



2024 South Dakota Legislature

Senate Bill 168

Introduced by: **Senator Hunhoff**

1 **An Act to establish the families first grant program and provide an appropriation**
 2 **therefor.**

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA:

4 **Section 1. That a NEW SECTION be added to chapter 1-11:**

5 The families first grant program is established within the Office of the Attorney
 6 General for the purpose of providing grants to organizations that assist:

7 (1) Children who have been abused or neglected;

8 (2) Victims of domestic violence; and

9 (3) Victims of sexual assault.

10 **Section 2. That a NEW SECTION be added to chapter 1-11:**

11 The families first grant program, as established in section 1 of this Act, is to be
 12 administered by the Office of the Attorney General, with the advice and consent of a five-
 13 member committee consisting of:

14 (1) Two individuals appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives, one of
 15 whom must, by training or experience, be familiar with the provision of assistance
 16 to victims of abuse, neglect, domestic violence, or sexual assault;

17 (2) Two individuals appointed by the speaker pro tempore of the Senate, one of whom
 18 must, by training or experience, be familiar with the provision of assistance to
 19 victims of abuse, neglect, domestic violence, or sexual assault; and

20 (3) One individual appointed by the attorney general.

21 The secretary of the Department of Public Safety, or the secretary's designee, shall
 22 serve as a non-voting member.

23 **Section 3. That a NEW SECTION be added to chapter 1-11:**

1 The families first grant program fund is established in the state treasury. The fund
2 consists of contributions, grants, interest received on moneys in the fund, settlement
3 funds, transfers, and any other moneys collected for the purpose of providing grants, as
4 authorized by section 1 of this Act.

5 The state treasurer shall, on a quarterly basis, distribute the fund balance to the
6 Office of the Attorney General, for the purpose of administering, and awarding grants
7 under, the families first grant program.

8 **Section 4. That a NEW SECTION be added to chapter 1-11:**

9 The Office of the Attorney General, together with the committee established under
10 section 2 of this Act, shall:

11 (1) Ensure that the availability of families first grants is made known to all
12 organizations in this state that assist victims of abuse, neglect, domestic violence,
13 or sexual assault;

14 (2) Promulgate rules pursuant to chapter 1-26 to establish the time and manner in
15 which applications for a families first grant may be submitted, considered, and
16 awarded; and

17 (3) On or before October first of each year, provide to the Legislature a report setting
18 forth:

19 (a) The name and location of each organization that was awarded a families
20 first grant;

21 (b) The purpose for which each grant was awarded; and

22 (c) The administrative expenses incurred by each grant recipient in providing
23 services for which the grant was awarded.

24 **Section 5.** There is hereby appropriated from the general fund the sum of \$1 to the Office of
25 the Attorney General, for the purpose of providing families first grants.

26 **Section 6.** The attorney general shall approve vouchers and the state auditor shall draw
27 warrants to pay expenditures authorized by this Act.

28 **Section 7.** Any amounts appropriated in this Act not lawfully expended or obligated shall
29 revert in accordance with the procedures prescribed in chapter 4-8.