



MINNESOTA **LEGISLATIVE UPDATE** *As of May 1, 2025*

WITH SONNIE ELLIOTT

The Minnesota Legislature has just under three weeks to complete its work before the constitutional adjournment deadline of May 19, 2025. At this point, lawmakers are running behind schedule, and a special session may be required to finish key priorities—especially the state budget.

The House remains evenly divided with 67 Democrats and 67 Republicans, creating unique challenges in negotiating and passing finance bills. As the end of session approaches, pressure will mount for both sides to reach compromises. If an agreement cannot be reached in time, the Governor is expected to call the Legislature back for a Special Session to complete the budget before the start of the new fiscal year on June 1.

A new issue of concern to BOMA is a proposed annual fee on retail EV charging stations. The current proposal would impose a \$100 fee per charging unit—affecting some BOMA members who offer charging services at their commercial properties. Funds collected would go into a special revenue account to administer and support the program.

In addition, the bill includes requirements for signage and labeling of EV charging stations, including disclosure of pricing and associated costs. These provisions are part of a broader Commerce policy bill. Separately, while tax bills have not yet been introduced in either the House or Senate, one Senate proposal would add a \$0.05 per kilowatt-hour fuel tax to EV charging. Revenue from that tax would be directed to the Minnesota Trunk Highway Fund. We will continue to monitor for any developments in this area.

The Governor's announcement requiring most state employees to return to the office by June 1, 2025, is welcome news for downtown St. Paul. The mandate specifies that employees living within a 50-mile radius of their workplace must be on-site at least 50% of the time. This return-to-office policy is expected to boost foot traffic and economic activity in the Capitol area.

In addition to the anticipated tax bill, a capital investment bill has yet to be introduced. Traditionally one of the final bills passed each session, the capital investment package, focused on bricks-and-mortar projects in lawmakers' districts, often plays a strategic role in end-of-session negotiations. It is frequently used to help build consensus on broader budget compromises.

BOMA will remain fully engaged as the legislative session enters its final stretch, advocating for the priorities of our members. We will continue to keep members informed and ensure that your voice is heard at the Capitol.