

IPS Email_From person served

Dear [Senator/Representative] [Last Name],

I am writing to you about the alarming funding cuts proposed to Individual Placement and Support (IPS) employment services in Minnesota. These reductions would be devastating to people like me who rely on IPS services to find and keep jobs in the [LOCATION WHERE YOU LIVE] area.

As you may know, there are currently two issues affecting the state's IPS program: First off, the Governor's proposed budget includes a 61% cut to IPS base funding, which means 441 Minnesotans—possibly even me—will lose access to these vital services as early as July 1, 2025. Secondly, temporary funding approved in 2023 will run out after FY26, resulting in an even fewer funds and a loss of services and community support for even more people.

This would have severe consequences for both people who rely on IPS services and for Minnesota's workforce, which benefits from eager, reliable, and dedicated workers. IPS participants earn more, stay employed longer, and reduce reliance on programs such as Social Security and Medicaid. The program is also highly accountable because providers are only paid when they achieve measurable employment outcomes. Cutting funding now would undo years of progress and destabilize a program that is proven to work.

I urge you to take immediate action to protect IPS funding by:

1. Rejecting the proposed \$1 million cut to base funding.
2. Supporting HF1985/SF670 to extend temporary funding.
3. Investing in stable, long-term funding to maintain and expand IPS access statewide.

Please stand with the Minnesotans who depend on these services. I appreciate your leadership and your commitment to strengthening our mental health and workforce development systems. I would welcome the opportunity to discuss this issue further and am happy to provide any additional information you may need. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

[Your Name]

[city]