

DEC 16 2019



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December 13, 2019

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

Dear Director Hancock,

In accordance with South Dakota Codified Law § 49-31-53, the Department of Human Services is required to report annually to the South Dakota State Legislature on the status of the access fee charged to telephones, pagers, and cell phones in the State. I am hereby submitting the recommendation that the current \$.15 access fee is sufficient to continue the Telecommunications Relay Services Program and Captioned Telephone Relay Services, and I recommend that the fee stay the same. This recommendation is based on the following information:

1. Number of lines and units that have been established and are assessed the access fee (Attachment 1),
2. Number of minutes being utilized by the relay service in South Dakota (Attachment 2), and
3. Revenues based on the State's Accounting System for deposit into the Telecommunication Fund for the Deaf (Attachment 3).

The fund balance at the close of SFY19 was \$2,857,168.07.

I request that you, as Director of the Legislative Research Council, pass this information along to the appropriate Legislators or Committees during this Legislative Session. If you have further questions or require additional information, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Shawnie Rechtenbaugh".

Shawnie Rechtenbaugh/Cabinet Secretary  
Department of Human Services

**SD Department of Human Services  
Telecommunication Relay Services  
Cumulative Number of Lines/Units per Annual Period, by Category Type (Attachment 1)**



**SOUTH DAKOTA TELECOMMUNICATION RELAY MINUTES**  
**Contract Years 2016 - 2019**  
**(Attachment 2)**

| <b>TRS CY 2016 : 06/01/2015 - 5/31/2016</b> |               |  | <b>CapTel CY 2016 : 06/01/2015 - 5/31/2016</b> |                |  |
|---|---------------|--|--|----------------|--|
| Month                                       | Minutes       |  | Month  | Minutes        |  |
| Jun   | 5,390         |  | Jun  | 12,406         |  |
| Jul   | 5,437         |  | Jul  | 13,838         |  |
| Aug   | 5,637         |  | Aug  | 13,822         |  |
| Sep   | 4,961         |  | Sep  | 12,293         |  |
| Oct   | 6,757         |  | Oct  | 13,558         |  |
| Nov   | 8,073         |  | Nov  | 16,385         |  |
| Dec   | 6,432         |  | Dec  | 16,113         |  |
| Jan   | 6,268         |  | Jan  | 15,182         |  |
| Feb   | 5,775         |  | Feb  | 15,279         |  |
| Mar   | 5,321         |  | Mar  | 14,570         |  |
| Apr   | 4,283         |  | Apr  | 12,443         |  |
| May   | 3,936         |  | May  | 12,174         |  |
| <b>Total</b>                                | <b>68,270</b> |  | <b>Total</b>                                   | <b>168,063</b> |  |
| <b>TRS CY 2017 : 06/01/2016 - 5/31/2017</b> |               |  | <b>CapTel CY 2017 : 06/01/2016 - 5/31/2017</b> |                |  |
| Month                                       | Minutes       |  | Month  | Minutes        |  |
| Jun   | 4,247         |  | Jun  | 13,760         |  |
| Jul   | 5,335         |  | Jul  | 12,613         |  |
| Aug   | 4,418         |  | Aug  | 13,090         |  |
| Sep   | 3,218         |  | Sep  | 12,614         |  |
| Oct   | 3,249         |  | Oct  | 12,893         |  |
| Nov   | 3,520         |  | Nov  | 13,890         |  |
| Dec   | 3,366         |  | Dec  | 16,001         |  |
| Jan   | 3,938         |  | Jan  | 15,299         |  |
| Feb   | 3,239         |  | Feb  | 12,589         |  |
| Mar   | 3,362         |  | Mar  | 14,539         |  |
| Apr   | 2,580         |  | Apr  | 11,864         |  |
| May   | 3,757         |  | May  | 12,545         |  |
| <b>Total</b>                                | <b>44,229</b> |  | <b>Total</b>                                   | <b>161,697</b> |  |
| <b>TRS CY 2018 : 06/01/2017 - 5/31/2018</b> |               |  | <b>CapTel CY 2018 : 06/01/2017 - 5/31/2018</b> |                |  |
| Month                                       | Minutes       |  | Month  | Minutes        |  |
| Jun   | 2,805         |  | Jun  | 11,370         |  |
| Jul   | 3,730         |  | Jul  | 10,894         |  |
| Aug   | 2,703         |  | Aug  | 10,020         |  |
| Sep   | 2,930         |  | Sep  | 9,708          |  |
| Oct   | 1,613         |  | Oct  | 9,806          |  |
| Nov   | 1,883         |  | Nov  | 10,348         |  |
| Dec   | 1,585         |  | Dec  | 10,397         |  |
| Jan   | 2,227         |  | Jan  | 10,020         |  |
| Feb   | 1,743         |  | Feb  | 8,915          |  |
| Mar   | 1,709         |  | Mar  | 9,588          |  |
| Apr   | 1,548         |  | Apr  | 8,866          |  |
| May   | 1,067         |  | May  | 8,776          |  |
| <b>Total</b>                                | <b>25,543</b> |  | <b>Total</b>                                   | <b>118,707</b> |  |
| <b>TRS CY 2019 : 06/01/2018 - 5/31/2019</b> |               |  | <b>CapTel CY 2019 : 06/01/2018 - 5/31/2019</b> |                |  |
| Month                                       | Minutes       |  | Month  | Minutes        |  |
| Jun   | 994           |  | Jun  | 7,636          |  |
| Jul   | 1,047         |  | Jul  | 7,678          |  |
| Aug   | 818           |  | Aug  | 7,914          |  |
| Sep   | 984           |  | Sep  | 7,004          |  |
| Oct   | 1,223         |  | Oct  | 8,023          |  |
| Nov   | 1,045         |  | Nov  | 8,495          |  |
| Dec   | 1,011         |  | Dec  | 9,480          |  |
| Jan   | 946           |  | Jan  | 7,997          |  |
| Feb   | 157           |  | Feb  | 8,070          |  |
| Mar   | 963           |  | Mar  | 9,344          |  |
| Apr   | 944           |  | Apr  | 9,480          |  |
| May   | 1,010         |  | May  | 7,922          |  |
| <b>Total</b>                                | <b>11,142</b> |  | <b>Total</b>                                   | <b>99,043</b>  |  |

**SD Department of Human Services  
Telecommunication Relay Services  
Revenues based on State's Accounting System (Attachment 3)**

