

2026 Legislative Session MCPA Update

Week of February 23

Overview

On Friday, February 27th the state's finance agency, Minnesota Management and Budget (MMB) released the [February 2026 Budget and Economic Forecast](#), which showed a slightly improved economic outlook of a \$3.7 billion surplus in FY 2026-27 and a \$377 million surplus in FY2028-29. The February Forecast is the final economic update the Legislature will receive during the 2026 Session and is, therefore, the estimates they will use to set a potential supplemental budget. The previous forecast released last November showed a short-term budget surplus of \$2.5 billion and long-term budget deficit of \$3 billion. The improved economic outlook is mainly driven by a higher revenue forecast made up of more volatile sources of revenue.

Although the forecast numbers have improved since November, MMB warned that a significant structural imbalance remains as spending growth is forecast to outpace revenue growth. Total spending is forecasted at \$70.2 billion and total revenue is forecasted to come in at \$67.5 billion. The forecast also does not include any tax revenue impacts caused by Operation Metro Surge as this won't be seen in the state's monthly revenue report until March.

Shifting policies at the federal level and missing data from the recent federal government shutdowns also create significant uncertainty. The Trump administration's recent threats to halt Medicaid funds to Minnesota could significantly increase costs for the state.

This week Governor Walz announced a comprehensive gun violence prevention package. The package includes a number of provisions aimed at strengthening gun safety, reflecting concerns raised directly by Minnesotans who have expressed growing frustration with continued legislative inaction. The Governor's legislative package can be found [here](#).

Committees of Interest

House Public Safety Committee

The Public Safety Committee held a hearing on Tuesday on a number of bills in response to gun violence and assassination events that took place over the interim. The first two being [H.F. 3433](#) (Greenman) that would ban semiautomatic military-style assault weapons and [H.F. 3402](#) (Tabke) that would ban large-capacity ammunition magazines. Both bills received emotional personal testimony from survivors and family members that shared painful recollections of the Annunciation Catholic School shooting in August. Testifiers urged lawmakers to act on gun safety, stressing the human cost of the violence. Both firearms ban bills fell short on votes and did not pass out of committee.

Also on Tuesday the committee heard [H.F. 3404](#) (Klevorn), a bill to increase the criminal penalty for impersonating a peace officer and make it a crime to impersonate a peace officer while possessing a firearm. The bill received support from three law enforcement associations that submitted a [joint letter](#) to demonstrate their support to the committee. This bill received bipartisan support and

passed out of committee, as amended ([A3 amendment](#)), and will now go to the Ways and Means Committee.

On Wednesday, the House Public Safety Committee heard a number of bills, most notably, [H.F. 3440](#) (Stier) that would extend the availability of funds appropriated for law enforcement use of force training. The time period would be extended to June 30, 2027, to accommodate rollout delays. The bill passed out of committee with bipartisan support and has been referred to the General Register to be taken up for final passage on the House floor.

Senate Judiciary and Public Safety Committee

On Monday February 23rd the Senate Judiciary and Public Safety Committee heard [S.F. 0473](#) (Kunesh) that would propose a constitutional amendment to provide equal rights under the law and prohibiting discrimination based on a list of characteristics. The bill received testimony from both advocates for and against the proposal. The bill was passed out of committee on a party-line vote and will now go to the Rules and Administration Committee for consideration. Should this legislation be passed and signed by the governor, it would be placed on the ballot for the electorate to weigh in. The committee did not meet the rest of the week.

The Week Ahead

The following committees of interest have released agendas with legislation relevant to MCPA legislation priorities.

Monday

Senate Judiciary and Public Safety Committee

Agenda:

- [S.F. 3583](#) (Putnam) Farmer-Lender Mediation Act extension provision
- [S.F. 3791](#) (Pappas) Mortgage sale postponement right clarification provision
- [S.F. 3602](#) (Westlin) Uniform Electronics Estate Planning Documents Act Establishment
- [S.F. 3606](#) (Westlin) Administrative hearings provision modification for human rights cases
- [S.F. 3607](#) (Westlin) Notice requirements provision under the Human Rights Act
- [S.F. 3662](#) (Westlin) Provisions for disparate impact under Human Rights Act changes

Tuesday

House Public Safety Committee

Agenda:

- [H.F. 3405](#) (Moller) Bureau of Criminal Apprehension's Use of Force Investigations Unit required to conduct investigations of incidents involving federal agents.
- [H.F. 3413](#) (Hollins) State, county, and local government units prohibited from entering into certain immigration enforcement agreements; and termination of certain existing immigration enforcement agreements required.
- [H.F. 3769](#) (Curran) Multiple levels of substance abuse care provided by the commissioner of corrections clarified in law, access to mental health unit beds for incarcerated persons expanded, and mandatory tuberculosis screening in correctional facilities clarified.
- [H.F. 3768](#) (Curran) Department of Corrections licensed juvenile and adult community-based residential correctional facilities responsibilities clarified.
- [H.F. 3771](#) (Johnson) Reporting date on the disaster assistance contingency account.
- [H.F. 3465](#) (Liebling) Enhanced penalties for theft from a vulnerable adult established.

Wednesday

Senate Judiciary and Public Safety Committee

Agenda:

- Minnesota Judicial Branch bills pending introduction
 - [MJB-Policy-language.pdf](#)
 - [MJB-Budget-language.pdf](#)
- [S.F. 3804](#) (Rest) Certain property taxes proceedings data protection requirements modifications

House Public Safety Committee

Agenda:

- [H.F. 962](#) (Novotny) Peace officers excluded from discipline for inclusion on Brady-Giglio lists, and report required.
- [H.F. 3541](#) (Duran, Jr.) Division of Capitol Security's responsibilities clarified.
- [H.F. 2936](#) (Duran, Jr.) Commissioner of corrections required to submit certain proposed rules for legislative approval prior to implementation.
- [H.F. 3762](#) (Witte) Chiefs of police and sheriffs authorized to open certain expunged records to determine eligibility to purchase, receive, or carry a firearm.
- [H.F. 2879](#) (Witte) Organized Retail and Supply Chain Crimes Advisory Board established, report required, and money appropriated.