## MACPZA SPRING CONFERENCE

# **LEGISLATIVE UPDATE**

June 3, 2021

## **Session Dynamics**

- Split Legislature
- Virtual logistics
- Roller coaster budget forecasts
- American Rescue Plan
- Governor's Emergency Powers







### **Current Status**

### Association *of* Minnesota Counties

- 31 bills passed, 31 signed
- Budget "agreement"
- Major policy still
- Working groups
- Private negotiations
- Special Session by June 14

\$ in millions	House/Senate/Gov Agreement		
February Forecast Balance*	1,664	707	2,833
Net Targets	21-23	24-25	ARPA SFRF FY 21-23
E-12 Education	525	675	
Higher Education	100	100	C
ння	100	100	(
Environment	30	10	
Ag/Broadband	10	10	(
Housing	10	12	0
Transportation	200	15	(
Public Safety	105	110	(
Labor/Workforce**	125	17	(
Energy/Commerce	16	8	(
State Gov	67	63	
Capital	TBD	TBD	
COVID Flexible Fund	0	0	500
Other Bills	9.6	6.9	
Net Spending in Targets	1,298	1,127	500
SFRF Revenue Replacement	550	550	1,100
Net Tax Bill Target	(754)	(180)	
Balance in each Biennium Budgetary Balance	162	(50) 112	
Total ARPA SFRF Spend	1,050	550	
Total ARPA SFRF Spend FY 21-25	~** * ****	1,600	
ARPA SFRF Remaining		1,233	

## **Open Meeting Law**



### **Remote Open Meetings Until July**

- Allows members of local governments to attend open meetings remotely until July.
  - What does return to return to normal mean for remote meetings?

#### **Modernizing OML Terminology around Remote Meetings**

- Modernizes language around remote meeting technology
- Clarifies that local governments should, to the extent practicable, apply their public comment policies for in-person open meetings to remote meetings.
- Allows meeting minutes to be used in place of a "journal of votes," to bring statute in line with current practice.

## **Environment & Natural Resources**

### Association *of* Minnesota Counties

#### Support

- <u>Tax-Forfeited Property</u>: Authorization to spend net proceeds from tax-forfeited land on clean-up efforts
- **<u>Public Waters Inventory</u>**: Extends notice to local government and opportunity to object to PWI revisions
- <u>Ordinary High-Water</u>: Provides for a notice to local governments and opportunities for review and appeal
- **Prohibition on Bulk Transfer of Water**: Strengthens statutes against exports of Minnesota water resources

#### Oppose

- Landfill Responsibility Act: 3% tax on landfill annual revenue; additional assessment for five MPCA staff; landfills would fund reuse and repair programs; only programs approved by the state; 40 percent in EJ areas; new plan and report requirements
- **DEED and Mortgage Fee for SWCD's:** Imposes a \$25 fee on every transaction to be deposited in an account and paid to the county SWCD (or for conservation responsibilities)

## **Environment & Natural Resources**

• Natural Resources Block Grant: \$3.423 million/yr; Senate only: \$1 million one time for lowincome grants for septic systems

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- **SSTS:** \$952,000/yr SSTS program administration and technical assistance and education, including grants and assistance for water-quality. Of this amount, \$129,000 each year is for assistance to counties through grants for SSTS program administration
- **404 Assumption:** Extension of reporting period to prepare a plan for assumption of 404 permitting
- State Lands provisions ('20 and '21):

   <u>changes to state parks and recreation areas in Dakota, St. Louis, Blue Earth, and Washington;</u>
   <u>private sales of surplus land</u> in Cass, Lake of the Woods, St. Louis, Wadena, Roseau and Sherburne
  - private sale of tax forfeited land in Aitkin, Itasca, St. Louis, and Beltrami;
  - land transfer in Goodhue County; and land lease in St. Louis County.
- Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund, LCCMR ('20 and '21): water projects, research, county groundwater and geologic atlases, PFAS, parks and trails

## **Other Omnibus Bills**



#### **Climate and Energy**

- Allows the use of the petro fund to remove underground storage tanks on tax forfeited-property
- Electric Vehicle charging stations providing for installations at County Government Centers
- Solar on Prime Farmland
- Solar site and gen-tie line permits

#### Agriculture

- \$1million/year to AgBMP Loan Program
- \$225,000/year for the noxious weed program
- prohibition permit requirements restricting manure applications

## **Other Omnibus Bills**



#### Legacy

- 1W1P implementation grants Senate \$46.986 million, House \$43.564 million
- Critical Shoreland protection easements \$2.468 million
- SWCD Capacity Senate \$24 million, House \$12 million
- SSTS \$5.824 million

#### **Broadband Funding**

- \$70 million for the state Border-to-Border Broadband Grant Program
- Source still unknown state or federal funding

#### **Bonding Bill**

- House \$1 billion proposal
- Senate technical corrections

### **Other P&Z legislation**



#### Did not pass

- Rural event centers building and fire code requirements
- Sacred settlements micro unit dwellings authorization and requirements
- Local government municipal planning and zoning controls limit deletes Granny Pod opt out

# Questions or Comments

2022 Session, January 31

Thank you for attending