

**Paul Novotny**  
**State Representative**

District 30B



# Minnesota House of Representatives

December 9, 2024

Commissioner Bob Jacobson  
Department of Public Safety  
445 Minnesota Street, Suite 180  
St. Paul, MN 55101

via electronic delivery

Dear Commissioner Jacobson,

As part of the budget process for the upcoming budget session, I am writing to seek information about agency expenditures. Given the projected \$5.1 billion deficit for 2028-2029, it's imperative that work begin now to rein in spending and find savings to reduce or close entirely that budget gap and ensure that we are spending Minnesotans' hard-earned tax dollars responsibly.

On or before Monday, January 6, I am requesting the following information:

1. The current work from home or remote work policy (or policies if it varies) for agency staff.
2. Approximately how many employees, if any, are working remotely from out-of-state.
3. An approximate percentage or number of employees who are fully remote and do not have any required or designated in-office days.
4. In your agency's largest office space, please provide an estimated percentage or number of employees in the office five days per week.
5. Titles and salaries for any FTE position related to diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI). Note: This request does not seek any identifying information about specific employees; I am simply looking for a count and salaries for any/all job titles with those key words included.
6. Total number of FTE positions that have been unfilled for six months or longer.
7. Total number of FTE positions newly authorized during the 2023-2024 biennium that have been unfilled for any period of time.

Considering the looming \$5.1 billion deficit, I am also requesting that you immediately begin reviewing potential areas for cost savings, efficiencies, or reductions. It is my expectation that the administration will be a partner in working to begin closing that deficit.

You may provide responses to these requests in portions as they become available or all at once, but I expect a response no later than Monday, January 6. Please follow-up with my office if you need additional clarity to assist with fulfillment of these requests.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Paul Novotny". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Rep. Paul Novotny  
Republican Co-Chair, House Public Safety Committee  
District 30B