

State of Minnesota

HF XXXX / SF XXXX

A BILL FOR AN ACT

relating to corrections; reducing correctional system costs through targeted efficiency measures; establishing staffing optimization, healthcare cost controls, facility consolidation, administrative streamlining, performance-based program funding, contract review, and competitive procurement; requiring reporting and accountability; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes.

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

Section 1. SHORT TITLE.

This act may be cited as the:

Correctional Efficiency and Cost Accountability Act (CECAA)

Cut Waste. Keep Safety. Deliver Results.

Section 2. LEGISLATIVE INTENT.

The legislature finds:

Minnesota's correctional system costs hundreds of millions annually;

A significant portion of costs are driven by inefficiencies, contract inflation, and administrative overhead, not safety requirements alone; and

Taxpayers deserve a correctional system that is secure, transparent, and financially responsible.

The purpose of this act is to reduce correctional spending through targeted cost controls, competitive procurement, and measurable accountability, while maintaining public safety and constitutional standards.

Section 3. STAFFING EFFICIENCY AND OVERTIME REDUCTION.

The Department of Corrections shall implement a statewide staffing optimization system to reduce mandatory overtime, improve scheduling, and track overtime costs monthly. The department shall aim for at least a 15 percent reduction in overtime within 24 months.

Section 4. HEALTHCARE COST MANAGEMENT.

The Department shall expand telehealth, renegotiate contracts, and increase preventive care. Nothing in this section reduces constitutionally required care.

Section 5. FACILITY CONSOLIDATION.

The Department shall audit all facilities, identify underutilization, and recommend consolidation or closure.

Section 6. ADMINISTRATIVE STREAMLINING.

The Department shall audit administrative roles and reduce redundancy with a goal of 10 percent overhead reduction.

Section 7. PERFORMANCE-BASED PROGRAM FUNDING.

Programs must demonstrate measurable outcomes within 3 years or be reformed or discontinued.

Section 8. PRETRIAL DETENTION REDUCTION.

The Department shall coordinate with courts to reduce unnecessary detention time.

Section 9. TRANSPORTATION AND TECHNOLOGY EFFICIENCY.

Expand tele-court and telehealth to reduce transport costs.

Section 10. ENERGY EFFICIENCY.

Implement energy-saving upgrades across facilities.

Section 11. TRANSPARENCY.

Quarterly public reports on costs and outcomes.

Section 12. CONTRACT REVIEW AND COMPETITIVE PROCUREMENT.

All contracts over \$500,000 must be competitively bid every 3–5 years with no automatic renewals.

Section 13. ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT.

Minimum savings: \$100,000,000 annually

Target savings: \$125,000,000 to \$175,000,000 annually

High-performance potential: up to \$200,000,000 annually

Section 14. EFFECTIVE DATE.

Effective July 1, 2027.