PRESS RELEASE

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Access to Mental Health Services Interim Study Committee to Meet

PIERRE – The Access to Mental Health Services Interim Study Committee will hold its first meeting on Thursday, June 28, 2018, in room 414 of the State Capitol in Pierre.

The committee's assigned task is to review what mental health services are available in the state, the capacity of the available services, and the financial costs to the state and its political subdivisions.

At the first meeting, committee members will hear from Dr. Matthew Stanley of Avera Medical Group University Psychiatry Associates regarding the concepts of mental health and illness along with the role of primary care; and Secretary Lynne Valenti and Deputy Secretary Amy Iversen-Pollreisz of the SD Department of Social Services, Senator Alan Solano of Behavior Management Systems, Inc., and Terry Dosch of the South Dakota Council of Mental Health Centers with an overview of the South Dakota Community Mental Health System and the state's investments in mental health. Additionally Gina Brimner and April Hendrickson of the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education (WICHE), who will provide support for the study, will be introduced.

The meeting is open to the public, and public testimony will be taken in the afternoon.

The Access to Mental Health Services Interim Study Committee members include Senator Deb Soholt, Chair (R-Sioux Falls); Representative Herman Otten, Vice Chair (R-Lennox); Senators Bob Ewing (R-Spearfish), Craig Kennedy (D-Yankton), Kris Langer (R-Dell Rapids), Alan Solano (R-Rapid City), and Jim Stalzer (R-Sioux Falls); Representatives Michael Diedrich (R-Rapid City), Steven Haugaard (R-Sioux Falls), Taffy Howard (R-Rapid City), Jean Hunhoff (R-Yankton), Kevin Jensen (R-Canton), Tim Johns (R-Lead), Tim Reed (R-Brookings), and Susan Wismer (D-Britton).

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This meeting is being held in a physically accessible location. Any individual needing assistance, pursuant to the Americans with Disabilities Act, should contct the Legislative Research Council (605-773-3251) in advance of the meeting to make further arrangements.

All committee agendas, minutes, and audio are available on the LRC website: http://www.sdlegislature.gov/***. Live committee audio is provided by South Dakota Public Broadcasting and is also available at*** http://www.sd.net***. You may subscribe to electronic delivery of agendas and minutes at My LRC on the LRC website.***