



STATE OF MINNESOTA  
*L'Étoile du Nord*

## Office of Governor Mark Dayton

# Better, More Secure Technology for Minnesotans

### *Budget for a Better Minnesota*

Minnesotans and our state's many businesses need to move fast and efficiently to succeed in a high-tech 21<sup>st</sup> Century economy. So does state government. That is why Governor Dayton's Budget for a Better Minnesota would invest in better technology that would allow state government to move at the speed of commerce and ensure all Minnesotans – individuals and businesses – get the quality services they need with the speed, certainty, and security they deserve.

Right now, some state government agencies still use computer systems built 30 years ago to provide services to the public, host information online, and support the work of government. The combination of aging computer infrastructure with an increasingly interconnected world has created new risks for Minnesotans. Minnesota state government is subject to [more than 3 million cyberattacks every day](#) that attempt to interfere with state government or illegally access our private information. Minnesota has so far avoided a major data security breach like those that have impacted many major American companies and their customers. But we need to take action now to improve our cybersecurity measures, upgrade our technologies, and protect Minnesotans from attacks.

To ensure help Minnesotans remain protected, Governor Dayton has again proposed long-overdue upgrades to Minnesota's information technology and computer security systems in his Budget for a Better Minnesota. These efforts will help deliver state government services at the speed of commerce, and provide the security and personal data protections that Minnesotans expect and deserve.

## Safe, Secure and Effective Technology Services for Minnesotans

Policy	Description
Safeguarding the State from Cyberattacks	<p>Minnesota IT Services supports more than 35,000 users, secures the private data of 5.5 million Minnesotans, and protects over \$28 billion in annual transactions from cyberattacks. Sophisticated attacks, however, are becoming more common and are testing the limits of existing capabilities. The push to digitize government compounds this problem, significantly expanding the volume of sensitive data vulnerable to attack.</p> <p>The Governor's budget would invest \$19.7 million in FY2019 to minimize our risk exposure by migrating business systems to upgraded, modern, secure data centers. It would replace and upgrade unsecure networking equipment, servers, and workstations. It also would fund deployment of sophisticated software to combat increasingly complex hacker attacks and procure services for continuous security monitoring, penetration</p>

	<p>tests, and independent security audits. In addition, the budget would reinforce the State’s Cyber Security Team by adding well trained staff, and expanding monitoring and other core security services.</p>
<p><b>Safeguarding Minnesota’s Elections Against Cyberattacks</b></p>	<p>Safeguarding our elections against interference is essential to our democracy and ensuring all Minnesotans are confident in the integrity of our electoral process. Thanks to safeguards like the use of paper ballots, Minnesota’s elections are better protected against cyberattacks than many other states. However, with evidence that <a href="#">hackers targeted Minnesota’s elections website</a> in 2016, Governor Dayton supports a \$381,000 investment in FY2019 proposed by Secretary of State Steve Simon to implement recommendations from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security for updating and modernizing Minnesota’s statewide voter registration system. This investment would enhance the security, integrity, and stability of the system and help Minnesota meet standards set by the National Institute of Standards and Technology.</p>
<p><b>Fixing MNLARS to Deliver Better, Faster, More Reliable Services for Minnesotans</b></p>	<p>Minnesotans expect and deserve high-quality, efficient services from their state government. That is why Governor Dayton and the new leadership at Minnesota IT Services are working hard to fix the Minnesota Licensing and Registration System (MNLARS). Important progress has already been made to make MNLARS work better for Minnesotans, with the backlog of delayed vehicle titles now cut in half. But to fully correct the problems Minnesotans have faced, Governor Dayton has asked legislators to work with his Administration to approve an initial \$10 million transfer and an additional \$32.7 million by the end of the Legislative Session. Allowing use of these funds will help deliver better, faster, more reliable services for Minnesotans. Without this funding, 39 contractors working on MNLARS will be laid off, delaying essential repairs until 2020.</p>
<p><b>Expanding Access to Reliable, Affordable High-Speed Internet</b></p>	<p>Since taking office, Governor Dayton has secured \$85.6 million for investments in high-speed internet infrastructure. This funding expanded access to broadband for 33,852 households, 5,189 businesses, and 300 community institutions, and leveraged \$110 million in matching investments. Today, thanks in part to the Governor’s investments, 88 percent of Minnesotans have access to broadband speeds that meet the 2022 goal. In 2011, only 56 percent of Minnesotans, largely in urban areas, had access to those speeds. This year, Governor Dayton’s budget would invest \$30 million to help 11,000 more homes, businesses, and community institutions gain high-speed internet access so they can compete economically alongside other Minnesota communities in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.</p>

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To learn more about other proposals included in Governor Dayton’s Budget for a Better Minnesota, [CLICK HERE](#).