



Joint Committee on Appropriations  
SENATOR ERNIE OTTEN, CO-CHAIR  
REPRESENTATIVE MIKE DERBY, CO-CHAIR

March 31, 2025  
Darin Seeley, Commissioner  
Bureau of Human Resources and  
Administration  
500 East Capitol Avenue  
Pierre, SD 57501

**Letter of Intent Regarding Restoration, Maintenance, and Repair of the State Capitol (HB 1131)**

Dear Commissioner Darin Seeley,

This Letter of Intent sets forth a particular view held by the Joint Committee on Appropriations (JCA) in approving your appropriation in the 2025 Legislative Session. As such, this Letter of Intent seeks to supplement that legislation with specific policy guidance as approved on March 31, 2025.

While the guidance does not have the direct force of statutory law, it rests solidly on a long-standing tradition of Legislative-Executive relationships in South Dakota and it will be used by the Joint Committee as one basis for the fiscal oversight of your agency and its continued funding.

During the 2025 Legislative Session, the Legislature approved HB 1131, which appropriates \$3 million in general fund moneys to the Bureau of Human Resources and Administration ("the Bureau") for the restoration, maintenance, and repair of any state capitol building historic area or object. The term "historic area or object" for purposes of HB 1131 is defined therein. Per HB 1131, the South Dakota Capitol Complex Restoration and Beautification Commission must also review and approve each proposed restoration, maintenance, or repair project before moneys appropriated under the act may be expended on the project. JCA intends for these moneys to be allocated for the benefit of the public through the restoration, maintenance, and repair of areas and objects visitors from the public regularly see, with priority given in the allocation of moneys to such areas and objects on the third and fourth floors of the Capitol.

JCA requests the Bureau submit a report by November 1 each year until the moneys appropriated through HB 1131 have been fully expended. The report should:

- 1) Describe each project for which moneys from the appropriation have been allocated;
- 2) Provide the rationale for the selection of each project;
- 3) For completed projects, indicate the date work began, the date of completion, and the amount of actual moneys expended;

- 4) For in-progress projects, indicate the date work began, the expected date of completion, the amount of moneys already expended, and the expected total expenditure;
- 5) For planned projects, indicate the expected date work will begin, the expected date of completion, and the expected total expenditure; and
- 6) Indicate the amount of both unexpended moneys and unallocated moneys (i.e., unexpended moneys not allocated for any in-progress or planned project) remaining in the appropriation.

Thank you for your cooperation.

/s/ ERNIE OTTEN

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Senator Ernie Otten  
Lead Co-Chair, Joint Committee on Appropriations

/s/ MIKE DERBY

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Representative Mike Derby  
Co-Chair, Joint Committee on Appropriations

cc: Russell Olson, Auditor General  
Jim Terwilliger, Commissioner, Bureau of Finance and Management