DEC 16 2019

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December 13, 2019

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 SFY19 was $2,857,168.07.

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.

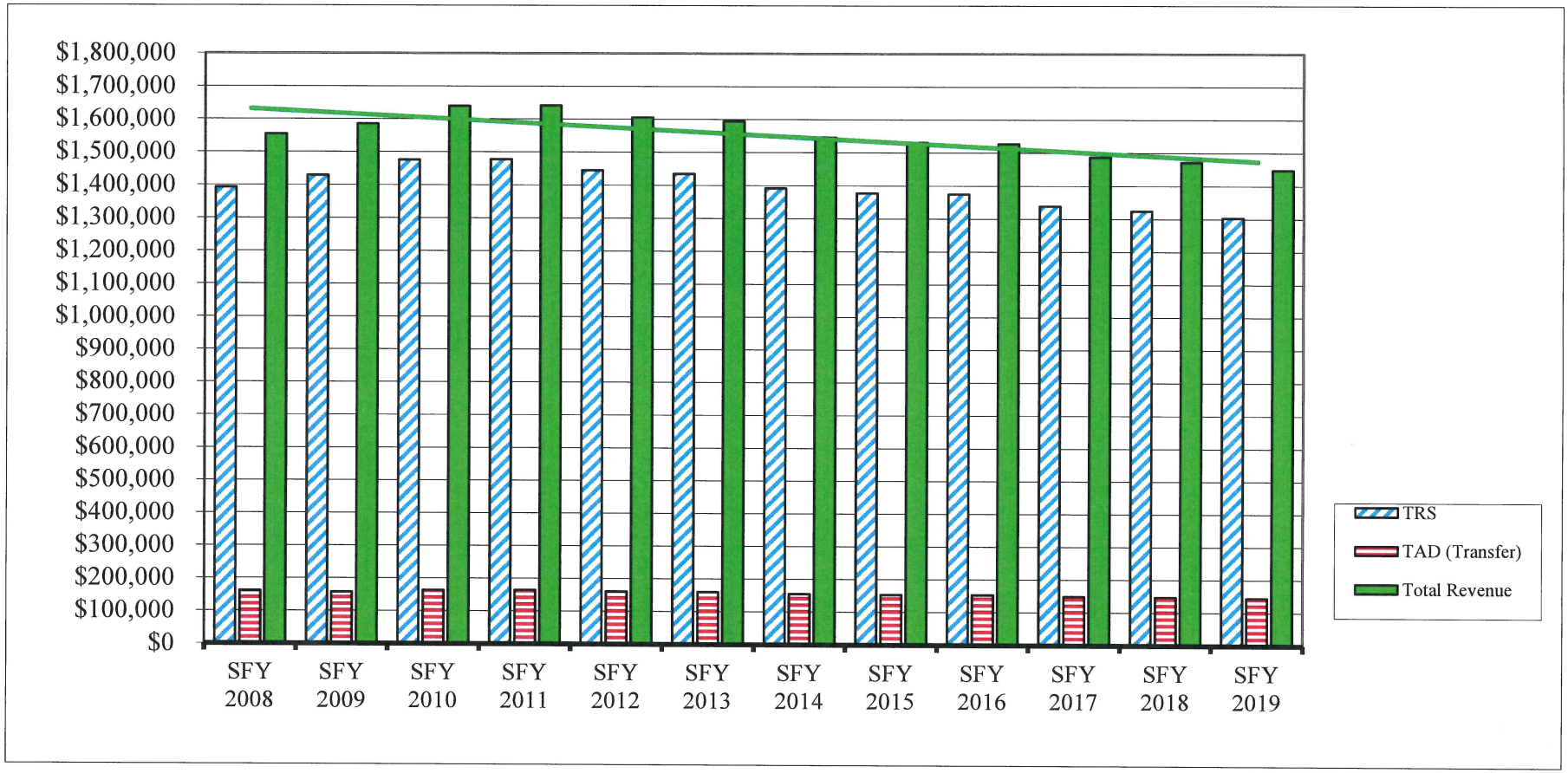
Sincerely,

Shawnie Rechtenbaugh

Shawnie Rechtenbaugh/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 TELECOMMUNICATION RELAY MINUTES
Contract Years 2016 - 2019
(Attachment 2)

TRS CY 2016 : 06/01/2015 - 5/31/2016				CapTel CY 2016 : 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	
Total	**68,270**			**Total**	**168,063**	
TRS CY 2017 : 06/01/2016 - 5/31/2017				**CapTel CY 2017 : 06/01/2016 - 5/31/2017**		
Month	Minutes			Month	Minutes	
Jun	4,247			Jun	13,760	
Jul	5,335			Jul	12,613	
Aug	4,418			Aug	13,090	
Sep	3,218			Sep	12,614	
Oct	3,249			Oct	12,893	
Nov	3,520			Nov	13,890	
Dec	3,366			Dec	16,001	
Jan	3,938			Jan	15,299	
Feb	3,239			Feb	12,589	
Mar	3,362			Mar	14,539	
Apr	2,580			Apr	11,864	
May	3,757			May	12,545	
Total	**44,229**			**Total**	**161,697**	
TRS CY 2018 : 06/01/2017 - 5/31/2018				**CapTel CY 2018 : 06/01/2017 - 5/31/2018**		
Month	Minutes			Month	Minutes	
Jun	2,805			Jun	11,370	
Jul	3,730			Jul	10,894	
Aug	2,703			Aug	10,020	
Sep	2,930			Sep	9,708	
Oct	1,613			Oct	9,806	
Nov	1,883			Nov	10,348	
Dec	1,585			Dec	10,397	
Jan	2,227			Jan	10,020	
Feb	1,743			Feb	8,915	
Mar	1,709			Mar	9,588	
Apr	1,548			Apr	8,866	
May	1,067			May	8,776	
Total	**25,543**			**Total**	**118,707**	
TRS CY 2019 : 06/01/2018 - 5/31/2019				**CapTel CY 2019 : 06/01/2018 - 5/31/2019**		
Month	Minutes			Month	Minutes	
Jun	994			Jun	7,636	
Jul	1,047			Jul	7,678	
Aug	818			Aug	7,914	
Sep	984			Sep	7,004	
Oct	1,223			Oct	8,023	
Nov	1,045			Nov	8,495	
Dec	1,011			Dec	9,480	
Jan	946			Jan	7,997	
Feb	157			Feb	8,070	
Mar	963			Mar	9,344	
Apr	944			Apr	9,480	
May	1,010			May	7,922	
Total	**11,142**			**Total**	**99,043**	

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