



**DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES**

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OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

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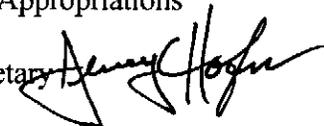
Website: [dhs.sd.gov](http://dhs.sd.gov)

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**MEMORANDUM**

**DATE:** February 22, 2010

**TO:** Joint Committee on Appropriations

**FROM:** Jerry C. Hofer, Secretary 

**SUBJECT:** South Dakota Developmental Center

During our meeting with the Joint Committee on Appropriations to discuss the Department of Human Services' recommended budget for FY2011, there were several questions and discussion regarding the need for and viability of the South Dakota Developmental Center (SDDC). As I mentioned, we believe the SDDC plays a critical role in the overall developmental disabilities service delivery system in South Dakota. Since our budget hearing, we have been able to complete the attached white paper on the mission and role SDDC plays in this system and outline several, critical factors that must be considered carefully as discussions occur about downsizing and/or closure of SDDC, most notably that closure of SDDC will not generate a savings to the State of South Dakota but, in fact, will cost more to successfully support this population in community settings.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions about this report.