

**SENATE
STATE OF MINNESOTA
NINETY-FOURTH SESSION**

S.F. No. 4067

(SENATE AUTHORS: LATZ, Pappas and Westlin)

DATE
03/02/2026

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Introduction and first reading
Referred to Judiciary and Public Safety

OFFICIAL STATUS

1.1 A bill for an act
1.2 relating to judiciary; providing security for the chief justice; redistributing base
1.3 funding beginning in fiscal year 2028; appropriating money for the judicial branch;
1.4 amending Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 299D.03, subdivision 1; Laws 2025,
1.5 chapter 35, article 1, sections 2; 4; 5.

1.6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

1.7 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 299D.03, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

1.8 Subdivision 1. **Members, powers, and duties.** (a) The commissioner is hereby authorized
1.9 to employ and designate a chief supervisor, a chief assistant supervisor, and such assistant
1.10 supervisors, sergeants and officers as are provided by law, who shall comprise the Minnesota
1.11 State Patrol.

1.12 (b) The members of the Minnesota State Patrol shall have the power and authority:

1.13 (1) as peace officers to enforce the provisions of the law relating to the protection of
1.14 and use of trunk highways;

1.15 (2) at all times to direct all traffic on trunk highways in conformance with law, and in
1.16 the event of a fire or other emergency, or to expedite traffic or to insure safety, to direct
1.17 traffic on other roads as conditions may require notwithstanding the provisions of law;

1.18 (3) to serve search warrants related to criminal motor vehicle and traffic violations and
1.19 arrest warrants, and legal documents anywhere in the state;

1.20 (4) to serve orders of the commissioner of public safety or the commissioner's duly
1.21 authorized agents issued under the provisions of the Driver's License Law, the Safety

2.1 Responsibility Act, or relating to authorized brake- and light-testing stations, anywhere in
2.2 the state and to take possession of any license, permit, or certificate ordered to be surrendered;

2.3 (5) to inspect official brake and light adjusting stations;

2.4 (6) to make appearances anywhere within the state for the purpose of conducting traffic
2.5 safety educational programs and school bus clinics;

2.6 (7) to exercise upon all trunk highways the same powers with respect to the enforcement
2.7 of laws relating to crimes, as sheriffs and police officers;

2.8 (8) to cooperate, under instructions and rules of the commissioner of public safety, with
2.9 all sheriffs and other police officers anywhere in the state, provided that said employees
2.10 shall have no power or authority in connection with strikes or industrial disputes;

2.11 (9) to assist and aid any peace officer whose life or safety is in jeopardy;

2.12 (10) as peace officers to provide security and protection to the governor, governor elect,
2.13 either or both houses of the legislature, and state buildings or property in the manner and
2.14 to the extent determined to be necessary after consultation with the governor, or a designee.
2.15 Pursuant to this clause, members of the State Patrol, acting as peace officers have the same
2.16 powers with respect to the enforcement of laws relating to crimes, as sheriffs and police
2.17 officers have within their respective jurisdictions;

2.18 (11) to inspect school buses anywhere in the state for the purposes of determining
2.19 compliance with vehicle equipment, pollution control, and registration requirements;

2.20 (12) as peace officers to make arrests for public offenses committed in their presence
2.21 anywhere within the state. Persons arrested for violations other than traffic violations shall
2.22 be referred forthwith to the appropriate local law enforcement agency for further investigation
2.23 or disposition; ~~and~~

2.24 (13) to enforce the North American uniform out-of-service criteria and issue
2.25 out-of-service orders, as defined in Code of Federal Regulations, title 49, section 383.5; ~~;~~
2.26 and

2.27 (14) as peace officers to provide security and protection to the chief justice in the manner
2.28 and to the extent determined to be necessary after consultation with the chief justice or a
2.29 designee. Pursuant to this clause, members of the State Patrol acting as peace officers have
2.30 the same powers with respect to the enforcement of laws relating to crimes as sheriffs and
2.31 police officers have within their respective jurisdictions.

3.1 (c) After consultation with the governor or a designee, the commissioner may require
 3.2 the State Patrol to provide security and protection to supreme court justices, legislators, and
 3.3 constitutional officers other than the governor, for a limited period and within the limits of
 3.4 existing resources, in response to a credible threat on the individual's life or safety.

3.5 (d) The state may contract for State Patrol members to render the services described in
 3.6 this section in excess of their regularly scheduled duty hours and patrol members rendering
 3.7 such services shall be compensated in such amounts, manner and under such conditions as
 3.8 the agreement provides.

3.9 (e) Employees thus employed and designated shall subscribe an oath.

3.10 Sec. 2. Laws 2025, chapter 35, article 1, section 2, is amended to read:

3.11 **Sec. 2. SUPREME COURT** \$ 54,597,000 \$ 50,597,000

3.12 **(a) Contingent Account**

3.13 \$5,000 each year is for a contingent account
 3.14 for expenses necessary for the normal
 3.15 operation of the court for which no other
 3.16 reimbursement is provided.

3.17 **(b) Justice Partner Access**

3.18 \$4,000,000 the first year is to improve justice
 3.19 partner access to documents and court
 3.20 information. This appropriation is available
 3.21 until June 30, 2029.

3.22 **(c) Base Adjustment**

3.23 The general fund base shall be ~~\$50,821,000~~
 3.24 \$51,636,000 beginning in fiscal year 2028.

3.25 Sec. 3. Laws 2025, chapter 35, article 1, section 4, is amended to read:

3.26 **Sec. 4. COURT OF APPEALS** \$ 15,624,000 \$ 15,624,000

3.27 **Base Adjustment**

3.28 The general fund base shall be ~~\$15,794,000~~
 3.29 \$15,871,000 beginning in fiscal year 2028.

4.1 Sec. 4. Laws 2025, chapter 35, article 1, section 5, is amended to read:

4.2 **Sec. 5. DISTRICT COURTS** \$ 396,395,000 \$ 396,396,000

4.3 **(a) Forensic Examiner Rate Increase**

4.4 \$2,685,000 each year is to increase the hourly
4.5 rate paid to forensic examiners.

4.6 **(b) Base Adjustment**

4.7 The general fund base shall be ~~\$403,810,000~~
4.8 \$402,918,000 beginning in fiscal year 2028.

4.9 **Sec. 5. SUPREME COURT APPROPRIATIONS.**

4.10 Subdivision 1. **Paid leave.** \$87,000 in fiscal year 2026 and \$173,000 in fiscal year 2027
4.11 are appropriated from the general fund to the supreme court to fund the employer portion
4.12 of the Minnesota paid leave program. The appropriation for fiscal year 2026 is available
4.13 until July 1, 2027. This appropriation is added to the base beginning in fiscal year 2028.

4.14 Subd. 2. **Safety and security.** \$529,000 in fiscal year 2027 is appropriated from the
4.15 general fund to the supreme court to implement safety and security measures. \$488,000 is
4.16 added to the base beginning in fiscal year 2028.

4.17 Subd. 3. **Safe and secure courthouse initiative.** \$1,000,000 in fiscal year 2027 is
4.18 appropriated from the general fund to the supreme court for a competitive grant program
4.19 for courthouse safety and security improvements. Grants may be awarded to governmental
4.20 entities to fund courthouse security assessments, equipment, technology, construction, or
4.21 training needs. Grant recipients must provide a 50 percent nonstate match. This is a onetime
4.22 appropriation and is available until June 30, 2029.

4.23 **Sec. 6. COURT OF APPEALS APPROPRIATIONS.**

4.24 Subdivision 1. **Paid leave.** \$23,000 in fiscal year 2026 and \$46,000 in fiscal year 2027
4.25 are appropriated from the general fund to the court of appeals to fund the employer portion
4.26 of the Minnesota paid leave program. The appropriation for fiscal year 2026 is available
4.27 until July 1, 2027. This appropriation is added to the base beginning in fiscal year 2028.

4.28 Subd. 2. **Safety and security.** \$82,000 in fiscal year 2027 is appropriated from the
4.29 general fund to the court of appeals to implement safety and security measures. \$53,000 is
4.30 added to the base beginning in fiscal year 2028.

5.1 **Sec. 7. DISTRICT COURTS APPROPRIATIONS.**

5.2 Subdivision 1. **Paid leave.** \$534,000 in fiscal year 2026 and \$1,068,000 in fiscal year
5.3 2027 are appropriated from the general fund to the district courts to fund the employer
5.4 portion of the Minnesota paid leave program. The appropriation for fiscal year 2026 is
5.5 available until July 1, 2027. This appropriation is added to the base beginning in fiscal year
5.6 2028.

5.7 Subd. 2. **Safety and security.** \$1,276,000 in fiscal year 2027 is appropriated from the
5.8 general fund to the district courts to implement safety and security measures. \$824,000 is
5.9 added to the base beginning in fiscal year 2028.

5.10 **Sec. 8. EFFECTIVE DATE.**

5.11 Sections 1 to 7 are effective the day following final enactment.