

2025-26 Minnesota Legislative Session Summary



AFSCME Council 65 remained actively engaged to enact pension reform, defend critical worker protections, push for improvements, and protect public services. Here's what you need to know:

Defending Our Wins

We successfully protected major victories from rollback attempts, including:

- Earned Sick and Safe Time
- Paid Family & Medical Leave
- Unemployment for Hourly School Workers
- Free School Meals for All
- Ban on Non-Compete Agreements
- Nursing Home Workforce Standards Board

These wins remain intact thanks to AFSCME members testifying, calling, and showing up. Your activism made the difference.

Statewide School Insurance Pool

AFSCME Council 65 celebrates passage of bill to collect data on how much schools are paying for health insurance. This information will be essential for creating a statewide insurance pool for all public school employees.

Fighting for an Equitable Tax Structure

We supported legislation that would have raised \$300 million by taxing digital advertising while cutting the sales tax rate and will continue to push for a more equitable tax structure.

Non-Disclosure Agreements

To ensure transparency for our members and members of the public, AFSCME Council 65 supports the prohibition of local elected officials and municipalities from signing non-disclosure agreements (NDAs).

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Education Funding

A ballot measure to increase funding to schools will be on the ballot in November. If this ballot measure passes it will increase the annual disbursement to schools from the existing permanent school trust fund.

Pension Reform for 911 Operators and Probation Officers

Meaningful pension reforms were passed this session that:

- Lowers the retirement age, without penalty, from age 66 to age 60
- An increased multiplier from 1.7x to 1.9x
- \$3 million in one-time funding to temporarily cap the increased employee contribution at 8% of salary through August 1, 2028.

Anti-Privatization

AFSCME Council 65 continues to fight efforts to privatize public services and jobs. We advocate for strong oversight, public accountability, and protections that keep essential services in the hands of a unionized public workforce. This work happens both through coalitions like We Make Minnesota and through our own direct efforts across the state.

Protecting Workers from Artificial Intelligence Risks

We've begun shaping policy on AI in the workplace to ensure it doesn't undermine job security or fairness. We will continue to push for common-sense worker protections from the rapid-integration of AI into the workplace.

Hospital Stabilization

Hundreds of millions of dollars are being allocated for hospital stabilization:

- \$30 million for hospital stabilization across the state.
 - \$205 million to stabilize Hennepin County Medical Center with \$500 million in reserves.
- This will help to continue essential hospital services across Minnesota.