

2024 Minnesota Legislative Session Recap and Overview

SEAN BURKE | O'CONNELL CONSULTING, LLC

AMANDA VICKSTROM | MINNESOTA ELDER JUSTICE
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Agenda

- 2023-24 Biennium - Background and Context
- 2024 Session Recap
- MEJC Priorities: A Deeper Dive
- Looking Forward
- Questions

Background and Context

2023-2024 Biennium Context

- First DFL Trifecta since 2013-2014
- 2023 Budget Year – Historic Budget surplus
- 2024 “Policy Year” with a small amount of spending

Drastic Spending Differences this Year

2023

- \$18 Billion surplus
- \$1.5 billion on Human Services
- Increased Elderly Waiver rates after decades on low investment

2024

- \$3.8 Billion surplus – \$500 million allotted for spending
- About \$50 million in Human Services

2024 Session Summary

2024 Context

- Non-Budget Year
- Leadership signaled a relatively “boring” session
- House is up for reelection in November 2024
- DFL in Senate was tested throughout session
- End of session politics played out with a large omnibus package that included a Human Services bill, a Health and Human Services bill among many other changes

Elder Justice Related Issues That Passed

- Mental Health Training in Assisted Living
- Respite Grants
- Guardianship Taskforce
- Acute Care Transitions
- Disability Services Person-Centered Engagement Study
- Some Regulatory Changes to Small Assisted Living Settings
- Guardianship Liability/Immunity

MEJC Priorities: A Deeper Dive

Supported Decision Making

- Temporary grant program established in 2023 to fund Supported Decision Making throughout the State.
- Acute care transitions and Supported Decision Making are related.
- Guardianship taskforce will look at Supported Decision Making as a key less-restrictive alternative to guardianship.

Adult Protection Funding

- 2023 - 4-year dedicated State funding to help counties increase and improve APS services
- No changes to that funding in 2024
- Tribal Vulnerable Adult Targeted Case management MA benefit authorized

Resident Rights in Long Term Care Settings

- HF 4220/SF 4044
 - Would have extended some of the resident rights and protections from 144G to so-called “Exempt Settings”
 - These are settings that operate like licensed assisted living but receive State or Federal dollars for housing and are therefore exempt from AL licensure. This bill did not pass.
- Protections for residents in LTC
 - 2019 AL law provided strong protections
 - Maintain and build on those rights with mental illness and de-escalation training
 - Quarterly nursing assessments remain required under law
- New Federal rules on Nursing Homes

What's Next

What to Expect in the Interim

- **DHS Preparing the 2025 Budget Proposal**
 - Adult Protection funding issue
 - Implementation of this year's policies
 - Office of Legislative Auditor report on Guardianship
 - Results of 2023's Aging Taskforce
- **2025 Session begins January**
 - November election and forecast will set tone and context for what is possible
 - More discussion on residents' rights in Long Term Care Settings
 - Clock is ticking for expiration of 2023 APS funding
 - Something uncertain sure to come!

Questions

Conference Evaluation – Tell Us What You Think!

