

# PRESS RELEASE

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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August 21, 2019

## LEVERAGE TELEHEALTH AND TELEMEDICINE LEGISLATIVE TASK FORCE TO MEET

**PIERRE** – Senate Concurrent Resolution 2, passed during the 2019 Legislation Session, included a task force to leverage telehealth and telemedicine to the full appropriate extent, with focus on the areas of acute assessment and crisis supports, along with mental health assessments and counseling. This task force will meet for the second time on Tuesday, August 27, 2019, at 10:00 a.m. (CT) in Room 413 of the State Capitol in Pierre, South Dakota.

The Task Force will hear from the National Conference of State Legislatures on what is happening in the area of telemental health in other states. Members will learn about access to mental health services in the state's tribal communities and will look at the statewide virtual capacity and forthcoming enhancements of that capacity. In addition, the committee members will be updated on several mental health grants that have been awarded within the state and examine the state's mental health workforce. The public is welcome to attend; public testimony will be taken in the afternoon.

The Task Force members are Senator Deb Soholt (R-Sioux Falls), Chair; Representative Herman Otten (R-Lennox), Vice Chair; Senator Jim Stalzer (R-Sioux Falls), Representative Linda Duba (D-Sioux Falls), Representative Tamara St. John (R-Sisseton), Brian Erickson (Sioux Falls), Amy Hartman (Sioux Falls), Rebecca Kiesow-Knudsen (Sioux Falls), Susan Kornder (Aberdeen), Dr. Melita Rank (Fort Thompson), Kelly Serr (Bison), and Tiffany Wolfgang (Sioux Falls).

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*This meeting is being held in a physically accessible location. Any individual needing assistance, pursuant to the Americans with Disabilities Act, should contact the Legislative Research Council (605-773-3251) in advance of the meeting to make further arrangements.*

*All committee agendas, minutes, and audio are available on the LRC website: <http://www.sdlegislature.gov/>. Live committee audio is provided by South Dakota Public Broadcasting and is also available at <http://www.sd.net>. You may subscribe to electronic delivery of agendas and minutes at My LRC on the LRC website.*