DEC 16 2021

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December 14, 2021

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 SFY21 was $2,699,140.19.

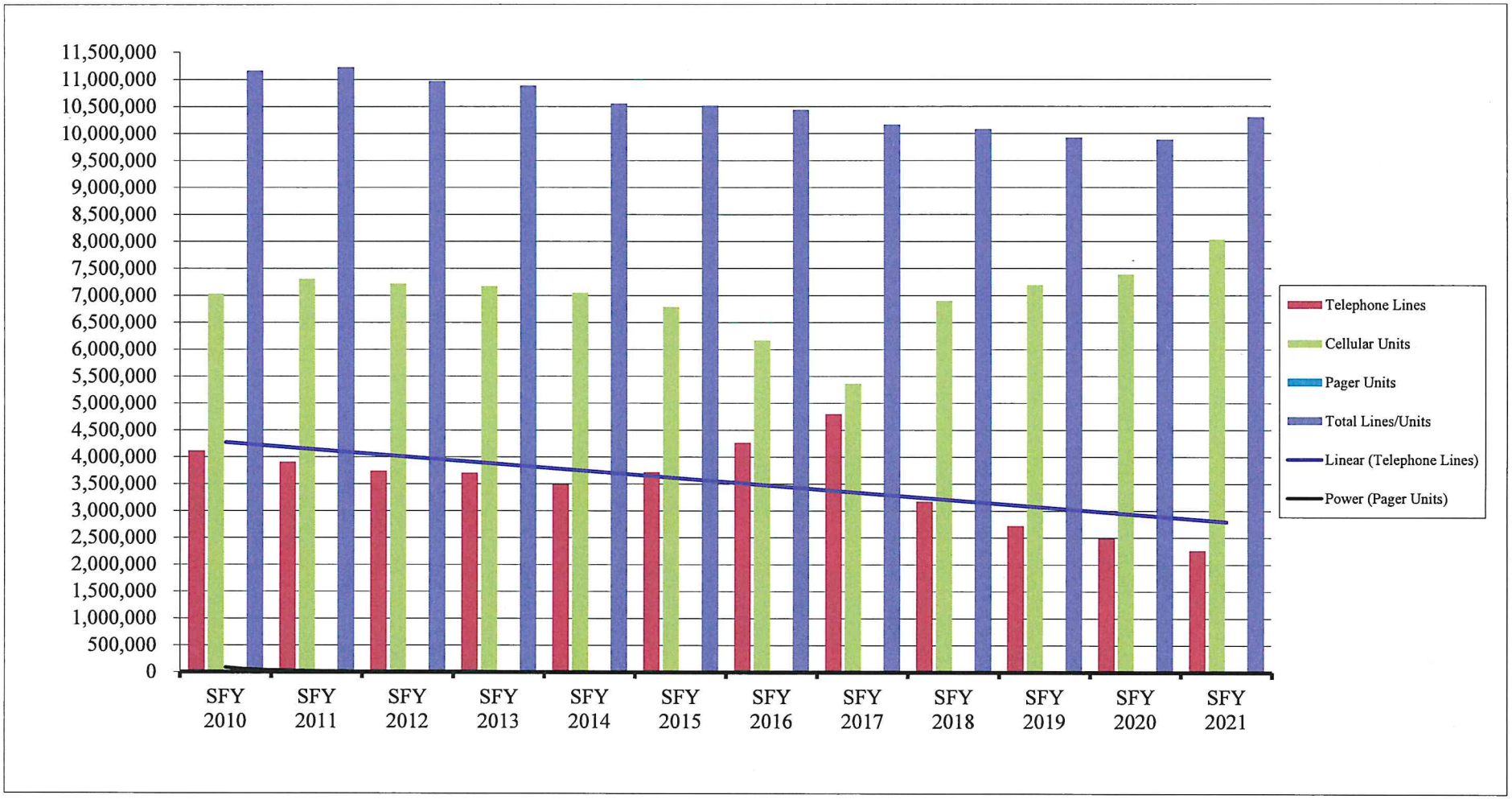
I request that you, as Director of the Legislative Research Council, pass this information along to the appropriate Legislators or Committees during this Legislative Session. If you have further questions or require additional information, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Shawnie Rechtenbaugh

Shawnie Rechtenbaugh, Cabinet Secretary
Department of Human Services

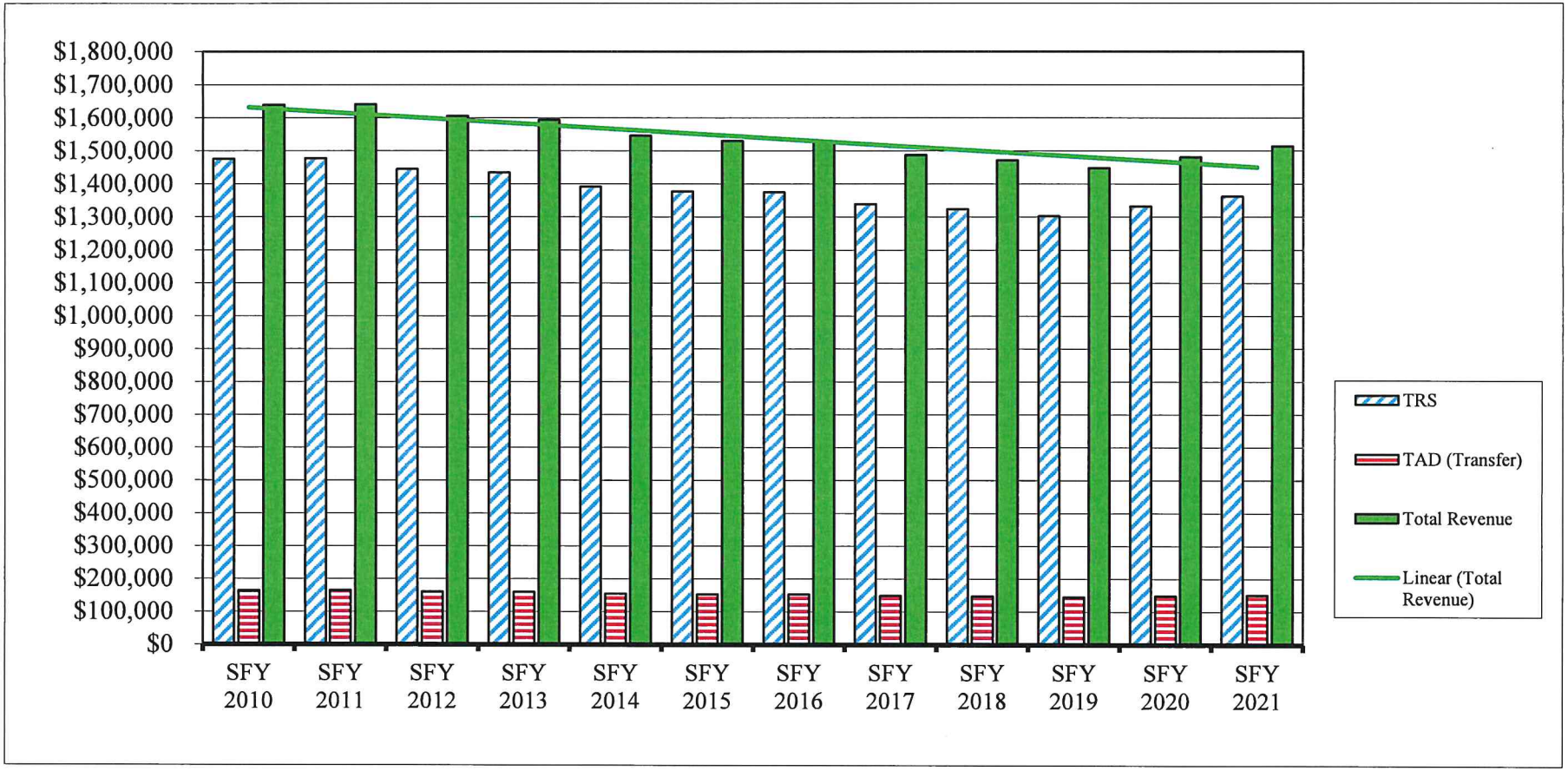
SD Department of Human Services
Telecommunication Relay Services
Cumulative Number of Lines/Units per Annual Period, by Category Type (Attachment 1)



SOUTH DAKOTA TELECOMMUNICATION RELAY MINUTES
Contract Years 2019 - 2021
(Attachment 2)

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**	
TRS CY 2021 : 06/01/2020 - 5/31/2021				**CapTel CY 2021 : 06/01/2020 - 5/31/2021**		
Month	Minutes			Month	Minutes	
Jun	952			Jun	6,888	
Jul	1,263			Jul	6,093	
Aug	982			Aug	6,051	
Sep	945			Sep	6,157	
Oct	616			Oct	6,343	
Nov	904			Nov	6,076	
Dec	918			Dec	5,969	
Jan	766			Jan	5,479	
Feb	615			Feb	4,470	
Mar	793			Mar	3,664	
Apr	1,050			Apr	3,587	
May	791			May	3,391	
Total	**10,595**			**Total**	**64,168**	

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



TRS-Graph_11.24.21.xlsx
Column Chart of Revenue

Last Updated: 12/14/2015
Printed: 11/29/2021