JAN 2 5 2016

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

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January 20, 2016

Janson 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).

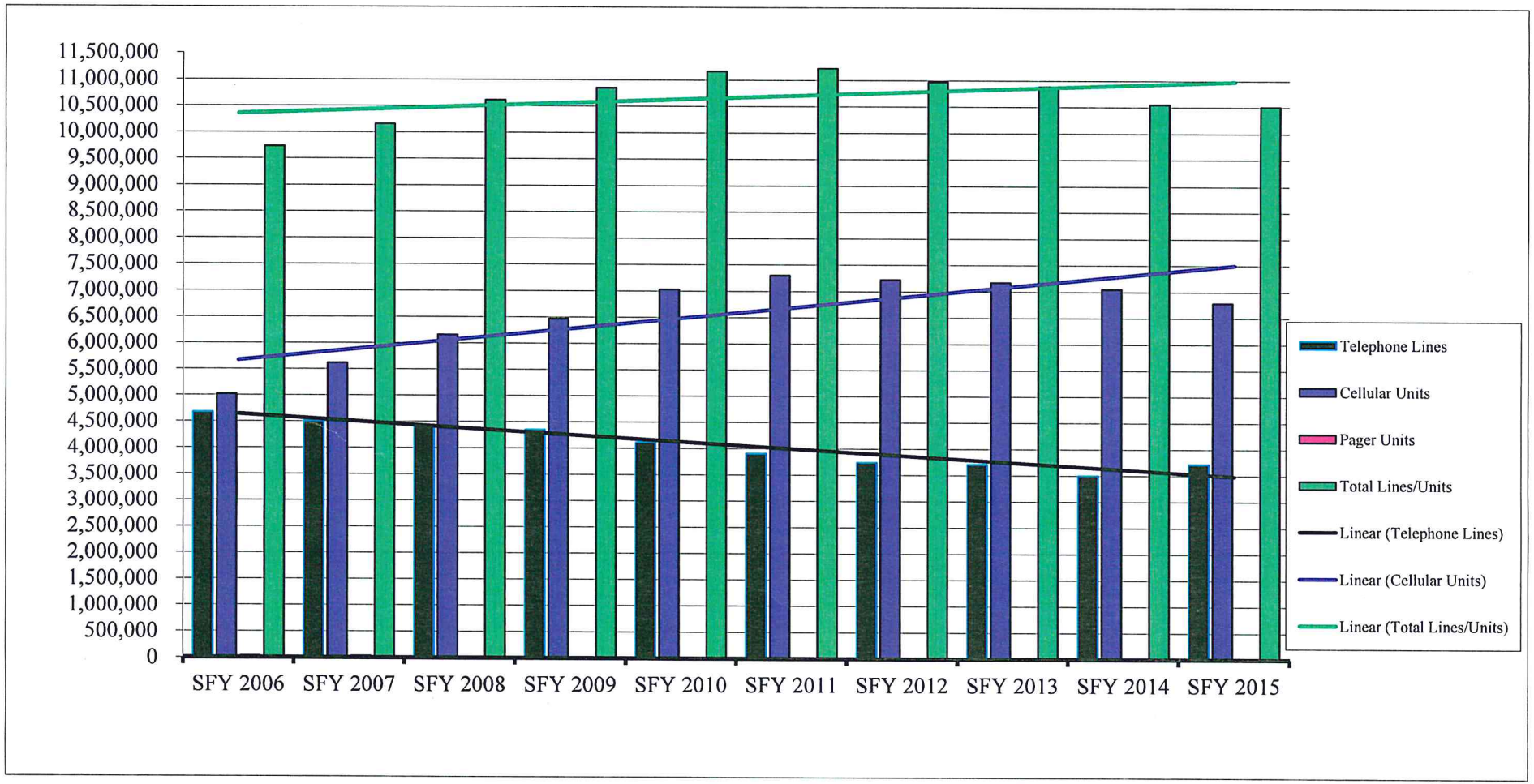
The fund balance at the close of SFY15 was $3,471,233.92

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.

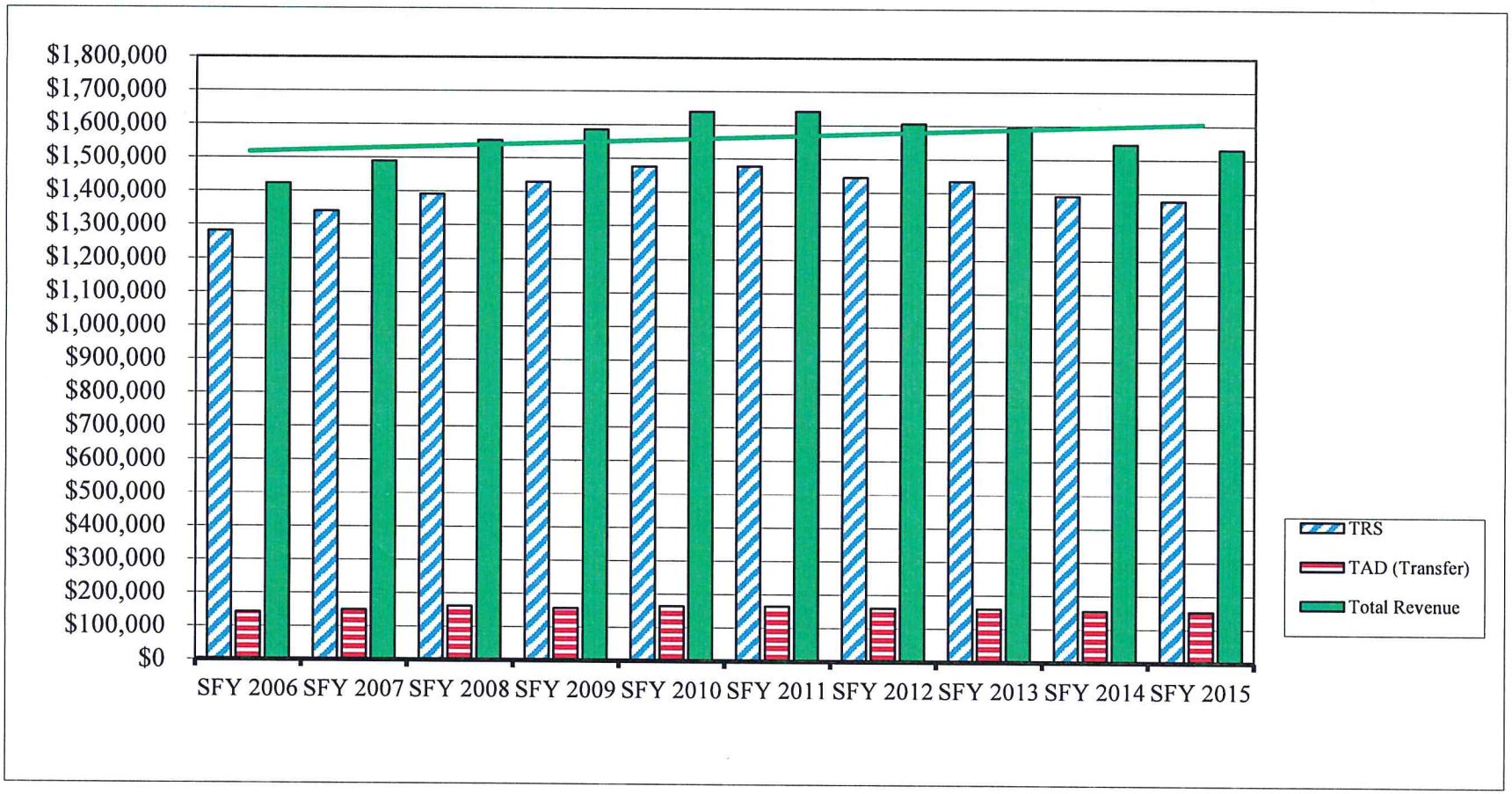
Sincerely,

Gloria Pearson/Cabinet Secretary
Department of Human Services

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



SOUTH DAKOTA TRS MINUTES (Attachment 2)
SFY13 - SFY15

TRS SFY13: 06/01/2012 - 5/31/2013				CapTel SFY13: 06/01/2012 - 5/31/2013		
Month	Minutes			Month	Minutes	
Jun	11,217			Jun	18,339	
Jul	13,576			Jul	20,165	
Aug	12,543			Aug	20,429	
Sep	10,196			Sep	19,408	
Oct	10,816			Oct	18,264	
Nov	12,270			Nov	17,204	
Dec	11,796			Dec	19,765	
Jan	11,145			Jan	20,488	
Feb	10,338			Feb	18,238	
Mar	10,858			Mar	18,284	
Apr	10,830			Apr	19,396	
May	9,691			May	17,806	
	135,276				**227,786**	
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**	

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