DEC 09 2020

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
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December 8, 2020

Reed Holwegner, Director
Legislative Research Council
State Capitol
500 East Capitol Avenue
Pierre, SD 57501

Dear Director Holwegner,

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 landline phones 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 SFY20 was $2,529,480.79.

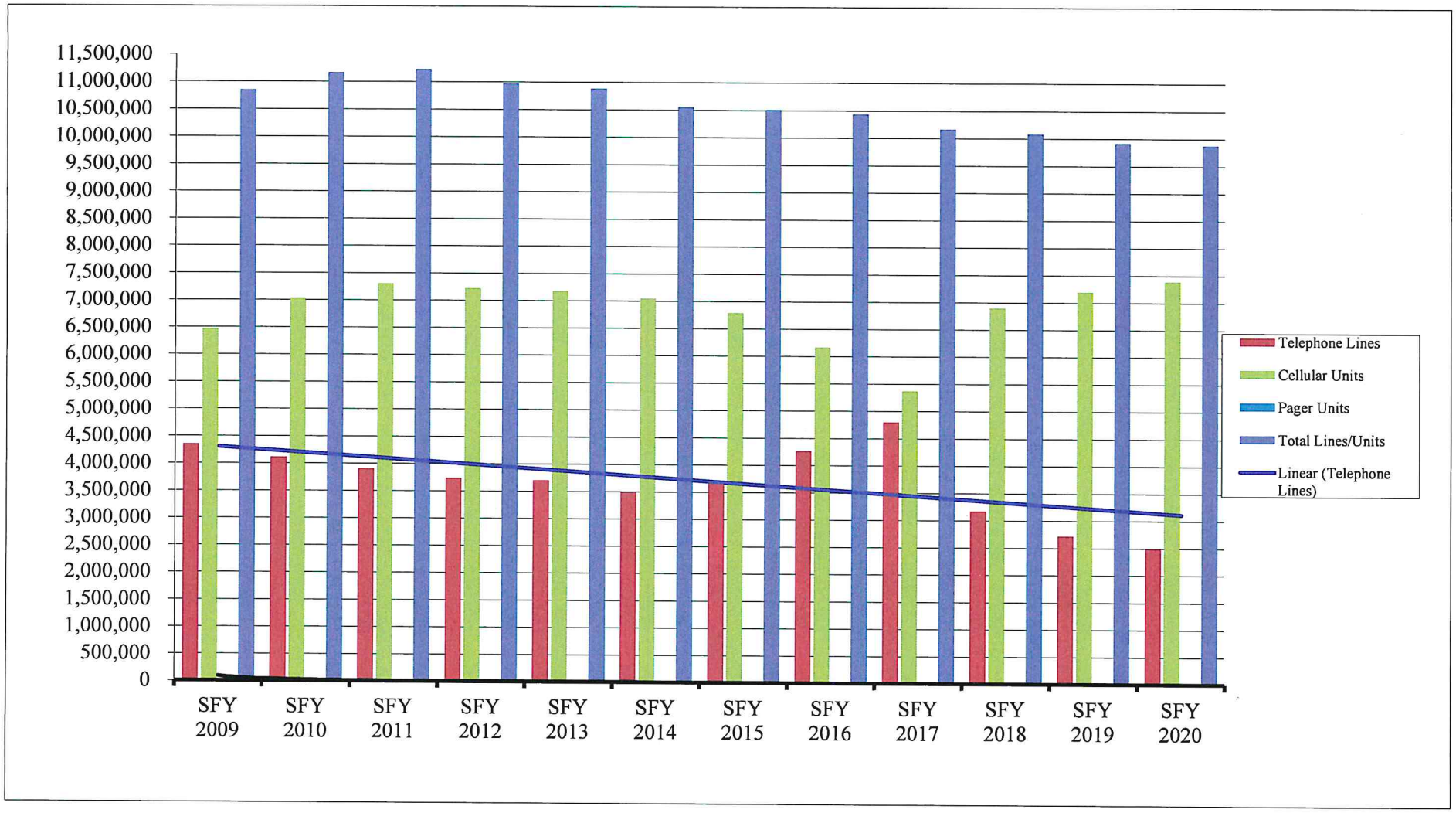
I request that you, as Director of the Legislative Research Council, pass this information along to the appropriate Legislators or Committees during this Legislative Session. If you have further questions or require additional information, please don't hesitate to contact me.

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)

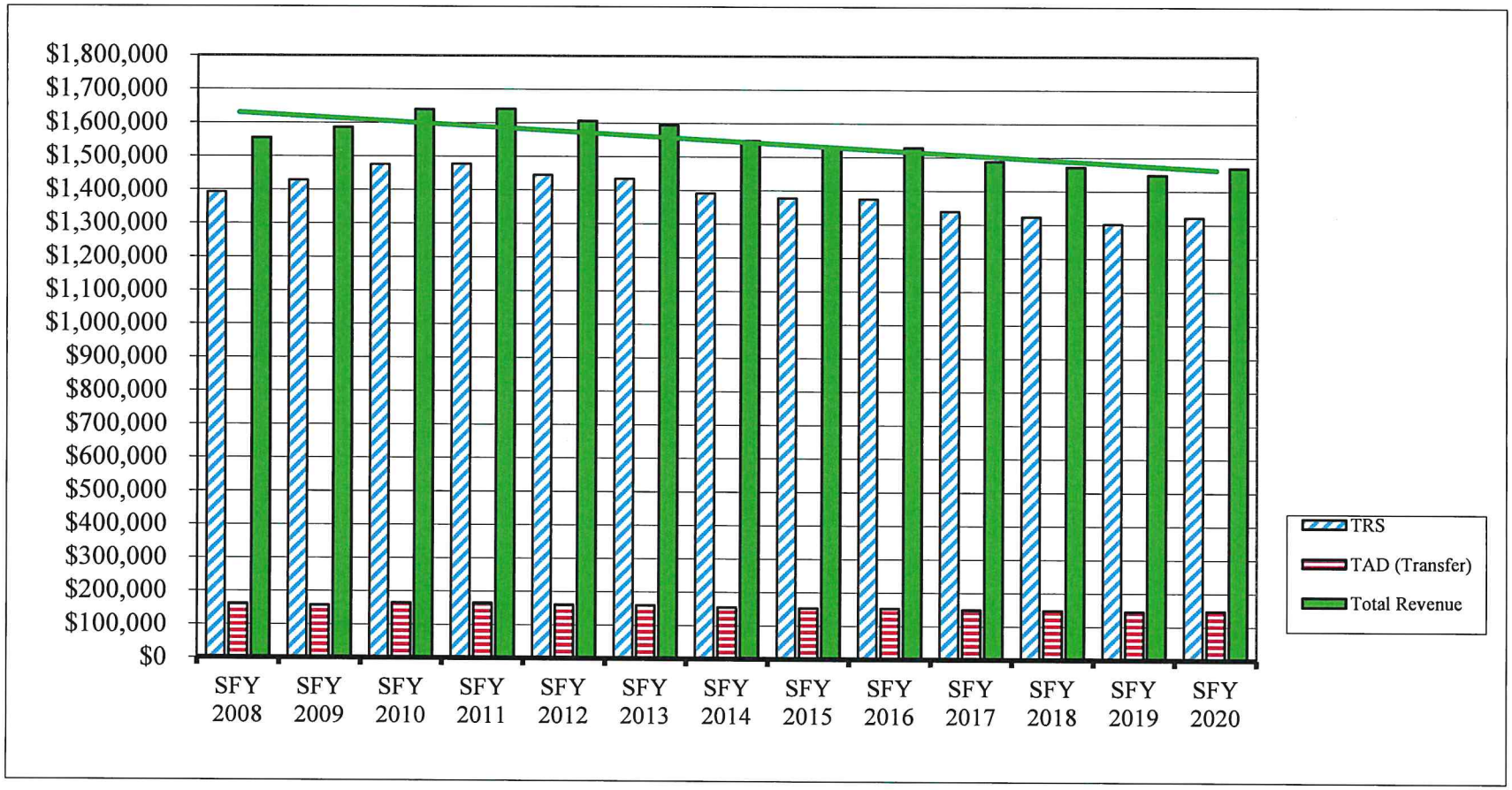


TRS-Graph_10_30_2020.xlsx
Column Chart of Lines

SOUTH DAKOTA TELECOMMUNICATION RELAY MINUTES
Contract Years 2017 - 2020
(Attachment 2)

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**	
TRS CY 2020 : 06/01/2019 - 5/31/2020				**CapTel CY 2020 : 06/01/2019 - 5/31/2020**		
Month	Minutes			Month	Minutes	
Jun	849			Jun	7,633	
Jul	996			Jul	7,592	
Aug	782			Aug	6,752	
Sep	1,003			Sep	6,927	
Oct	893			Oct	7,080	
Nov	581			Nov	6,762	
Dec	796			Dec	7,095	
Jan	750			Jan	6,186	
Feb	492			Feb	5,274	
Mar	1,202			Mar	7,680	
Apr	1,261			Apr	8,091	
May	1,173			May	7,729	
Total	**10,778**			**Total**	**84,801**	

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



TRS-Graph_10_30_2020.xlsx
Column Chart of Revenue

Printed: 10/30/2020