



# AFSCME Legislative Agenda 2017

## Reinvesting in the Work We Do

### Budget for a Greater Minnesota

Governor Dayton turned the state's deficit into a surplus. Now he's working to build an economy that works for all Minnesotans, not just the wealthy few. His budget proposal reinvests in the work we do and in the communities where we live. It balances the needs of the entire state and safeguards us from economic downturn.

Here are some highlights:

**Tax Cuts for the Middle Class** – Governor Dayton is committed to improving incomes for ordinary Minnesotans, not giving more tax breaks to big businesses and those at the top. He is proposing tax cuts for 450,000 families, including expansion of the Child Care Tax Credit and more Working Family Tax Credits.

**State Aid for Cities and Counties** – The Governor's budget includes \$30 million of ongoing, permanent funding for Local Government Aid and County Program Aid. That critical funding prevents local government layoffs, holds down property taxes, and creates stronger communities with parks, libraries, police and fire protection.

**Public Infrastructure** – The Governor's Jobs Bill puts 22,950 people to work by investing \$1.5 billion in construction projects that will improve public facilities where AFSCME members work. For example, his bonding package includes \$343 million for improvements at U of M and Minnesota State campuses, plus \$100 million to connect Greater Minnesota communities to broadband internet.

**Clean Drinking Water** – The Governor has proposed a \$220 million plan to help communities across the state modernize their aging water infrastructure. Residents in Flint were poisoned by lead in their drinking water – we won't let that happen here.

### Action – Ask your legislators to:

- **Support Governor Dayton's budget to reinvest in the work we do.** His proposal makes new and needed investments in child care, early education, higher education, transportation, corrections, public safety, health and human services, and state aid for cities and counties.
- **Oppose tax breaks for billionaires and big businesses.** Working families deserve an economy that works for all, not just the wealthy few. Everyone in Minnesota should get a fair shot, give their fair share, and play by the same rules.