



SOUTH DAKOTA LEGISLATURE

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

August 26, 2009

Mr. Tim Reisch, Secretary
Department of Corrections
3200 East Highway 34
c/o 500 East Capitol Ave
Pierre, South Dakota 57501

Dear Secretary Reisch:

The Government Operations and Audit Committee has scheduled a meeting for September 21, 2009, in Room 413, in the State Capitol Building, to review various issues involving state government.

The Committee requests that you provide a written response to the Committee on the following questions relating to juveniles in out-of-state private placement facilities:

1. What is the recidivism rate for the juveniles who are in out of state placement?
2. Are most of these children being aged out at these out of state facilities?
3. How many of these children are coming back to South Dakota to reside?
4. Are we tracking what happens after they are discharged from the out of state placement facility?
5. Do we know whether they are coming into the adult system on new misdemeanor or felony charges when they are adults?
6. Has the number of juveniles needing out of state placement increased or decreased or maintained stagnant over the last few years?
7. How do our costs compare to other state costs for these out of state placed children (it appears 57 children cost us \$2.6 million)?

Please forward this information to Tim Flannery, Department of Legislative Audit, 427 S. Chapelle, Pierre, SD 57501.

If you have any questions, please contact Tim Flannery with the Department of Legislative Audit at 773-3595.

Sincerely,

Representative Deb Peters, Chair
Government Operations and Audit Committee

Cc: Jason Dilges, Commissioner of Bureau of Finance and Management
Neil Fulton, Governors Office