

**State of Minnesota**  
**Legislative Audit Commission**  
**Possible Evaluation Topics for 2024**

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## CORRECTIONS, PUBLIC SAFETY, AND JUDICIARY

<p><b>1. 911 Fees</b> <i>Requested by several legislators</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How well has the Department of Public Safety (DPS) managed funds collected through the statewide 911 fee?</li> <li>• To what extent is the process for allocating 911 fee funding transparent?</li> <li>• Under what circumstances can local municipalities charge 911 fees in addition to the statewide fee? What regulations, if any, exist for the use of those fees?</li> </ul>
<p><b>2. Department of Corrections (DOC) Complaint and Investigation Process</b> <i>Requested by anonymous; related to a 2020 OLA program evaluation</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To what extent does DOC adequately investigate complaints and allegations from DOC staff and inmates about the management of DOC facilities?</li> <li>• To what extent do DOC's Office of Professional Accountability and Office of Special Investigations fulfill their policy mandates? To what extent do they follow appropriate policies and procedures?</li> </ul>
<p><b>3. Driver and Vehicle Services (DVS): Oversight of Motor Vehicle Dealers</b> <i>Requested by anonymous</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To what extent has DVS complied with state laws pertaining to licensing motor vehicle dealers in Minnesota?</li> <li>• How well does DVS monitor motor vehicle dealers' compliance with state law, including those related to the sale of new and used motor vehicles?</li> </ul>
<p><b>4. Driver and Vehicle Services (DVS): Salvage Title Inspections</b> <i>Requested by a legislator</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To what extent does DVS follow state requirements when conducting salvage title inspections?</li> <li>• How well has DVS managed the process for clearing salvage vehicle status?</li> <li>• How can DVS ensure that inspections occur in a timely way?</li> </ul>
<p><b>5. Emergency Dispatchers</b> <i>Requested by a citizen</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To what extent does Minnesota have an unmet need for emergency dispatchers? What efforts, if any, has the state taken to meet any unmet needs? What barriers exist, if any?</li> <li>• What training or skills are required for emergency dispatchers? To what extent does Minnesota provide appropriate training options?</li> </ul>
<p><b>6. Emergency Transportation Services</b> <i>Requested by two legislators; related to a 2022 OLA program evaluation</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How do the number of emergency rides provided by ambulances compare to the number of nonemergency rides across the state? To what extent do these numbers differ across regions?</li> </ul>
<p><b>7. Guardian ad Litem Board</b> <i>Requested by a legislator and a citizen; related to an OLA special review completed in 2023 and a program evaluation completed in 2018</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Does the Guardian ad Litem Board have and follow an appropriate policy for responding to requests from the public? How sufficient is the information the board provides on its website?</li> <li>• To what extent has the board implemented recommendations from OLA's previous program evaluation?</li> </ul>

## Possible Evaluation Topics for 2024 (continued)

<b>8. Guardianship of Adults</b> <i>Requested by Senator Dibble, another legislator, and a citizen</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• To what extent do appropriate minimum qualifications, screening procedures, resources, communicated standards of care, and training requirements exist for guardians?</li><li>• To what extent are the procedures for processing and responding to complaints about guardians transparent, comprehensive, and consistently applied?</li><li>• To what extent are guardian activities subject to effective and appropriate oversight on behalf of the adult under guardianship?</li></ul>
<b>9. Minnesota Board of Public Defense</b> <i>Requested by a citizen; related to a 2010 OLA program evaluation</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• To what extent is the Board of Public Defense appropriately funded so that public defenders can provide adequate representation on their cases? What are current average caseloads and how do they compare to national standards?</li><li>• To what extent has the board met its goals?</li><li>• To what extent have board members provided effective leadership and carried out their responsibilities?</li></ul>
<b>10. Minnesota Crime Victims Reparations Board (MCVRB)</b> <i>Requested by anonymous</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• To what extent does MCVRB distribute reparations to eligible victims in compliance with law?</li><li>• To what extent does MCVRB document its decision making and explain its decision making to victims seeking reparations?</li><li>• To what extent does MCVRB process reparations in a timely manner and provide assistance to eligible victims during the application process?</li></ul>
<b>11. Office of Lawyers Professional Responsibility</b> <i>Requested by a citizen</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• To what extent has the Office of Lawyers Professional Responsibility responded appropriately and in a timely manner to public complaints about attorneys?</li></ul>

## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, ENERGY, AND COMMERCE

<b>12. Department of Commerce Unclaimed Property Fund</b> <i>Requested by a citizen</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• How well has Commerce managed this fund?</li><li>• To what extent has Commerce notified the public of unclaimed property?</li><li>• How has the value of this fund changed over time? How much of the fund has the state spent and for what purposes?</li></ul>
<b>13. Department of Employment and Economic Development (DEED) Grants Management</b> <i>Requested by anonymous; related to 2018 and 2023 OLA program evaluations</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• How well has DEED managed state-funded grants?</li><li>• To what extent has DEED complied with requirements related to state-funded grants?</li><li>• To what extent has DEED documented that grant-funded services have been provided?</li></ul>

**Possible Evaluation Topics for 2024 (continued)**

<p><b>14. Economic Concentration in Minnesota</b> <i>Requested by a legislator</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To what extent has economic concentration in Minnesota changed in recent decades, and how has this impacted workers, small businesses, farms, government, and consumers?</li> <li>• To what extent does state government rely on services and vendors provided by corporations and private vendors, and how has that changed over time?</li> <li>• What laws and regulations exist to encourage competition and prevent anticompetitive practices that impact government program services and costs? Are they sufficient, and how could they be strengthened to protect the public interest?</li> </ul>
<p><b>15. Impact of Economic Concentration on Small Businesses</b> <i>Requested by a citizen</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What impact has consolidation of banking services had on the availability of loans for small businesses and entrepreneurs?</li> <li>• To what extent has the number of independent small businesses such as grocers, physicians, pharmacies, and hardware stores decreased in Minnesota?</li> <li>• What share of spending on economic development programs has gone to small firms?</li> <li>• What impact, if any, does a decrease in small businesses have on local economies?</li> <li>• To what extent are Minnesota’s antitrust and trade practices laws an effective deterrent to economic consolidation, and to what degree has state government enforced those laws?</li> </ul>
<p><b>16. Iron Range Resources and Rehabilitation Board (IRRRB)</b> <i>Requested by several legislators; related to a 2022 OLA performance audit and a 2016 OLA program evaluation</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What restrictions does state law put on eligibility for IRRRB loans or grants, and how well has IRRRB ensured compliance with these requirements?</li> <li>• To what extent has IRRRB awarded loans or grants to companies that are not based in Minnesota?</li> </ul>
<p><b>17. Renewable Energy Development Fund</b> <i>Requested by legislative staff; related to a 2010 OLA program evaluation</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Overall, how well has the fund been managed?</li> <li>• To what extent is the process for funding projects clear and effective?</li> <li>• To what extent have funded projects achieved their goals?</li> <li>• What benefits, if any, has the fund provided Minnesota?</li> </ul>
<p><b>18. State Oversight of Long-Term Care Insurance</b> <i>Requested by a citizen</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Does Minnesota have adequate laws in place to protect against unreasonable increases in rates for long-term care insurance?</li> <li>• To what extent has the Department of Commerce provided sufficient oversight of the rates providers are charging?</li> </ul>

## Possible Evaluation Topics for 2024 (continued)

### EDUCATION

<b>19. Charter School Capital Investments</b> <i>Requested by a citizen</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• To what extent do charter schools make capital investments, and what funding sources do they use for such investments?</li><li>• How do charter school capital investments compare to those made by other public schools?</li><li>• How has the financial capacity of charter schools changed since OLA's 2003 evaluation?</li></ul>
<b>20. Charter School Facilities</b> <i>Requested by anonymous</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• To what extent does the state ensure that charter schools have appropriate facilities for students?</li><li>• How well does the state oversee capital investments in charter school facilities?</li></ul>
<b>21. Charter School Performance</b> <i>Requested by a citizen; related to a 2008 OLA program evaluation</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• How well have charter school students in Minnesota performed on standardized tests when compared to students enrolled in schools in independent school districts?</li><li>• To what extent do charter schools that perform the best share identifiable characteristics?</li></ul>
<b>22. Cost of 2023 Education Mandates</b> <i>Requested by a legislator</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• What is the cost of education mandates passed by the 2023 Legislature on school districts?</li><li>• To what extent do these mandates have an impact on school districts' expenses and budgets?</li></ul>
<b>23. Minnesota Department of Education (MDE) Grants Allocations</b> <i>Requested by anonymous</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• To what extent has MDE awarded grants to districts across the state in proportion to the number of students in each district?</li></ul>
<b>24. Minnesota State Academies for the Deaf and the Blind</b> <i>Requested by a citizen; related to an upcoming OLA performance audit</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• To what extent have the Minnesota State Academies for the Deaf and the Blind been properly governed and managed, and has leadership provided sufficient oversight?<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ What have been the recent enrollment trends at the Academies?</li><li>○ What are the reasons for any recent changes in enrollment?</li><li>○ To what extent have the Academies experienced staff turnover?</li><li>○ What have been the reasons for any staff turnover?</li></ul></li><li>• To what extent has the Academies Board complied with open meeting requirements?<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ To what extent has it provided transparent information about activities and given the community opportunities to provide input?</li></ul></li><li>• How well has the Academies Board monitored spending?</li></ul>

**Possible Evaluation Topics for 2024 (continued)**

<p><b>25. Minnesota State Colleges and Universities Administrative Costs</b> <i>Requested by anonymous</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How does any change in administrative costs at Minnesota State compare to changes in the cost of tuition or to changes in the number of faculty?</li> </ul>
<p><b>26. Minnesota State Colleges and Universities Faculty Pay</b> <i>Requested by several legislators and citizens</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What policies and procedures does Minnesota State have in place to ensure the timely approval of courses and corresponding faculty assignments and payroll? To what extent has it adhered to these policies and procedures?</li> <li>• To what extent has Minnesota State taken appropriate steps to ensure accuracy in its payroll system?</li> </ul>
<p><b>27. School Superintendent Salaries</b> <i>Requested by a legislator</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To what extent are school superintendent salaries subject to state regulation?</li> </ul>
<p><b>28. State Education Spending</b> <i>Requested by a legislator</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How does the state’s spending on K-12 education compare with spending on the Minnesota Department of Education and other education entities’ activities?</li> </ul>
<p><b>29. University of Minnesota Administrative Costs</b> <i>Requested by a legislator and a citizen</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How transparent are the University of Minnesota’s administrative cost calculations?</li> <li>• What processes, if any, has the University put in place to oversee administrative costs and ensure they are appropriate?</li> <li>• How have administrative costs changed in recent years? To the extent that there have been changes, what are the reasons for those changes?</li> <li>• How do reported costs compare across different types of public reports?</li> </ul>

**ENVIRONMENT, NATURAL RESOURCES, AND AGRICULTURE**

<p><b>30. Aggregate Mining Operations</b> <i>Requested by a citizen; selected for evaluation by LAC in 2023</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What is the process for establishing aggregate mining sites, and which agencies are involved in this process?</li> <li>• Which agencies oversee established aggregate mining sites, and what are their responsibilities?</li> <li>• To what extent have aggregate mining sites complied with applicable regulations and standards?</li> </ul>
<p><b>31. Clean Water Council</b> <i>Requested by a legislator; related to a 2017 OLA program evaluation</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To what extent is the mandated composition of the Council effective and appropriate to accomplish the Council’s duties?</li> <li>• How effective and transparent is the Council’s process for recommending projects to fund?</li> </ul>
<p><b>32. Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Drought Management Plan</b> <i>Requested by a citizen</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How well has DNR planned for and responded to drought-related emergencies in Minnesota?</li> </ul>

## Possible Evaluation Topics for 2024 (continued)

<p><b>33. Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Land Acquisition</b></p> <p><i>Requested by two legislators</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To what extent has DNR followed legal requirements and applicable procedures when acquiring land? To what extent has DNR conducted proper appraisals for land?</li> <li>To what extent has DNR accurately reported on state-owned lands under its jurisdiction?</li> <li>How well has DNR managed state-owned lands?</li> </ul>
<p><b>34. Drinking Water Quality</b></p> <p><i>Requested by Representatives Hansen and Edelson and a citizen</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To what extent have state agencies established appropriate standards for drinking water quality? How well have agencies monitored drinking water quality?</li> <li>To what extent have agencies taken appropriate action when drinking water does not meet standards for safe consumption?</li> </ul>
<p><b>35. Environmental and Natural Resources Trust Fund (ENRTF)</b></p> <p><i>Requested by a legislator</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To what extent have ENRTF funds been used properly?</li> <li>To what extent have reporting requirements related to ENRTF been met?</li> <li>Are lottery funds still needed to support the fund?</li> </ul>
<p><b>36. Hunting and Fishing Impact on Land and Water</b></p> <p><i>Requested by a legislator</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To what extent has Minnesota measured the economic, health, and environmental impacts of lead deposited in land and water from hunting and fishing?</li> <li>To what extent has Minnesota mitigated any impact of lead deposits and disposal efforts?</li> <li>How would the costs of requiring the use of nonlead ammunition and tackle compare to the costs of mitigation efforts?</li> </ul>
<p><b>37. Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA) Water Quality Certification Program (WQCP)</b></p> <p><i>Requested by a legislator</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>How well has MDA managed WQCP? How long does certification take?</li> <li>To what extent has MDA measured water quality improvements as a result of the program? To what extent has water quality improved?</li> <li>To what extent has MDA established and achieved sustainability and environmental outcomes for WQCP?</li> </ul>
<p><b>38. Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) Aquatic Life Water Quality Standards</b></p> <p><i>Requested by two legislators and a citizen</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>What actions has the MPCA taken to develop and enforce water quality standards for aquatic life, and have they been effective at reducing nitrates and other water pollutants?</li> <li>How does Minnesota’s approach to establishing and enforcing water quality standards for aquatic life compare to other states’ approaches?</li> </ul>
<p><b>39. Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) Citizen Support</b></p> <p><i>Requested by two legislators</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>How responsive has MPCA been to citizen complaints?</li> <li>To what extent has MPCA used settlement funds to support communities affected by related violations?</li> <li>How effectively has MPCA protected low-income communities?</li> </ul>

**Possible Evaluation Topics for 2024 (continued)**

<p><b>40. Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) Permitting</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How transparent is MPCA’s permitting process?</li> <li>• To what extent do different industries encounter greater or fewer difficulties with the permitting process?</li> <li>• To what extent does MPCA enforce actions for noncompliance in a uniform manner?</li> <li>• How accessible is MPCA’s process for appeals or reconsiderations?</li> </ul>
<p><i>Requested by anonymous</i></p>	

**GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS**

<p><b>41. Data Practices Requests</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How long has it taken for state agencies to respond to data practices requests? To what extent has this timeframe complied with applicable requirements?</li> </ul>
<p><i>Requested by anonymous</i></p>	
<p><b>42. Department of Administration (Admin) Management of Medal of Honor Memorial Funding</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To what extent did the Medal of Honor Memorial meet the specifications laid out by the Memorial Board and contracts?</li> <li>• How well did Admin manage the contracts for the memorial’s completion?</li> </ul>
<p><i>Requested by a citizen</i></p>	
<p><b>43. Department of Administration Parking Services</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How well do parking facilities meet the demand for parking on the Capitol Complex?</li> <li>• To what extent have parking facilities on the Capitol Complex experienced security concerns?</li> <li>• How do property tax revenues from these facilities compare to revenues from surrounding properties?</li> </ul>
<p><i>Requested by legislative staff</i></p>	
<p><b>44. Fraud Controls for Grant Recipients</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To what extent do state agencies communicate with each other about grant-seeking entities that have been identified as possibly engaging in fraudulent activity?</li> <li>• How can communication about fraudulent grants activities be improved across state agencies?</li> </ul>
<p><i>Requested by a legislator; related to a 2023 OLA program evaluation</i></p>	
<p><b>45. Local Impact Notes</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To what extent could data already collected by the state be leveraged for use in the preparation of local impact notes?</li> <li>• To what extent could the use of state-collected data improve the timeliness of local impact notes?</li> </ul>
<p><i>Requested by two legislators</i></p>	
<p><b>46. MNIT Chargeback</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To what extent has MNIT complied with requirements related to chargeback fees levied to state agencies?</li> <li>• How much has it collected in chargeback fees in recent years, for which services, and from which agencies?</li> </ul>
<p><i>Requested by anonymous; related to a 2016 OLA financial audit</i></p>	
<p><b>47. Office of Administrative Hearings</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To what extent has the Office of Administrative Hearings managed the cases that come before it efficiently and consistently?</li> </ul>
<p><i>Requested by a citizen</i></p>	
<p><b>48. State Owned and Rented Office Space</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To what extent is the office space currently owned and rented by the state currently in use?</li> </ul>
<p><i>Requested by a legislator</i></p>	

## Possible Evaluation Topics for 2024 (continued)

### HEALTH

<p><b>49. Board of Medical Practice</b> <i>Requested by a citizen</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• To what extent has the Board of Medical Practice replied in a timely manner to questions and complaints?</li><li>• To what extent has the board processed complaints effectively, efficiently, and consistently?</li><li>• How well has the board been managed?</li></ul>
<p><b>50. Board of Nursing</b> <i>Requested by citizens and a legislator; related OLA program evaluation released in 2015</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• To what extent has the board implemented necessary changes in response to OLA’s 2015 evaluation?</li><li>• How effectively has the board processed complaints?</li><li>• To what extent has the board’s composition followed requirements?</li><li>• How comprehensive is the board’s process for determining whether to revoke licenses?</li></ul>
<p><b>51. Community Benefit Expenditures at Nonprofit Hospitals</b> <i>Requested by several legislators and the Minnesota Nurses Association</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• What tax exemptions exist for nonprofit hospitals in Minnesota? How much do these exemptions cost the state?</li><li>• How does the amount of community benefit spending compare to the tax exemptions given to tax-exempt hospitals?</li><li>• To what extent are community benefit expenditures reflective of actual costs accrued by reporting organizations?</li><li>• To what extent is there an association between reported community benefit expenditures and health outcomes?</li><li>• What percentage of community benefit spending is dedicated to charity care?</li><li>• What changes could be made to community benefit and other tax-exempt reporting to better address community health needs?</li></ul>
<p><b>52. Health Professionals Services Program</b> <i>Requested by a citizen</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• To what extent has the program fulfilled its statutory duties to protect the public from regulated medical personnel whose illness may affect their ability to practice safely?</li><li>• How well has the oversight committee managed the program? To what extent has it been accountable to medical professionals and the general public for its work?</li><li>• To what extent has the program used evidence-based practices to provide care?</li></ul>
<p><b>53. Hospital Discharge</b> <i>Requested by several legislators</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• To what extent do hospitals face barriers when attempting to discharge patients to intensive residential treatment services (IRTS, also referred to as “step-down facilities”)?</li></ul>
<p><b>54. Mental Health Licensing Boards</b> <i>Requested by a citizen</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• To what extent are requirements for mental health professionals appropriate?</li><li>• How do licensing board requirements affect the supply of mental health professionals in Minnesota?</li><li>• To what extent do requirements improve or restrict Minnesotans’ access to needed care?</li></ul>

**Possible Evaluation Topics for 2024 (continued)**

<p><b>55. Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) Background Studies</b> <i>Requested by legislative staff</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How sustainable is MDH’s method for funding background studies?</li> <li>• To what extent does this method meet state requirements?</li> </ul>
<p><b>56. Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) Grants Management</b> <i>Requested by anonymous</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How well has MDH managed state-funded grants?</li> <li>• To what extent has MDH complied with requirements related to state-funded grants?</li> <li>• To what extent has MDH documented that grant-funded services have been provided?</li> </ul>
<p><b>57. Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) Health Care Facilities Licensing Program</b> <i>Requested by legislative staff</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To what extent has MDH’s Health Regulation Division inspected or otherwise examined state-regulated or federally regulated health care facilities on a regular basis?</li> <li>• To what extent has this division provided appropriate training and guidance to its employees?</li> <li>• To what extent is the division properly staffed?</li> </ul>
<p><b>58. Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) Human Resources</b> <i>Requested by a legislator</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To what extent are MDH processes for investigating and addressing personnel issues fair and comprehensive?</li> <li>• How well does MDH Human Resources protect employees from retaliation for submitting human resources-related complaints and notifying supervisors of noncompliance with MDH policy and state law?</li> </ul>
<p><b>59. Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) Nursing Home Surveys</b> <i>Requested by legislative staff; related OLA program evaluation completed in 2005</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How does MDH manage onsite inspections of nursing homes?</li> <li>• To what extent has MDH penalized nursing homes in recent years based on results from onsite nursing home inspections?</li> <li>• Are nursing home fines fair, and to what extent has the Legislature regulated them?</li> </ul>

**HUMAN SERVICES**

<p><b>60. Childcare Provider Regulations</b> <i>Requested by a legislator</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How do Minnesota’s regulations for childcare providers compare to those of neighboring states?</li> </ul>
<p><b>61. Foster Care</b> <i>Requested by a citizen</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How do child protection agencies evaluate the quality of foster care placements? To what extent do they provide oversight of placements?</li> <li>• What steps do agencies take to ensure that children in foster care settings are not abused or victimized, and how effective are these steps?</li> </ul>

## Possible Evaluation Topics for 2024 (continued)

<p><b>62. In-Home Daycare</b> <i>Requested by anonymous</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To what extent are there differences in the requirements or oversight of in-home and commercial daycare facilities?</li> <li>• How well has the Department of Human Services (DHS) educated in-home daycare providers on changes to requirements?</li> <li>• To what extent has DHS collaborated with local entities to enhance in-home daycare services?</li> <li>• What data does DHS track on safety incidents at in-home daycares? To what extent has DHS identified patterns in safety incident data?</li> </ul>
<p><b>63. Management of the Department of Human Services (DHS) Behavioral Health Division (BHD)</b> <i>Requested by a legislator and citizens</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To what extent does BHD have appropriate policies in place to ensure qualified staff perform their duties correctly and with integrity? How well has BHD followed these policies?</li> <li>• To what extent has BHD management supported a healthy workplace for its employees?</li> <li>• How effectively has DHS addressed any allegations of mismanagement within BHD?</li> </ul>
<p><b>64. Minnesota Board of Social Work</b> <i>Requested by anonymous</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To what extent does the board’s licensing process (initial and renewal) ensure that Minnesota social workers meet social work standards of practice as defined in relevant sections of Minnesota law?</li> <li>• To what extent does the board’s investigation process efficiently and equitably resolve complaints about applicants for licensure, individuals licensed by the board, and individuals practicing social work without a license?</li> <li>• To what extent are the board’s disciplinary and voluntary corrective actions equitable, proportional to the severity of violations, and/or sufficient to encourage compliance with the law?</li> </ul>
<p><b>65. MinnesotaCare Enrollment</b> <i>Requested by anonymous; related to 2021 and 2018 OLA financial audits</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To what extent has there been fraud in MinnesotaCare enrollment?</li> </ul>
<p><b>66. Minnesota Department of Human Services (DHS) Effects of Telecommute Policies</b> <i>Requested by a legislator</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To what extent is DHS currently using office space in the Anderson Building? What percentage of DHS staff primarily telecommute?</li> <li>• What effect, if any, has DHS’s telecommute policy had on the agency’s effectiveness and efficiency?</li> </ul>
<p><b>67. Minnesota Department of Human Services (DHS) Human Resources</b> <i>Requested by anonymous</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To what extent does DHS Human Resources effectively implement Minnesota Management and Budget’s Respectful Workplace, Harassment and Discrimination, and/or Code of Ethical Conduct policies?</li> <li>• How well does DHS Human Resources protect employees from retaliation for submitting human resources-related complaints and notifying supervisors of noncompliance with DHS policy and state law?</li> </ul>

**Possible Evaluation Topics for 2024 (continued)**

<p><b>68. Minnesota Department of Human Services (DHS) Licensed Facilities</b> <i>Requested by a citizen</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What data does DHS collect and maintain on vulnerable adults residing in licensed facilities and for what purposes? To what extent does DHS use this data to improve services and program integrity?</li> <li>• How well do DHS internal controls and procedures deter, detect, and halt fraud in licensed facilities?</li> </ul>
<p><b>69. Minnesota Department of Human Services (DHS) Medical Assistance Eligibility: Adults Without Children</b> <i>Requested by Senator Drazkowski and another legislator; related to a 2018 OLA financial audit</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To what extent have individuals who were ineligible for Medical Assistance received benefits through the program?</li> <li>• How well has DHS overseen eligibility determinations and payments for the Medical Assistance program?</li> </ul>
<p><b>70. Minnesota Office of Ombudsperson for Families</b> <i>Requested by two legislators</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How effectively has the office fulfilled its statutory duties?</li> <li>• How well has the office handled complaints about child protection services, county social service agencies, and the Department of Human Services?</li> <li>• To what extent does the office address equity in its handling of cases?</li> </ul>
<p><b>71. Minnesota Sex Offender Program</b> <i>Requested by a citizen; related to a 2011 OLA program evaluation</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To what extent has the program evaluated the effectiveness of the rehabilitation and treatment clients receive?</li> <li>• How well do program staff document clients' rehabilitation and treatment? To what extent does the program assess the accuracy of this documentation?</li> <li>• How comprehensive is the department's process for addressing allegations made by clients regarding employee misconduct and discrimination?</li> </ul>
<p><b>72. Oversight of Child Protective Services</b> <i>Requested by anonymous; related to a 2022 OLA program evaluation</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To what extent does the state oversee child protection services?</li> <li>• How effective is the state in preventing maltreatment within the child protection system?</li> </ul>
<p><b>73. Oversight of Early Intensive Developmental and Behavioral Intervention (EIDBI) Program</b> <i>Requested by a citizen and a legislator</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To what extent has DHS provided effective oversight of EIDBI?</li> <li>• How well has DHS monitored spending for the program?</li> <li>• To what extent has DHS ensured that EIDBI service providers comply with program standards?</li> </ul>

**Possible Evaluation Topics for 2024 (continued)**

<p><b>74. Prior-Authorization Denials in Medicaid</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What are the requirements for prior authorization in Minnesota’s Medicaid program, and what are the rates of denial at each managed care organization?</li> <li>• How effectively has the Department of Human Services (DHS) overseen the prior-authorization process? To what extent has DHS addressed inappropriate prior-authorization denials?</li> <li>• How clear is the appeal process for prior-authorization denials?</li> </ul>
<p><b>75. Recovery Community Organizations (RCOs)</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What requirements exist to ensure RCOs provide quality services? To what extent have RCOs complied with these requirements?</li> <li>• To what extent has the Department of Human Services provided appropriate and effective oversight of RCOs?</li> </ul>
<p><b>76. Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How well has the Department of Human Services (DHS) engaged with the community intended to be served by this program?</li> <li>• To what extent has DHS incorporated the community’s feedback in its service delivery?</li> <li>• To what extent have services met the needs of the community?</li> </ul>
<p><b>77. Substance Use Disorder Treatment</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How well does Minnesota’s supply of substance use disorder treatment providers meet demand for those services?</li> <li>• To what extent does the Department of Human Services monitor the supply of substance use disorder treatment providers?</li> </ul>

**TRANSPORTATION**

<p><b>78. Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) Policies on Encampments</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To what extent has MnDOT developed policies and procedures for managing encampments on state land?</li> <li>• To what extent were stakeholders involved in the development of these policies and procedures?</li> <li>• To what extent has the agency followed its own policies, and how much have these actions cost?</li> </ul>
<p><b>79. Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) Safety Inspections</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How, if at all, have the number of safety inspections at worksites changed in recent years? To the extent there have been changes, what are the reasons?</li> <li>• How well does MnDOT ensure safety inspectors have relevant qualifications and experience?</li> <li>• What changes have occurred, if any, in the number of accidents at worksites in recent years?</li> </ul>
<p><b>80. Public Transportation</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How can Minnesota improve public transportation?</li> </ul>

Possible Evaluation Topics for 2024 (continued)

<p><b>81. Trunk Highway Expenditures</b> <i>Requested by anonymous; related to a 2022 OLA performance audit</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To what extent have trunk highway funds been used as intended?</li> </ul>
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**OTHER**

<p><b>82. Broadband Infrastructure</b> <i>Requested by a legislator</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To what extent has the funding to develop broadband infrastructure been awarded competitively and through a transparent process?</li> <li>What has been the overall process for developing broadband across the state, and has it utilized the most current technology?</li> </ul>
<p><b>83. Council for Minnesotans of African Heritage, Council on Asian Pacific Minnesotans, and Minnesota Council on Latino Affairs</b> <i>Requested by anonymous; related to a 2013 OLA financial audit and 2014 OLA program evaluation</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>How effectively have these councils represented Minnesota’s diverse communities?</li> <li>To what extent have the projects or initiatives these councils led met their goals?</li> <li>To what extent have council resources been sufficient to meet their staffing needs? How have the compensation and turnover rates of staff at the councils compared to each other?</li> </ul>
<p><b>84. Immigration Impact</b> <i>Requested by a legislator</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>What has been the economic impact of undocumented immigrants on the state of Minnesota?</li> </ul>
<p><b>85. Minnesota Housing Finance Agency (Minnesota Housing)</b> <i>Requested by anonymous; Related to 2019, 2023, and upcoming 2024 OLA program evaluations</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>How does the complexity of Minnesota Housing’s request for proposals (RFP) processes compare to that of other states? What opportunities exist to simplify the process without increasing the risk of fraud?</li> <li>To what extent is the oversight of Minnesota Housing’s use of its Housing Affordability Fund sufficient?</li> </ul>
<p><b>86. Minnesota Housing Finance Agency (Minnesota Housing) Infrastructure Bonds</b> <i>Requested by a legislator; related to 2019, 2023, and upcoming 2024 OLA program evaluations</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>What is Minnesota Housing’s process for selecting projects to fund? To what extent has the agency established appropriate selection criteria?</li> <li>To what extent have the projects Minnesota Housing has funded with Housing Infrastructure Bonds complied with eligibility requirements?</li> <li>How well does this program address the housing needs of low-income Minnesotans?</li> </ul>
<p><b>87. Minnesota Housing Finance Agency (Minnesota Housing) Rehabilitation Loan Program</b> <i>Requested by anonymous; related to 2019, 2023, and upcoming 2024 OLA program evaluations</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To what extent did Minnesota Housing monitor lenders’ compliance with program requirements?</li> <li>How did Minnesota Housing ensure that improvements were appropriate for the properties that received rehabilitation loans?</li> </ul>

**Possible Evaluation Topics for 2024 (continued)**

<p><b>88. Minnesota State Arts Board Funding Equity</b> <i>Requested by a citizen; related to 2019 and upcoming 2024 OLA program evaluations</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What are the characteristics of board grantees in recent years? To what extent has the board considered issues of equity (ethnic, racial, geographic, size of organization, etc.) in its grantmaking?</li> <li>• To what extent has the board incorporated feedback from communities served by grants into their grantmaking activities?</li> <li>• To what extent are the board’s criteria for awarding grants inclusive of nonwestern arts or cultural organizations?</li> </ul>
<p><b>89. Minnesota State High School League</b> <i>Requested by anonymous; related to a 2017 OLA program evaluation</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To what extent has the league and the Legislature implemented recommendations in OLA’s 2017 program evaluation?</li> <li>• To what extent is the league’s decision making consistent, transparent, in accordance with policies and rules, and clearly communicated to interested parties?</li> <li>• What steps, if any, has the league taken to prevent discrimination and ensure fairness for student athletes belonging to protected classes (based on race, ethnicity, sex, religion, gender identity, etc.)?</li> </ul>
<p><b>90. Minnesota State High School League Eligibility Determinations</b> <i>Requested by Representative Kraft, another legislator, and a citizen; related to a 2017 OLA program evaluation</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To what extent has the league appropriately exercised its authority regarding student eligibility to participate in extracurricular activities?</li> <li>• To what extent have league bylaws, policies, and procedures been appropriately applied in student transfer eligibility decisions? How adequately do appeals processes provide recourse for individuals affected by league decisions?</li> <li>• What changes, if any, could make the league more accountable to the Legislature, students, parents, member schools, and the public?</li> </ul>
<p><b>91. Office of the Secretary of State Safe at Home Program</b> <i>Requested by a legislator</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To what extent has the Safe at Home Program operated within applicable requirements?</li> </ul>
<p><b>92. Oversight of Minnesota Veterans Homes</b> <i>Requested by anonymous</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To what extent have veterans in Minnesota Veterans Homes received proper and necessary care?</li> <li>• How well does the Minnesota Department of Veterans Affairs (MDVA) oversee Veterans Homes?</li> <li>• To what extent have MDVA leaders ensured a safe and healthy workplace for Veterans Homes administrators and staff?</li> </ul>
<p><b>93. Property Tax Refund Process</b> <i>Requested by a legislator</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How efficient is Minnesota’s process for claiming property tax refunds, and to what extent does it align with best practices?</li> <li>• How does Minnesota’s process for claiming property tax refunds compare to other states’ processes?</li> </ul>

## Possible Evaluation Topics for 2024 (continued)

<b>94. Public Libraries</b> <i>Requested by a legislator; related to a 2010 OLA program evaluation</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• To what extent have recommendations from OLA’s 2010 evaluation been implemented?</li><li>• To the extent that recommendations were not implemented, do the recommendations from that report remain necessary?</li></ul>
<b>95. State Funding to Nonprofit Organizations</b> <i>Requested by a legislator</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• To what extent do nonprofit organizations in Minnesota rely on state funding? What percentage of nonprofit organizations’ funding comes from state funds?</li></ul>
<b>96. Sales Tax on Durable Medical Goods</b> <i>Requested by a legislator</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• How clear is the law related to taxation of durable medical goods?</li><li>• To what extent does the Department of Revenue audit sales tax on durable medical goods?</li><li>• How does the cost of audits compare to the amount recovered from auditees?</li></ul>
<b>97. Voter Registration System</b> <i>Requested by several legislators; related to a 2018 OLA program evaluation</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• To what extent has the Secretary of State’s Office complied with Help America Vote Act requirements?</li><li>• How has the number of registered and active voters changed in recent years?</li><li>• To what extent has the Secretary of State’s Office complied with requirements related to election security measures to ensure only the votes of eligible voters are counted?</li><li>• To what extent have changes to voter documentation requirements affected election security and participation?</li></ul>