.22	(b) Notwithstanding the exemptions in subdivisions 1 and 3, an assistance unit receiving
14.23	housing support under chapter 256I, including an assistance unit that receives Supplementa
14.24	Security Income, must report:
14.25	(1) a new rent subsidy or a change in rent subsidy;
14.26	(2) a change in the disability status of a unit member; and
14.27	(3) a change in household composition if the assistance unit is a participant in housing
14.28	support under section 256I.04, subdivision 3, paragraph (a), clause (3).
14.29	EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective July 1, 2024.

Sec. 63. 44

15.1	Sec. 64. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 256P.07, is amended by adding a subdivision
15.2	to read:
15.3	Subd. 9. General assistance-specific reporting. In addition to subdivision 3, an
15.4	assistance unit participating in the general assistance program under chapter 256D must
15.5	report:
15.6	(1) a change in unearned income of \$50 per month or greater;
15.7	(2) a change in earned income of \$100 per month or greater, unless the assistance unit
15.8	is already subject to six-month reporting requirements in section 256P.10; and
15.9	(3) changes in any condition that would result in the loss of basis for eligibility in section
45.10	256D.05, subdivision 1, paragraph (a).
45.11	EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective July 1, 2024.
45.12	Sec. 65. [256P.09] PROSPECTIVE BUDGETING OF BENEFITS.
45.13	Subdivision 1. <b>Exempted programs.</b> Assistance units that qualify for child care
15.14	assistance programs under chapter 119B and assistance units that receive housing support
45.15	under chapter 256I are not subject to reporting under section 256P.10, and assistance units
15.16	that qualify for Minnesota supplemental aid under chapter 256D are exempt from this
45.17	section.
45.18	Subd. 2. Prospective budgeting of benefits. An agency subject to this chapter must use
15.19	prospective budgeting to calculate the assistance payment amount.
45.20	Subd. 3. Initial income. For the purpose of determining an assistance unit's level of
15.21	benefits, an agency must take into account the income already received by the assistance
15.22	unit during or anticipated to be received during the application period. Income anticipated
15.23	to be received only in the initial month of eligibility must only be counted in the initial
15.24	month.
15.25	Subd. 4. Income determination. An agency must use prospective budgeting to determine
15.26	the amount of the assistance unit's benefit for the eligibility period based on the best
15.27	information available at the time of approval. An agency shall only count anticipated income
15.28	when the participant and the agency are reasonably certain of the amount of the payment
15.29	and the month in which the payment will be received. If the exact amount of the income is
15.30	not known, the agency shall consider only the amounts that can be anticipated as income.
45.31	Subd. 5. Income changes. An increase in income shall not affect an assistance unit's
15.32	eligibility or benefit amount until the next review unless otherwise required to be reported

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in section 256P.07. A decrease in income shall be effective on the date that the change occurs if the change is reported by the tenth of the month following the month when the change occurred. If the assistance unit does not report the change in income by the tenth of the month following the month when the change occurred, the change in income shall be effective on the date the change was reported. **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2024. Sec. 66. [256P.10] SIX-MONTH REPORTING. Subdivision 1. Exempted programs. Assistance units that qualify for child care assistance programs under chapter 119B, assistance units that qualify for Minnesota supplemental aid under chapter 256D, and assistance units that qualify for housing support 46.10 under chapter 256I and also receive Supplemental Security Income are exempt from this 46.11 section. 46.12 Subd. 2. Reporting. (a) Every six months, an assistance unit that qualifies for the 46.13 Minnesota family investment program under chapter 256J, an assistance unit that qualifies 46.14 46.15 for general assistance under chapter 256D with an earned income of \$100 per month or 46.16 greater, or an assistance unit that qualifies for housing support under chapter 256I with an earned income of \$100 per month or greater is subject to six-month reviews. The initial 46.17 reporting period may be shorter than six months in order to align with other programs' 46.18 46.19 reporting periods. (b) An assistance unit that qualifies for the Minnesota family investment program or an 46.20 assistance unit that qualifies for general assistance with an earned income of \$100 per month 46.21 or greater must complete household report forms as required by the commissioner for 46.22 redetermination of benefits. 46.23 (c) An assistance unit that qualifies for housing support with an earned income of \$100 46.24 46.25 per month or greater must complete household report forms as prescribed by the commissioner to provide information about earned income. 46.26 46.27 (d) An assistance unit that qualifies for housing support and also receives assistance through the Minnesota family investment program shall be subject to requirements of this 46.28 section for purposes of the Minnesota family investment program but not for housing support. 46.29 (e) An assistance unit covered by this section must submit a household report form in 46.30 compliance with the provisions in section 256P.04, subdivision 11. 46.31 (f) An assistance unit covered by this section may choose to report changes under this

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section at any time.

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Subd. 3. When to terminate assistance. (a) An agency must terminate benefits when the assistance unit fails to submit the household report form before the end of the six-month review period. If the assistance unit submits the household report form within 30 days of the termination of benefits and remains eligible, benefits must be reinstated and made available retroactively for the full benefit month. (b) When an assistance unit is determined to be ineligible for assistance according to this section and chapter 256D, 256I, or 256J, the agency must terminate assistance. **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2024. Sec. 67. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 261.063, is amended to read: 261.063 TAX LEVY FOR SOCIAL SERVICES; BOARD DUTY; PENALTY. (a) The board of county commissioners of each county shall annually levy taxes and fix a rate sufficient to produce the full amount required for poor relief, general assistance, Minnesota family investment program, diversionary work program, county share of county and state supplemental aid to Supplemental Security Income applicants or recipients, and any other Social Security measures wherein there is now or may hereafter be county participation, sufficient to produce the full amount necessary for each such item, including administrative expenses, for the ensuing year, within the time fixed by law in addition to all other tax levies and tax rates, however fixed or determined, and any commissioner who shall fail to comply herewith shall be guilty of a gross misdemeanor and shall be immediately removed from office by the governor. For the purposes of this paragraph, "poor relief" means county services provided under sections 261.035 and 261.21 to 261.231. (b) Nothing within the provisions of this section shall be construed as requiring a county agency to provide income support or cash assistance to needy persons when they are no longer eligible for assistance under general assistance, chapter 256J, or Minnesota supplemental aid. **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2024. Sec. 68. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 514.972, subdivision 5, is amended to read: Subd. 5. Access to certain items. (a) Any occupant may remove from the self-storage facility personal papers and health aids upon demand made to any of the persons listed in section 514.976, subdivision 1. (b) An occupant who provides documentation from a government or nonprofit agency

or legal aid office that the occupant is a recipient of relief based on need, is eligible for legal

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aid services, or is a survivor of domestic violence or sexual assault may remove, in addition to the items provided in paragraph (a), personal clothing of the occupant and the occupant's dependents and tools of the trade that are necessary for the livelihood of the occupant that has a market value not to exceed \$125 per item.

- (c) The occupant shall present a list of the items and may remove the items during the facility's ordinary business hours prior to the sale authorized by section 514.973. If the owner unjustifiably denies the occupant access for the purpose of removing the items specified in this subdivision, the occupant is entitled to request relief from the court for an order allowing access to the storage space for removal of the specified items. The self-service storage facility is liable to the occupant for the costs, disbursements, and attorney fees expended by the occupant to obtain this order.
- (d) For the purposes of this subdivision, "relief based on need" includes but is not limited to receipt of a benefit from the Minnesota family investment program and diversionary work program, medical assistance, general assistance, emergency general assistance, Minnesota supplemental aid, Minnesota supplemental aid housing assistance, MinnesotaCare, Supplemental Security Income, energy assistance, emergency assistance, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program benefits, earned income tax credit, or Minnesota working family tax credit. Relief based on need can also be proven by providing documentation from a legal aid organization that the individual is receiving legal aid assistance, or by providing documentation from a government agency, nonprofit, or housing assistance program that the individual is receiving assistance due to domestic violence or sexual assault.

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

## Sec. 69. **REVISOR INSTRUCTION.**

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- The revisor of statutes shall remove from Minnesota Statutes, sections 550.143,
  subdivision 3c; 550.37, subdivision 14; 551.05, subdivision 1d; 571.72, subdivision 10;

  571.912, subdivision 3; and 571.925, the terms "MFIP Diversionary Work Program" and
  "MFIP diversionary work program." The revisor shall also make any necessary grammatical
  changes related to the removal of terms.
- 48.29 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2024.

Sec. 69. 48

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49.1	Sec.	70.	REPI	EALE	R

- 49.2 (a) Minnesota Statutes 2022, sections 256.9864; 256J.08, subdivisions 10, 53, 61, 62,
- 49.3 81, and 83; 256J.30, subdivisions 5, 7, and 8; 256J.33, subdivisions 3, 4, and 5; 256J.34,
- subdivisions 1, 2, 3, and 4; and 256J.37, subdivision 10, are repealed.
- 49.5 (b) Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 256J.425, subdivision 6, is repealed.
- 49.6 (c) Minnesota Statutes 2022, sections 119B.011, subdivision 10a; 256J.08, subdivision
- 49.7 24b; 256J.95, subdivisions 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, and 19;
- and 256P.07, subdivision 5, are repealed.
- 49.9 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** Paragraphs (a) and (c) are effective July 1, 2024. Paragraph (b)
- 49.10 is effective January 1, 2025."
- 49.11 Amend the title accordingly

Sec. 70. 49