



Senior Advocate FYI

March 21, 2017

“Ready, aim, targets!” The Legislature has released its proposed spending plan for the upcoming biennium. The reality of achieving certain targets will be challenging for some committee chairs. The Senate has set its health and human services finance (HHS Finance) target at \$335 million in savings. This may be confusing when looking at their spending plans. For example, in the [Senate](#) the HHS Finance funding appears to be increasing by approximately \$2.2 billion. However, this “spending” figure is the combined forecasted programming costs plus or minus the committee “targets.” The Senate HHS target is \$335 million in savings. That means that if the Senate HHS Finance committee had a \$0 target for spending or saving, the total in the chart would have increased by \$335 million. The House is expecting its HHS Finance committee chair to find \$599 million in savings for the upcoming biennium.

Additionally, President Trump has released his budget blueprint for federal fiscal year 2018. Remember that this is an outline and not yet finalized. However, it does give you a perspective on where the President would like to spend and save taxpayer dollars. Two items are particularly important to understand about the blueprint. First, it does recommend an approximate 17.9% cut from current funding levels to the U.S. Department of Human Services (HHS). However, it does not provide sufficient detail to determine how the proposed cut to the HHS budget would affect Older Americans Act (OAA) funding and services.

Secondly, during the press conference regarding the President’s Budget Blueprint the White House spokesperson made several references to funding for Meals on Wheels being eliminated. The blueprint calls for the elimination of the Community Development Block Grants (CDBG) program. While some states use CDBG funds to support home delivered meals in part, in Minnesota Meals on Wheels organizations primarily rely upon the Older Americans Act Title III-C funding for providing consumers with home delivered meals. Here is a link to a [KARE11](#) story on this situation that aired March 17. It explains this situation very well. As more details emerge, the Minnesota Board on Aging will try to keep you informed as promptly as possible.

The following pages list bills introduced so far this session that impact older adults. MBA staff seek to identify bills of interest to older adults and aging advocates beyond those in the health and human services arena (i.e. transportation, consumer and vulnerable adult protections). You, as subscribers to SA-FYI, can help by calling our attention to bills you are following that you don’t see showing up on this tracker. Send information to Mark Schulz at mark.schulz@state.mn.us.

A subscription to the SA-FYI can be arranged by sending email addresses to Nate Patterson at nathaniel.j.patterson@state.mn.us. You may also contact Nate to be removed from this mailing list. Thank you for your ongoing interest in policy and legislative issues that affect older Minnesotans.

**Senior Advocates FYI is a periodic update from the
Minnesota Board on Aging.**

Senate File (Author)	House File (Author)	Description	Status
None	HF1353 (Schomacker)	Nursing facility technical corrections for cross-references.	2/16/17 – Introduced in House and referred to HSE HHS Reform 3/2/17 – Heard in HSE HHS Reform, amended and referred to HSE HHS Finance 3/6/17 – Heard in HSE HHS Finance and referred to the HSE Floor 3/7/17 – Second reading in HSE
SF65 (Fischbach)	HF136 (Howe)	Zero-based budgeting required for all state budgets.	1/11/17 – Introduced in House and referred to HSE Government Operations & Election Policy 1/11/17 – Introduced in Senate and referred to SEN State Government Finance, Policy & Election 2/16/17 – Heard in SEN State Government, amended and referred to SEN Finance 3/8/17 – Heard in HSE Government Operations & Election Policy and referred to HSE State Government Finance 3/16/17 – Hearing in SEN Finance, amended and laid on the table

<p>SF112 (Housley)</p>	<p>HF345 (Zerwas)</p>	<p>Palliative care advisory committee created.</p>	<p>1/12/17 – Introduced in Senate and referred to SEN Aging & LTC 1/26/17 – Introduced in House and referred to HSE HHS Reform 2/6/17 – Heard in SEN Aging & LTC, amended and referred to SEN State Government Finance & Policy 2/20/17 – Heard in SEN State Government Finance and Policy, amended and referred to SEN HHS Finance 2/23/17 – Heard in HSE HHS Reform and referred to HSE Government Operations & Election Policy 3/1/17 – Heard in HSE Government Operations & Election Policy, amended and referred to HSE HHS Finance 3/7/17 – Heard in SEN HHS Finance and laid over for possible inclusion in omnibus bill 3/9/17 – Heard in HSE HHS Finance and laid over for possible inclusion in omnibus bill</p>
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<p>SF120 (Nelson)</p>	<p>HF262 (Kiel)</p>	<p>Alzheimer’s disease working group reestablishment. Proposes to reconvene the ADWG for a legislative report update by January 15, 2018. Also requires the MBA to perform this process every 4 years thereafter.</p>	<p>1/12/17 – Introduced in Senate and referred to SEN Aging & LTC 1/17/17 – Introduced in House and referred to HSE HHS Reform 2/8/17 – Heard in HSE Aging & LTC, amended and referred to HSE HHS Reform 2/15/17 – Heard in SEN Aging & LTC, amended and referred to SEN State Government Finance and Policy 2/23/17 – Heard in HSE HHS Reform, amended and referred to HSE Government Operations & Election Policy 3/6/17 – Heard in HSE Government Operations & Election Policy, amended and referred to HSE HHS Finance 3/7/17 – Heard in SEN State Government Finance & Policy, amended and referred to SEN HHS Finance 3/9/17 – Heard in HSE HHS Finance, amended and laid over for possible inclusion in omnibus bill</p>
<p>SF216 (Lourey)</p>	<p>HF629 (Rarick)</p>	<p>Medical Assistance claims against estates modified.</p>	<p>1/19/17 – Introduced in Senate and referred to SEN HHS Finance 1/30/17 – Introduced in House and referred to HSE HHS Reform 2/23/17 – Heard in HSE HHS Reform, amended and referred to HSE HHS Finance 3/2/17 – Heard in HSE HHS Finance and referred to HSE Floor 3/6/17 – Second reading in HSE 3/7/17 – Heard in SEN HHS Finance, amended and referred to SEN Floor 3/8/17 – Second reading in SEN</p>

<p>SF250 (Utke)</p>	<p>HF225 (Zerwas)</p>	<p>Medical assistance asset and spenddown limits increased from \$3k to 10k and \$6k to \$18k. Excess income standard increased to from 80% 100% federal poverty guideline.</p>	<p>1/12/17 – Introduced in House and referred to HSE HHS Reform 1/23/17 – Introduced in Senate and referred to SEN HHS Reform 2/2/17 – Heard in HSE HHS Reform, amended, and referred to HSE HHS Finance 2/13/17 – Heard in SEN HHS Finance, amended and laid over for possible inclusion in omnibus bill</p>
<p>SF359 (Utke)</p>	<p>HF696 (Baker)</p>	<p>Home and community-based services setting and licensing requirements.</p>	<p>1/26/17 – Introduced in Senate and referred to SEN HHS Reform 2/1/17 – Introduced in House and referred to HSE HHS Reform 2/15/17 – Heard in HSE HHS Reform, amended and referred to HSE HHS Finance 2/22/17 – Heard in SEN HHS Reform and referred to SEN Judiciary and Public Safety 2/23/17 – Heard in HSE HHS Finance, amended and referred to HSE Civil Law and Data Practices 3/8/17 – Heard in SEN Judiciary and Public Safety, amended and referred to SEN Floor 3/8/17 – Second reading in SEN 3/13/17 – Heard in HSE Civil Law & Data Practices, amended and referred to HSE Floor 3/13/17 – Second reading in HSE</p>

<p>SF668 (Housley)</p>	<p>HF823 (Schomacker)</p>	<p>Elderly waiver program reform bill.</p>	<p>2/6/17 – Introduced in Senate and referred to SEN Aging & LTC 2/6/17 – Introduced in House and referred to HSE HHS Reform 2/22/17 – Heard in SEN Aging & LTC, amended and referred to SEN HHS Finance 3/2/17 – Heard in HSE HHS Reform, amended and referred to HSE HHS Finance 3/13/17 – Heard in SEN HHS Finance, amended and laid over for possible inclusion in omnibus bill</p>
<p>SF669 (Dahms)</p>	<p>HF873 (Hamilton)</p>	<p>ICF/DD and HCBS 4% provider rate increase.</p>	<p>2/6/17 – Introduced in Senate and referred to SEN HHS Reform 2/6/17 – Introduced in House and referred to HSE HHS Reform 2/13/17 – Heard in SEN HHS Finance, amended and laid over for possible inclusion in omnibus bill 2/15/17 – Heard in HSE HHS Reform, amended and referred to HSE HHS Finance</p>
<p>SF781 (Lourey)</p>	<p>HF887 (Murphy, E.)</p>	<p>Health and Human Services budget bill.</p>	<p>2/6/17 – Introduced in House and referred to HSE HHS Finance 2/9/17 – Introduced in Senate and referred to SEN HHS Finance 3/7/17 – Heard in SEN HHS Finance and laid over for possible inclusion in omnibus bill</p>
<p>SF800 (Nelson)</p>	<p>HF945 (Dean, M.)</p>	<p>Nursing facility and customized living cross-reference corrections</p>	<p>2/9/17 – Introduced in Senate and referred to SEN HHS Finance 2/9/17 – Introduced in House and referred to HSE HHS Reform 3/2/17 – Heard in HSE HHS Reform and referred to HSE HHS Finance</p>

<p>SF818 (Housley)</p>	<p>HF952 (Kiel)</p>	<p>Assisted living establishment hearing loss training requirements.</p>	<p>2/9/17 – Introduced in Senate and referred to SEN Aging & LTC 2/9/17 – Introduced in House and referred to HSE HHS Reform 3/2/17 – Heard in HSE HHS Reform, amended and referred to HSE HHS Finance 3/8/17 – Heard in SEN Aging & LTC, amended and referred to SEN Floor 3/8/17 – Second reading in SEN 3/8/17 – Heard in HSE HHS Finance and referred to HSE Floor 3/9/17 – Second reading in HSE</p>
<p>SF819 (Housley)</p>	<p>HF804 (Kiel)</p>	<p>HWS establishments added to list of eligible HCBS scholarship organizations.</p>	<p>2/6/17 – Introduced in House and referred to HSE HHS Reform 2/9/17 – Introduced in Senate and referred to SEN HHS Finance 3/2/17 – Heard in HSE HHS Reform, amended and referred to HSE HHS Finance 3/16/17 – Heard in SEN HHS Finance, amended and laid over for possible inclusion in omnibus bill</p>
<p>SF852 (Lourey)</p>	<p>HF865 (McDonald)</p>	<p>Housing support service created for Medical Assistance.</p>	<p>2/6/17 – Introduced in House and referred to HSE HHS Reform 2/13/17 – Introduced in Senate and referred to SEN HHS Reform 2/20/17 – Heard in HSE HHS Reform, amended and referred to HSE HHS Finance 2/20/17 – Heard in SEN HHS Reform, amended and laid over for possible inclusion in omnibus bill 3/2/17 – Heard in HSE HHS Finance, amended and laid over for possible inclusion in omnibus bill</p>

<p>SF897 (Eken)</p>	<p>HF941 (Poppe)</p>	<p>Minnesota Board on Aging caregiver support programs and service provision modified and appropriations granted.</p>	<p>2/9/17 – Introduced in House and referred to HSE HHS Reform 2/13/17 – Introduced in Senate and referred to SEN Aging & LTC 3/2/17 – Heard in SEN Aging & LTC, amended and referred to SEN HHS Reform 3/2/17 – Heard in HSE HHS Reform and referred to HSE HHS Finance 3/7/17 – Heard in HSE HHS Finance amended and laid over for possible inclusion in omnibus bill 3/13/17 – Heard in SEN HHS Reform and laid over for possible inclusion in omnibus bill</p>
<p>SF898 (Eken)</p>	<p>HF942 (Poppe)</p>	<p>Essential community supports budgets modified.</p>	<p>2/9/17 – Introduced in House and referred to HSE HHS Reform 2/13/17 – Introduced in Senate and referred to SEN Aging & LTC 3/2/17 – Heard in SEN Aging & LTC, amended and referred to SEN HHS Reform 3/2/17 – Heard in HSE HHS Reform and referred to HSE HHS Finance 3/7/17 – Heard in HSE HHS Finance amended and laid over for possible inclusion in omnibus bill 3/13/17 – Heard in SEN HHS Reform and laid over for possible inclusion in omnibus bill</p>

<p>SF1291 (Utke)</p>	<p>HF1245 (Schomacker)</p>	<p>Health and Human Services policy bill.</p>	<p>2/15/17 – Introduced in House and referred to HSE HHS Reform 2/22/17 – Introduced in Senate and referred to SEN HHS Reform 3/2/17 – Heard in SEN HHS Reform, amended and referred to SEN HHS Finance 3/13/17 – Heard in SEN HHS Finance, amended and referred to SEN Floor 3/13/17 – Second reading in SEN 3/16/17 – Heard in HSE HHS Reform, amended, and referred to HSE Floor</p>
<p>SF1298 (Abeler)</p>	<p>None</p>	<p>Housing with service establishment requirement to not force residents to change units.</p>	<p>2/22/17 – Introduced in Senate and referred to SEN HHS Reform 3/6/17 – Heard in SEN HHS Reform, amended and laid over for possible inclusion in omnibus bill</p>