



2020 End of Regular and Special Sessions Overview

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2020 Regular Session

- 2020 regular session was unique!
 - COVID-19 Peacetime Emergency declared
 - 2020 was a policy/bonding year
 - A few policy provisions passed, but no bonding bill
 - A few budget bills also made it across the finish line



Policy provisions that passed in regular session

- HHS Policy Omnibus [Laws of MN 2020, Ch. 115- SF 13](#)
 - Opiate Epidemic Response Fund and Advisory Council Modifications
 - Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (APRN) Modifications
 - MA coverage for opiate antagonists & issuance of prescriptions to treat SUDs
- Guardianship Modernization [Laws of MN 2020, Ch. 86- SF 3357](#)
- Tobacco Sales Prohibited to People Under 21 [Laws of MN, Ch. 88- HF 331](#)
- Telemedicine provisions [Laws of MN, Ch. 70- SF 4334](#)
- COVID-19 Policy Changes Bill [Laws of MN 2020, Ch. 74- HF 4556](#)
 - SUD Demo Waiver and Withdrawal Management Technical Modifications
 - Coverage for COVID-19 Testing for Uninsured Individuals

Budget Provisions that passed in regular session

- Opiate Epidemic Response Account Grants [Laws of MN 2020, Ch. 113- HF 4601](#)
- COVID-19 Response Appropriations and Provisions [Laws of MN 2020, Ch. 71- HF 4531](#)
 - Housing Support temporary rate increase
 - Emergency Supports Grants for shelters
 - Peacetime Emergency Child Care Grants
 - Food Shelf Programs

Bills left on the table

- Regular session ended on May 18, 2020.
 - No Bonding bill
 - No Omnibus supplemental budget
 - No HHS Policy Omnibus (Abeler/Moran)
 - No DHS emergency powers

George Floyd

- Following the murder of George Floyd on May 25, 2020, the Legislature vowed to reform Minnesota's criminal justice system.



Photo Source: Lorie Shaull

1st Special Session 2020

- House leadership priority was criminal justice reform
- Senate leadership top priorities were bonding and tax bill
- Both bodies seemed to be moving toward consensus on a number of different proposals including HHS policy omnibus, DHS emergency powers and Waiver extension bill, PCA, and CCAP.
- After protracted, weeklong special session, leadership did not pass criminal justice reform. HHS policy omnibus and few other bills were passed.

1st Special Session HHS Policy Omnibus

- HHS Policy Omnibus [MN Laws 2020, 1st SS, Ch. 2- HF 11](#) passed:
 - Certified community behavioral health clinics (CCBHC) modifications
 - Sexual violence training required for home and community-based service providers
 - Home and community-based service planning timeline modification.
 - Embedding Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) Settings Rule in provider service plan addendum.
 - Designated coordinator delegation of responsibilities
 - Foster Care Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder Screening

1st Special Session HHS Policy Omnibus – cont.

- Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facility (PRTF) Modifications.
- Children’s Mental Health Crisis Response Services modifications.
- Intensive nonresidential rehabilitative mental health service modifications.
- Disability Policy Statements and Waiver Reimagine technical changes.
- Long-term care consultation (LTCC) services modifications.
- Community-living settings definition clarification.
- Children’s Mental Health Respite Grants modification.
- Withdrawal Management Modifications.
- Screening, Brief Intervention, and Referral to Treatment (SBIRT) modifications.

1st Special Session HHS Policy Omnibus - continued

- Licensed Professional in Private Practice clarification.
- Dialectical Behavioral Therapy (DBT) technical change.
- Personal Care Assistance (PCA) and Home Care Nursing (HCN) in Family Foster Care.
- Early Intensive Developmental Behavioral Intervention (EIDBI) modifications.
- Qualified Professional reorganization and modifications.
- Housing Support technical name change
- MA Excess income Standard
- Officer-Involved Care Coordination
- Compliance with the Family First Preservation Services Act
- Termination of Services for State-Operated Community Based Services
- Revisions to the Civil Commitment Act

Other bills that passed in 1st Special Session

- COVID-19 Extension of Human Services Waivers and Modifications
- Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP) Rate Increase
- Pre-K – 12 Omnibus Policy Bill

- Negotiations and debate on disability provider retention grants, PCA rates, bonding, dental PPE continued, but were not fruitful
- HF 1 Criminal Justice reform passed by both bodies and signed by Governor Walz on July 23, 2020
 - Three public safety bills — [Reclaiming Community Oversight Act](#), [Reimagining Public Safety Act](#) and the [Reforming Accountability Act](#) — were combined into one

HF 1 Criminal Justice Reform

- more clearly defines when police may use deadly force
- gives AG jurisdiction to prosecute when officers are alleged to have caused death
- requires an officer who takes a child into custody to determine whether the child should be released or detained using a risk assessment.
- bans action by a peace officer that purposely restricts airway, such as a chokehold
- establishes standards for crisis intervention and mental illness crisis training for peace officers;
- requires the development and implementation of autism training for peace officers

- Short 3rd special session anticipated
 - Due to bond sales this month, the next opportunity for the Minnesota Legislature to make changes to the budget, including a bonding bill, must wait until late September



- Budgeting for the biennium
- Deficit & updated May 2020 forecast
 - State went from a \$1.5 billion surplus to a \$2.42 billion deficit for the current biennium (FY20-21).
- DHS legislative process & ideas we've been working on

Thank You!

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