EXCITING CAREER OPPORTUNITY!

THE SOUTH DAKOTA LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH COUNCIL IS RECRUITING FOR

LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH COUNCIL DIRECTOR
COMPETITIVE SALARY RANGE AND BENEFITS

The Agency

The South Dakota Legislative Research Council (LRC) was established by the 1951 Legislature. All LRC staff positions are nonpartisan and at-will.

The LRC staff and their services are the backbone of the functions and activities of the South Dakota Legislature. Through the work of LRC staff, the Legislature is better able to operate and assert itself as an independent and effective branch of state government.

Services provided by the LRC include committee staffing, policy and legal research, drafting legislation, fiscal and budgetary analysis, information technology, administrative rules oversight, and program evaluations.

Position Description

The LRC Director position is the chief executive officer for this agency, which consists of 27 full-time staff and a $6.0 million budget. Also, during the legislative session there are at least 30 temporary employees, 22 legislative interns, and approximately 100 legislative pages (20 per paging term) who provide staff support to the Legislature. Please see the next page for the LRC organization chart.

The Director works under minimal day-to-day direction, with significant latitude for taking initiative and exercising independent judgment. The Director interacts with all legislators, particularly leadership in both parties and chambers, as well as high-ranking government officials including the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Secretary of State, Attorney General, Chief Justice, and executive agency cabinet secretaries and commissioners.
Compensation and Benefits

The Legislative Research Council offers an exceptional compensation and benefit program committed to employee well-being, which includes:

- 10 paid holidays
- 15 days of vacation leave per year for new employees
- 14 days of sick leave per year
- Comp Time flexibility
- A generous employer-paid health insurance plan
- Employer paid $25,000 basic life insurance with additional coverage available, including long and short-term disability plans, accidental death and dismemberment plans and long-term care insurance
- Among the best-funded, most reliable, and sustainable state defined-benefit retirement plans in the United States (one of only two state plans that is over 100% funded, as per Pew 2019 study)
- Flexible spending accounts (FSA)
To Qualify

The ideal candidate would have a graduate degree in economics, law, public policy, political science, accounting, business or public administration, or any closely related field, plus at least ten years of increasingly responsible experience in full-time, professional work in a legislative environment, including at least five years of experience in staff supervision and leadership.

An ideal candidate is also strongly trustworthy, competent, of mature temperament, discrete, a resolute leader, fair, a problem-solver, well-organized, positive in attitude, of sound judgment, nonpartisan in approach and not strongly identified with any particular political party, movement, or faction, and undivided in his or her loyalty to the South Dakota Legislature.

An acceptable candidate would have adequate college experience in economics, law, public policy, political science, accounting, business or public administration, or any closely related field, plus at least fifteen years of increasingly responsible experience in full-time, professional work in a legislative environment, including at least five years of staff supervision and leadership, and would not be deficient in any of the personal characteristics listed for an ideal candidate.

Pierre, South Dakota

Founded in 1880 on the Missouri River opposite Fort Pierre, Pierre (pronounced “Pier”) is the geographic center of the state. Fort Pierre was named after Pierre Chouteau, Jr., an American fur trader of French origin. In addition to being the state capital, Pierre is the county seat of Hughes County.

Pierre has a population of 13,646 and a low cost of living and other favorable characteristics compared to national averages, such as 16% more college graduates, and 10% higher public school ACT scores, while median household incomes right at the U.S. average and median owner-occupied home prices 17% below the U.S. average result in higher discretionary household income.

There are many outdoor and indoor recreational, cultural, and leisure activities for Pierre residents. The Oahe Family YMCA/Pierre Aquatic Center features a gym and an eight-lane, 25-yard indoor pool. Other pool features designed for youth include a zero-depth entrance, play equipment, a small slide, and many water spray devices. The 85-foot whitewater slide and one-meter diving board are also popular features.

Other area amenities include a seasonal outdoor pool, indoor skating venues, two 18-hole golf courses, public horseshoe pits, shooting ranges, and a disc golf course, riverfront parks and camping, a 16-lane bowling alley, and Hyde Stadium, which houses Pierre’s American Legion Post 8 baseball team and the Pierre Trappers of the Expedition League, an eight-team, wooden bat summer league for college baseball players. An outdoor waterpark is also scheduled to open in 2022.

Pierre residents have access to year-round hunting, with a rich diversity of big and small game, and world-class fishing. The Pierre area’s numerous lakes and ponds boast extraordinary freshwater fishing in every season. Abundant, well-managed populations of numerous species provide exciting fishing on hundreds of miles of shoreline on Lake Oahe and Lake Sharpe, which also offer unsurpassed boating opportunities. Smaller ponds and lakes dot the nearby prairies, and the Fort Pierre National Grassland offers excellent fishing from shore and small craft.
Application Deadline: Monday, March 9, 2020

To apply for this position, please submit a resume, cover letter and any supporting documents to the Legislative Research Council:

E-Mail: Legis.Resume@sdlegislature.gov

or

Fax: 605-773-4576

or

Mailing Address:

    Jason Hancock, Director
    South Dakota Legislative Research Council
    500 East Capitol Avenue
    Pierre, SD  57501