

Co-Chair Governor Tim Walz Minnesota Co-Chair Governor Phil Scott Vermont

Council of Governors Budget Priorities FY26-28 Budget Process

January 14, 2025

In accordance with the Council of Governors (Council) <u>Consultative Budget Agreement</u>, the Council has identified the following priorities for the FY26-28 budget process:

Department of Defense

- Increase funding for National Guard Full-Time Support, including in Holistic Health and Fitness and prevention programs consistent with requirements
- Increase funding for National Guard recruiters and recruitment incentives
- Provide increased and predictable funding for the State Partnership Program for the National Guard with funding proportional to increasing number of partnerships
- Increase funding for investment in National Guard facilities, including meeting electrification needs and other climate-neutrality goals
- Fully fund the provision of dental care to individual Guardmembers equivalent to benefits for active duty servicemembers, as policy solutions continue to be explored to increase fully funded healthcare to individual Guardmembers
- Funding for Nationwide Integration of Timing Resiliency for Operations

Department of Homeland Security (DHS)

- Increase resources for border security focused on preventing and disrupting drug and human trafficking
- Continued and increased funding for DHS to support information and intelligence sharing and resources among federal, state, and local partners
- Increase, beyond FY23 levels, funding for the Homeland Security Grant Program
- Increase funding for the non-profit security grant program

Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency

- Expedite distribution of State and Local Cybersecurity Grant Program (SLCGP) Funds and support future increased flexible funding for states and localities to support cybersecurity, including for hardening critical infrastructure and local government systems
- Establish resources for state cybersecurity response to cyber incidents
- Increase funds for states to establish/expand cybersecurity education and training in K-12 schools
- Establish training, education, and technical assistance resources for municipalities

Federal Emergency Management Agency

- Increase and create automatic sustainability to Disaster Relief Funding to provide communities with security and predictability in recovery from disasters
- Increase, beyond FY23 levels, Emergency Management Performance Grant funding to ensure communities have the resources they need to prepare for, respond to and recover from disasters
- Increase mitigation and resilience funding and increase flexibility in how states can use these funds
- Establish and fund sustainable disaster management and recovery systems for damage reports/intake and case management