



GOVERNMENT RELATIONS UPDATE

ADVOCATING FOR MINNESOTA'S HOSPITALITY INDUSTRY

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By Hanna Zinn • Apr 04, 2025

Smart Brevity® count: 2 mins...479 words

Welcome back and happy deadline day! In case you missed it, today is the first *and* second deadline of the legislative session. These deadlines narrow the number of bills heard during session and guide legislators to move in a timely fashion. This week I'm breaking down the House budget targets, how they align (or don't) with the Senate and Governor's proposals, and what that means for the rest of session.

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Session Snapshot



The big picture: Over the weekend, the House released the [budget targets](#) for this session laying out the amounts committee chairs will be working toward when drafting budget bills. The Senate's budget targets were [released](#) last week, and the Governor released his [revised targets](#) on March 21.

Why it matters: The House budget targets look very different from the Senate and Governor's recommendations. Due to the tied makeup of the House, more compromises were made to determine these targets.

- For example, the Senate focused on cuts in spending on taxes, transportation, and education. The House targets reflect heavy reductions in human services, health, and workforce development funding.

By the numbers: Here's a quick breakdown of some of the targets.

Target	FY 2026-27	FY 2028-29
Education	\$40,000,000	\$0
Health	(\$50,000,000)	(\$175,000,000)
Human Services	(\$300,000,000)	(\$1,000,000,000)
Public Safety	50,000,000	50,000,000
Workforce, Labor and Economic Development	(\$50,000,000)	(\$50,000,000)

What's next: Committees will release budget omnibus bills in the next week. These will lay out the funding reductions needed to reach these targets.

One more thing: HM's bills on junk fee exemptions have been introduced!

- [HF 2676](#) & [SF 2917](#) – Federal Trade Commission conformity language
- [HF 3039](#) & [SF 3225](#) – Full hospitality industry exemption, based on the California exemption language

Why it matters: The October 2024 FTC [ruling](#) specifically calls out restaurants as exempt from price transparency laws and that restaurants do not participate in deceptive trade practices. Hospitality Minnesota is asking the legislature to conform to this federal ruling and exempt Minnesota's restaurants from the 2024 Price Transparency Law.

- **Yes, and:** Hospitality Minnesota intends to bring forward this legislation as an amendment to the House and Senate Commerce omnibus bills.

We need your help! Please send an example of how service fees are used in your business model to offset labor costs, provide employee benefits, or cover the rising costs of goods and services.

- **Share your perspective:** You can email your examples to Hanna at hanna@hospitalitymn.com. Names of businesses are not required.

Register for Upcoming Events



MAY 13-14, 2025
WASHINGTON, D.C.



Did you know: Registration is still open for the [American Hotel and Lodging Association's Hotels on the Hill](#) (May 13-14).

- **Questions?** Reach out to [Hanna](#) for more information.

Yes, and: Our upcoming [Vendor Expo + Social at the Saint Paul RiverCentre](#) is April 14! This year's event is expected to surpass 400 attendees, and you don't want to miss out on what is set to be an incredible day of industry innovation!

Thank you reading! Check out past [GR Updates](#) here.

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