South Dakota Legislature

State Capitol, 500 East Capitol, Pierre, South Dakota 57501-5070

Interim Joint Committee on Appropriations
Representative Justin Cronin, Chair
Senator Deb Peters, Vice Chair

March 31, 2015

Dr. Melody Schopp, Secretary
Department of Education
800 Governors Drive
Pierre, SD 57501

Letter of Intent Regarding Legislation Approved in the 2015 Session

Dear Dr. Schopp:

This Letter of Intent sets forth a particular view held by the Joint Committee on Appropriations in approving your appropriation in the 2015 Legislative Session. As such, it supplements that appropriation with a specific policy guideline as approved on March 30, 2015.

While the guideline does not have the direct force of statutory law, it rests solidly on a long-standing tradition of Legislative-Executive relationships in South Dakota and it will be used by the Joint Committee as one basis for the fiscal oversight of your agency and its continued funding.

HB1191 provided $250,000 in general funds to the Department of Education to allow additional school districts to participate in the JAG program. It is the intent of the Joint Committee on Appropriations that not more than 20% of the funding made available through this Act may be used to fund administrative costs of the program. For purposes of this Letter of Intent, the restriction applies to all levels of program administration, including the State Department of Education, local school district administration, and services provided by the State JAG coordinator.

Thank you for your cooperation.

/ S / Representative Justin Cronin

Representative Justin Cronin
Chair, Interim Joint Appropriations

/ S / Senator Deb Peters

Senator Deb Peters
Vice Chair, Interim Joint Appropriations

cc: Marty Guindon, Auditor General
Jason Dilges, Commissioner, Bureau of Finance and Management