

**OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY**

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JAN 04 2017

December 28, 2016

Jason Hancock, Director
Legislative Research Council
State Capitol
500 East Capitol Avenue
Pierre, SD 57501

Dear Director Hancock,

In accordance with South Dakota Codified Law § 49-31-53, the Department of Human Services is required to report annually to the South Dakota State Legislature on the status of the access fee charged to telephones, pagers, and cell phones in the State. I am hereby submitting the recommendation that the current \$.15 access fee is sufficient to continue the Telecommunications Relay Services Program and Captioned Telephone Relay Services, and I recommend that the fee stay the same. This recommendation is based on the following information:

1. Number of lines and units that have been established and are assessed the access fee (Attachment 1),
2. Number of minutes being utilized by the relay service in South Dakota (Attachment 2), and
3. Revenues based on the State's Accounting System for deposit into the Telecommunication Fund for the Deaf (Attachment 3).

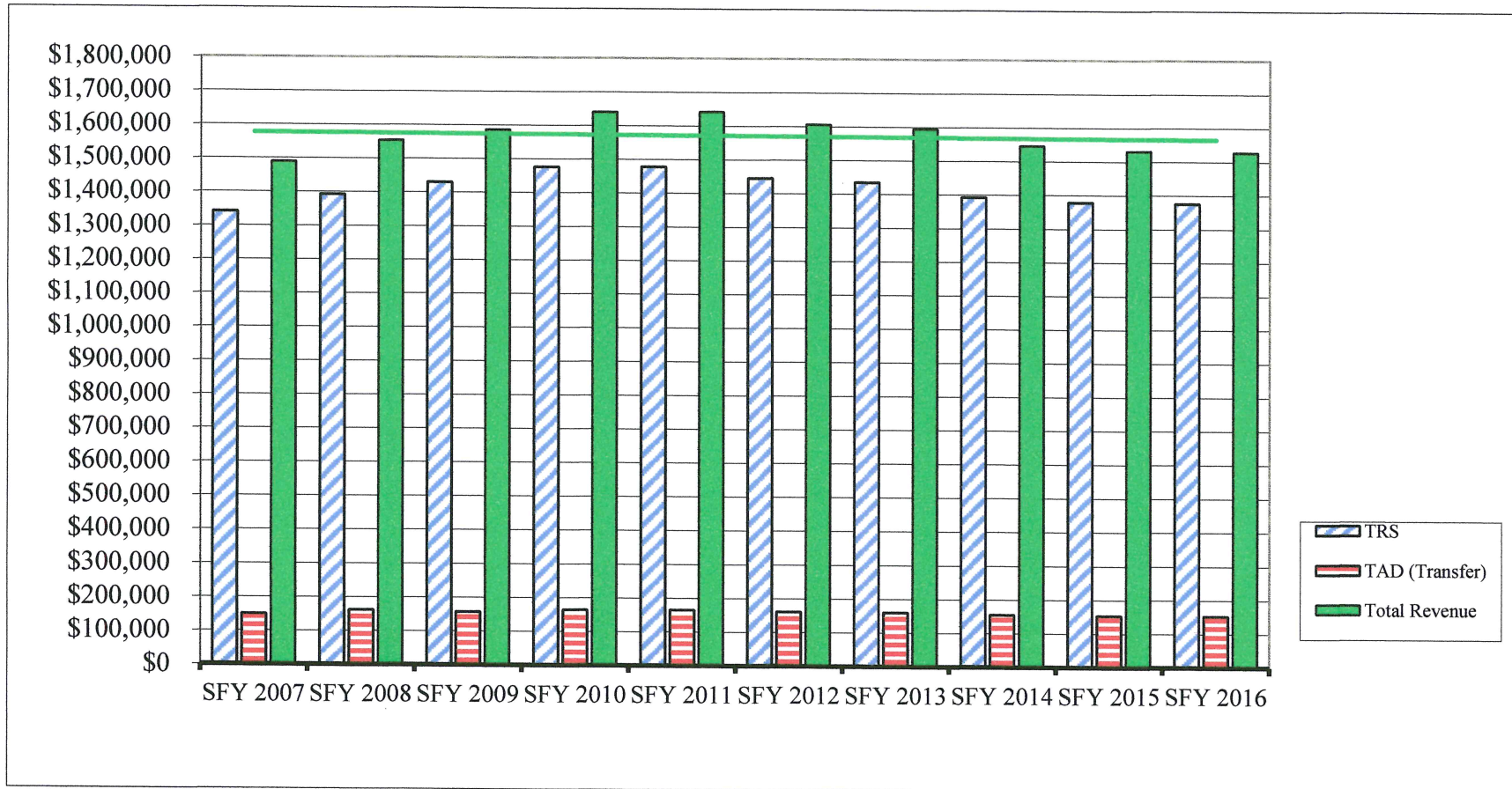
The fund balance at the close of SFY16 was \$3,644,296.53

I request that you, as Director of the Legislative Research Council, pass this information along to the appropriate Legislators or Committees during this Legislative Session. If you have further questions or require additional information, please don't hesitate to contact me.

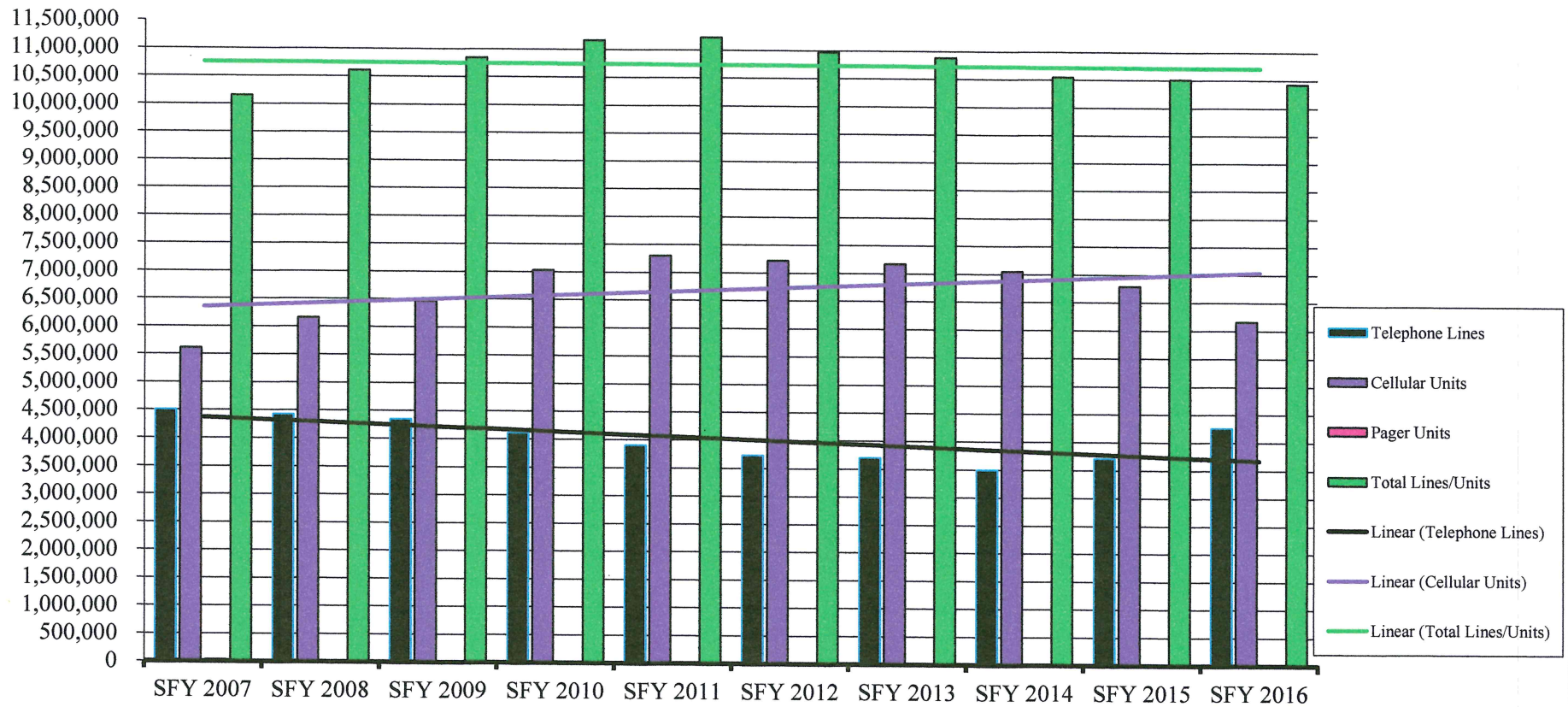
Sincerely,

Gloria Pearson/Cabinet Secretary
Department of Human Services

**SD Department of Human Services
Telecommunication Relay Services
Revenues based on State's Accounting System (Attachment 3)**



**SD Department of Human Services
Telecommunication Relay Services
Cumulative Number of Lines/Units per Annual Period, by Category Type (Attachment 1)**



SOUTH DAKOTA TELECOMMUNICATION RELAY MINUTES
SFY14 - SFY16
(Attachment 2)

TRS SFY14: 06/01/2013 - 5/31/2014			CapTel SFY14: 06/01/2013 - 5/31/2014		
Month	Minutes		Month	Minutes	
Jun	9,426		Jun	16,204	
Jul	9,507		Jul	16,230	
Aug	8,678		Aug	17,501	
Sep	9,716		Sep	16,456	
Oct	10,293		Oct	16,104	
Nov	8,838		Nov	16,895	
Dec	8,712		Dec	18,589	
Jan	9,517		Jan	17,376	
Feb	8,285		Feb	17,807	
Mar	8,223		Mar	19,350	
Apr	7,093		Apr	18,649	
May	8,821		May	18,916	
	107,108			210,076	
TRS SFY15: 06/01/2014 - 5/31/2015			CapTel SFY15: 06/01/2014 - 5/31/2015		
Month	Minutes		Month	Minutes	
Jun	9,005		Jun	17,517	
Jul	8,795		Jul	16,891	
Aug	7,098		Aug	15,675	
Sep	10,389		Sep	14,644	
Oct	8,888		Oct	14,366	
Nov	6,841		Nov	16,044	
Dec	6,653		Dec	16,729	
Jan	7,374		Jan	16,460	
Feb	6,622		Feb	14,611	
Mar	7,447		Mar	16,707	
Apr	6,995		Apr	14,613	
May	5,396		May	13,114	
	91,501			187,370	
TRS SFY16: 06/01/2015 - 5/31/2016			CapTel SFY16: 06/01/2015 - 5/31/2016		
Month	Minutes		Month	Minutes	
Jun	5,390		Jun	12,406	
Jul	5,437		Jul	13,838	
Aug	5,637		Aug	13,822	
Sep	4,961		Sep	12,293	
Oct	6,757		Oct	13,558	
Nov	8,073		Nov	16,385	
Dec	6,432		Dec	16,113	
Jan	6,268		Jan	15,182	
Feb	5,775		Feb	15,279	
Mar	5,321		Mar	14,570	
Apr	4,283		Apr	12,443	
May	3,936		May	12,174	
	68,270			168,063	