STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
EXECUTIVE ORDER 2015-06

WHEREAS, The 2014 Legislature created a task force to study the public health issue of sexual abuse of children in South Dakota, called Jolene’s Law Task Force; and,

WHEREAS, The Jolene’s Law Task Force made recommendations to the Legislature during the 2015 Legislative Session, successfully updating South Dakota statutes and improving mandatory reports of child abuse; and,

WHEREAS, The work of the Task Force is not finished, and the group needs additional time to study the impact of sexual abuse of children, and such matters of public health are appropriate to be addressed by the South Dakota Department of Health; and,

WHEREAS, Jolene’s Law Task Force will study and make policy recommendations to address the following areas:

1) Methods to increase awareness of issues regarding sexual abuse of children, including warning signs that may indicate that a child is the victim of sexual abuse and the actions and language a child may use to express that they are a victim of sexual abuse;

2) The actions that a child who is the victim of sexual abuse could take to obtain assistance and intervention;

3) How to best provide support and assistance to children who are victims of sexual abuse;

4) Policies to encourage adults to take responsibility for the protection of children from sexual abuse and to respond appropriately when sexual abuse of a child is suspected;

5) Collaboration of public and private organizations to assist in the recognition and prevention of sexual abuse of children, using research and evidence based practice; and

6) Any other recommendation the task force deems appropriate in addressing this issue:

IT IS THEREFORE, BY EXECUTIVE ORDER, directed that the Jolene’s Law Task Force shall be continued and meet the following conditions:

The task force shall consist of the following sixteen members appointed by the Governor:

- Two members of the Senate;
- Two members of the House of Representatives;
- A child abuse pediatrician whose experience and clinical practice is associated with a child advocacy center in the state;
- A representative associated with a non-profit organization that provides training and education aimed at the prevention of sexual abuse of children;
- A representative from a child advocacy center in the state with experience serving children who have been subjected to sexual abuse;
- A person who was a victim of sexual abuse as a child;
- A representative from a tribal organization in this state with experience and training in the area of sexual abuse of children;
- A representative of a law enforcement organization in the state with direct experience working with child sexual abuse investigations;
- A victim’s advocate who works directly with child victims of sexual abuse; and
- A mental health professional with experience and training using trauma focused cognitive behavioral therapy in the area of child sexual abuse;
A representative from the Department of Social Services;
A representative from the Department of Health;
A representative from the Department of Education; and
A state's attorney.

The Jolene’s Law Task Force shall be under the supervision of the South Dakota Department of Health and the Executive Branch. Staffing and funding shall not exceed $21,000 per fiscal year.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Dennis Daugaard, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby order Jolene’s Law Task Force to continue for an additional year to study the sexual abuse of children, South Dakota’s most important and vulnerable asset, and to make recommendations to the Legislature on policies to effectively address this issue.

Jolene’s Law Task Force

BE IT FURTHER ORDERED, That this Executive Order and the Task Force expire January 1, 2016.

Dated in Pierre, South Dakota, this Seventh day of April, 2015.

Dennis Daugaard
Governor of South Dakota

Shantel Krebs
Secretary of State
STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
EXECUTIVE ORDER 2015-07

IT IS DIRECTED, BY EXECUTIVE ORDER, Executive Order 2015-06 is hereby amended so the Jolene’s Law Task Force shall consist of seventeen members appointed by the Governor to include three members of the Senate and two members of the House of Representatives.

Dated in Pierre, South Dakota, this fifteenth day of April, 2015.

Dennis Daugaard
Governor of South Dakota

ATTEST:

Shantel Krebs
Secretary of State