



Feb. 23, 2026

Governor Tim Walz
Representative Lisa Demuth
Representative Zack Stephenson
Senator Erin Murphy
Senator Mark Johnson

Governor Walz and legislative leadership,

The extent of fraud in Minnesota is unacceptable. The attached Roadmap to Program Integrity and Fraud Prevention provides an actionable framework for reengineering the state's approach to better prevent, detect and respond to fraud in the future.

The review undertaken to identify contributing causes of fraud shows that, going back at least to the 1970s, every administration and legislative body was put on notice of vulnerabilities in program integrity. Stronger preventative measures should have been taken. Repeatedly, plans were put in place but not executed effectively. Criminals have exploited those longstanding vulnerabilities to defraud our state, erode public trust and impede the delivery of essential services to Minnesotans in need.

Problems that are half a century in the making will not be solved easily. The causes are multifaceted, and no single reform will suffice. The recommendations set forth in the Roadmap provide a basis for a workable improvement plan, the success of which will require a coordinated, sustained effort. Achieving such success requires accountability for all. Without strict accountability, well-intended plans will again go unexecuted, and vulnerabilities in program integrity will persist.

Lastly, while the Roadmap is intended to address challenges known to us today, it is intended also to set the stage to meet future challenges. Criminals will adapt to fraud prevention safeguards. The state must maintain constant vigilance by conducting ongoing assessments and executing enhanced fraud prevention measures.

Respectfully submitted,

Tim O'Malley
Director of Program Integrity