



## Business Services/Economic Development Committee

November 9, 2023, 9:30-11:00am

The committee was called to order at 9:34am and did a round of introductions.

The committee heard a presentation on the [Employer Reasonable Accommodation Fund \(ERAF\)](#).

- Two year pilot program that reimburses eligible employers for reasonable accommodation purchases made for job applicants and/or employees with disabilities
- Official Launch 9/1/23
- [Program Flyer](#)
- Program Presentation (attached to meeting materials)

The committee hear employer-related updates.

- M State
  - Chancellor gave the [State of the System Address](#)
  - Programs are well underway.
- MAPCED
  - CareerForce update will be given to MAPCED members November 20<sup>th</sup>
  - 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter meeting is December 5<sup>th</sup> in-person – agenda is packed with many presentations (Launch MN, MN Housing, DEED Workforce Resources)
- DEED
  - CareerForce & More Webinar series is still underway – recordings are available online after the webinar as well. <https://www.careerforcemn.com/careerforce-and-more-employers>
  - Host rapid response team on layoff aversion techniques and the process of layoffs.
  - All links related to Job Quality from last meeting are available at <https://www.careerforcemn.com/jobquality>
  - National Apprenticeship Network Event on Monday (11/13)
  - Small Business funding announcement: <https://mn.gov/deed/newscenter/press-releases/?id=598887>
  - Rapid Response webinar links are on this calendar: <https://mn.gov/deed/events/business-events.jsp> Businesses should pre-register to receive the Teams link.
  - Small Business monthly call - <https://mn.gov/deed/events/business-events.jsp>
  - Bureau of Criminal Apprehension. Sharable with all businesses: The training video on how to read a criminal history is complete. Both the video and printed resource can be found on our webpage in the following pathway:  
MN BCA Webpage / Public Services / Background Checks / “What information is contained in the Minnesota criminal history background check?”  
<https://dps.mn.gov/divisions/bca/Pages/background-checks.aspx>

- DoLI
  - [National Apprenticeship Week Events](#)
  - MN Dual Training Pipeline Program completed industry forums – adding new occupations in the next few months
  - Resources on website about earned sick and safe time -- <https://www.dli.mn.gov/sick-leave>
- Central MN
  - Attorney joining HR networking group in the area to discuss earned sick and safe time
- Ramsey County
  - Working on inclusive employer toolkit:  
<https://www.ramseycountymeansbusiness.com/workforce/inclusive-employer-toolkit>
  - Monthly information sessions are coming related to the toolkit