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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).

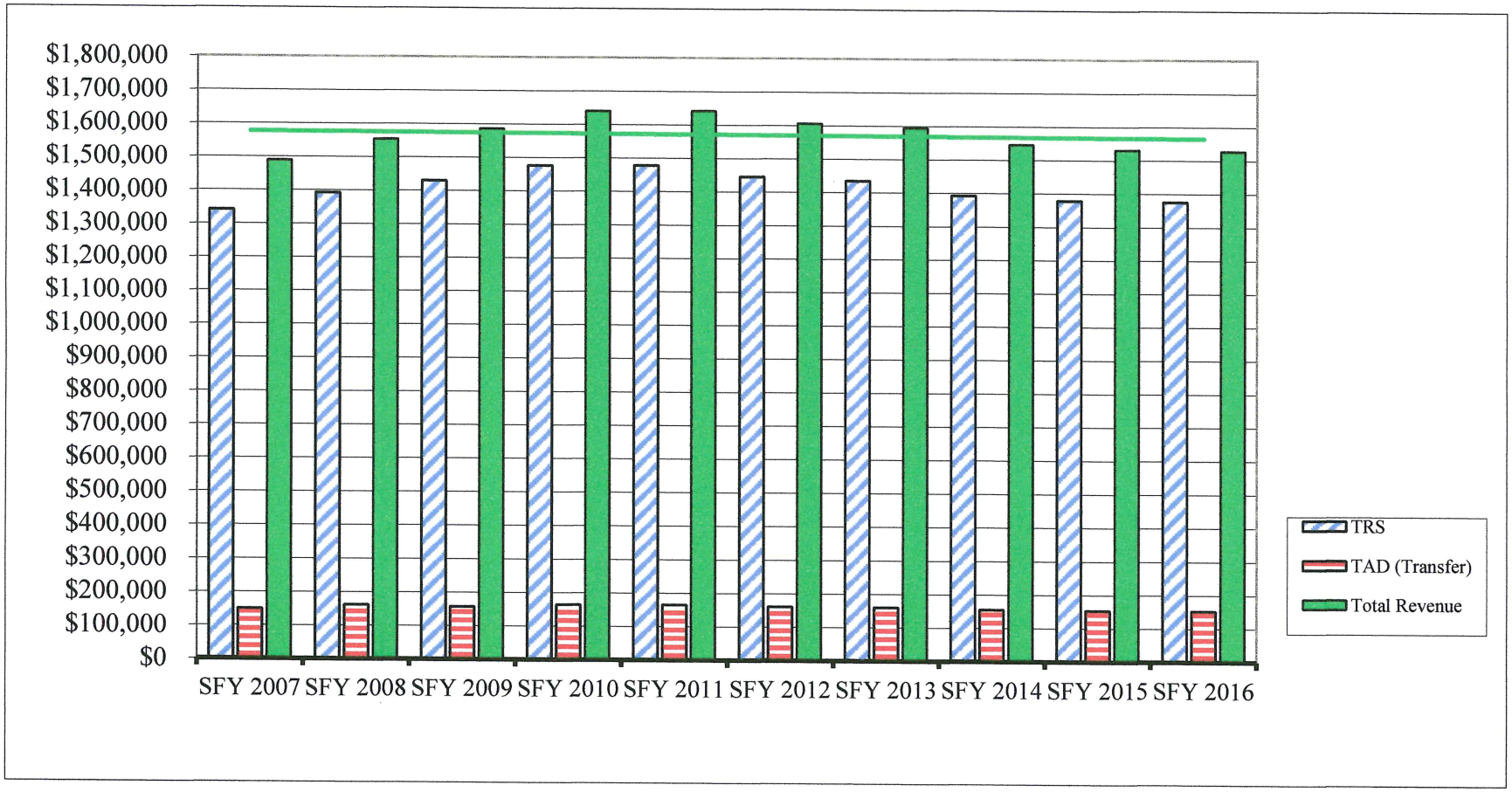
The fund balance at the close of SFY16 was $3,644,296.53

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

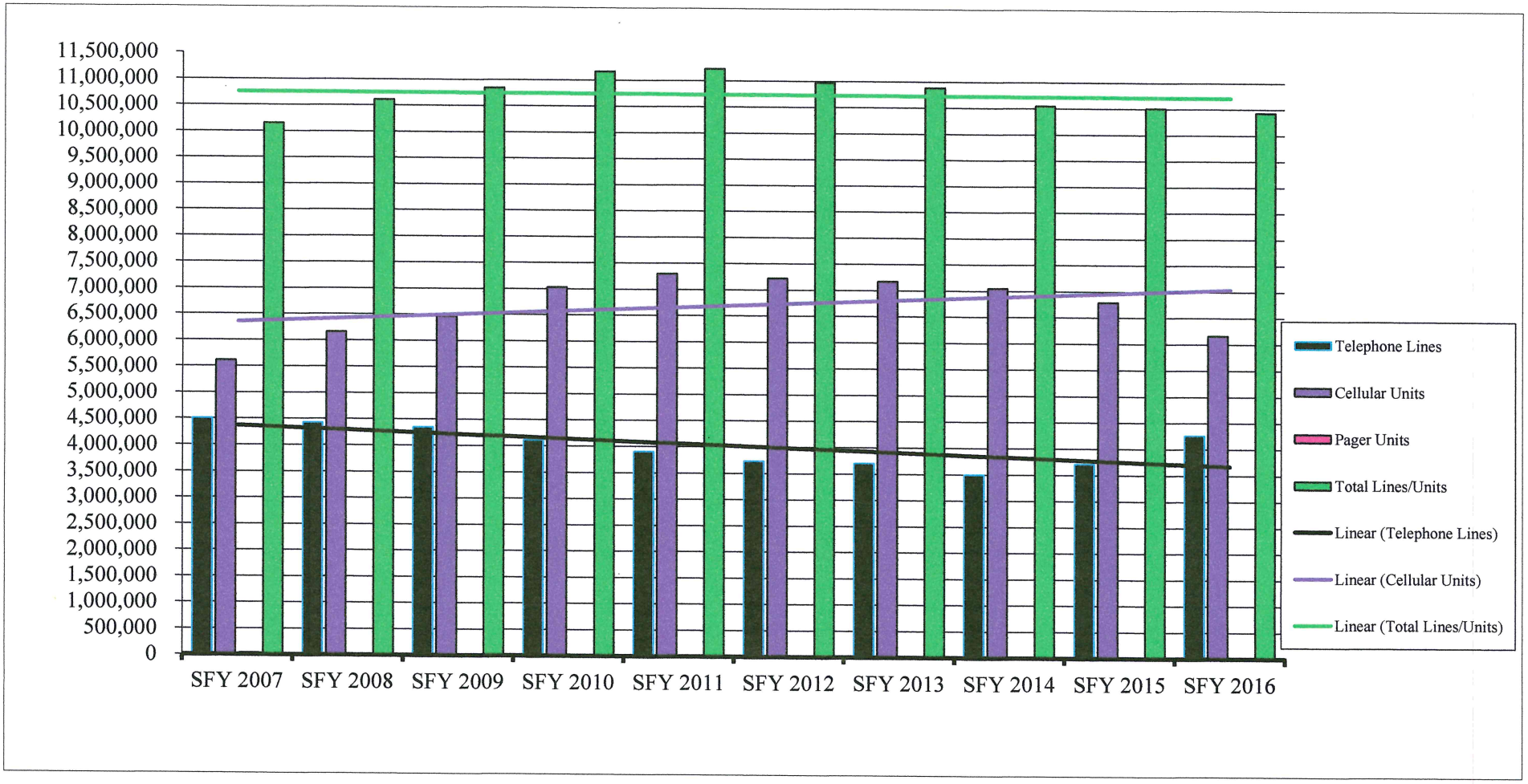
SD Department of Human Services
Telecommunication Relay Services
Revenunes based on State's Accounting System (Attachment 3)



TRS-Graph_11102016.xlsx
Column Chart of Revenue

Last Updated: 12/14/2015
Printed: 12/21/2016

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



TRS-Graph_11102016.xlsx
Column Chart of Lines

Last Updated: 12/14/2015
Printed: 12/21/2016

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**	