



Joint Committee on Appropriations

SENATOR JOHN WIIK, CO-CHAIR
REPRESENTATIVE CHRIS KARR, CO-CHAIR

March 29, 2019

Dr. M. Greg DeSautel, Secretary
Department of Social Services
Kneip Building
Pierre, SD 57501

Ms. Shawnie Rechtenbaugh, Interim Secretary
Department of Human Services
Hillsview Plaza
Pierre, SD 57501

Letter of Intent Regarding Provider Innovation Grants

Dear Secretary DeSautel and Interim Secretary Rechtenbaugh:

This Letter of Intent sets forth a particular view held by the Joint Committee on Appropriations (JCA) in approving your appropriation in the 2019 Legislative session. As such, this Letter of Intent seeks to supplement that legislation with specific policy guidance as approved on March 29, 2019.

While the guidance 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.

The 2019 Legislature approved Senate Bill 173, which provides five million dollars (\$5,000,000) in general funds to the Department of Human Services (DHS) to be used for nursing home innovation grants and to expedite the scheduled review of the nursing home rate methodology and one million dollars (\$1,000,000) in general funds to the Department of Social Services (DSS) to be used for primary and prenatal care innovation grants.

It is the intent of the JCA that DHS and DSS report to the JCA in January 2020 and the Interim JCA in the summer of 2020, as included in Section 6 of the Act. The report shall include, but is not limited to, the following items for both the DHS and DSS grant programs:

- Grant program outline;
- Intended grant outcomes;
- Grant application process;
- Successful grant award criteria;
- Applicant/Recipient location (region) and/or other considerations;
- Grant recipients including project summary, budget summary, and project outcomes; and
- Status of the nursing home rate methodology review.

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Thank you for your cooperation.

Senator John Wiik
Lead Co-Chair, Joint Committee on Appropriations

Representative Chris Karr
Co-Chair, Joint Committee on Appropriations

cc: Marty Guindon, Auditor General
Liza Clark, Commissioner, Bureau of Finance and Management