

**STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
EXECUTIVE ORDER 2025-07**

Whereas, The State of South Dakota has a constitutional obligation pursuant to Article XIV § 1 to provide a penitentiary. We have a moral obligation to make that penitentiary more than a building that simply locks up offenders; and,

Whereas, The current state penitentiary, built in 1881, is deteriorating and has limited space for programming or rehabilitative services necessary to improve outcomes for inmates, to reduce recidivism, and to help inmates safely reenter their communities; and,

Whereas, The 2025 Legislature in Special Session on September 23, 2025, proudly supported Senate Bill 2, the act authorizing the purchase of land and the construction of a new facility that increases programming, rehabilitative, and vocational spaces by thousands of square feet compared to the current dismal offerings capable at the current state penitentiary; and,

Whereas, Although the new facility is expected to open over four years from now, studying the needs and opportunities for the space helps inform design and building choices early in this pre-construction phase:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Larry Rhoden, Governor of the State of South Dakota, by the authority vested in me by the Constitution and the Laws of the State, including SDCL 1-32-4.1, do hereby Order and Direct that this task force be established according to the provisions of this Executive Order.

General Provisions

Section 1. The name of the advisory council is Correctional Rehabilitation Task Force.

Section 2. The Governor may appoint as many members as the Governor deems necessary to carry out the directives of the Task Force. The membership shall at least include:

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| 1) Lieutenant Governor, serving as chairperson, | 6) One Indigenous representative, |
| 2) Six current House of Representative members, | 7) One healthcare representative with behavioral or mental health expertise, |
| 3) Five current Senate members, | 8) One representative with experience in correctional rehabilitative services, and |
| 4) One judge, current or retired, | 9) Any other interested representative deemed necessary by the Governor. |
| 5) Two law enforcement representatives, | |

All members serve at the pleasure of the Governor. In the event of vacancies, appointments shall be made by the Governor. There are no term limits.

Section 3. The Lieutenant Governor shall assemble, administer, and lead the Task Force. The Task Force is attached to the Office of the Governor with expenses paid by Department of Corrections. The Task Force shall meet at the call of the Lieutenant Governor.

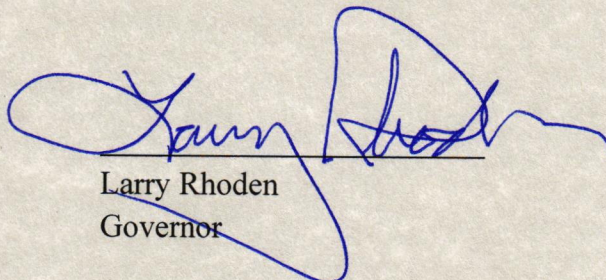
Section 4. The Task Force shall have the following directives and functions:

- a. Evaluate programming and treatment needs for the inmate population in the new facility, and identify opportunities for expansion;
- b. Engage in consultation to understand needs of Native American-focused programming;
- c. Engage in consultation for faith-based programming;
- c. Study re-entry models and best practices; and
- d. Make recommendations for legislation to the Governor and the Legislature.

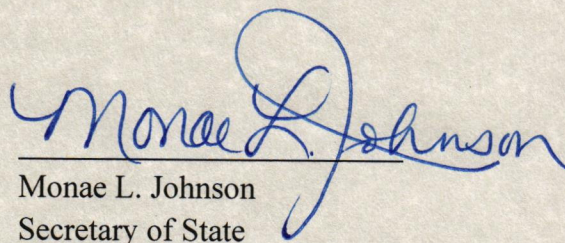
Section 5. Unless sooner terminated by the Governor, the Task Force shall expire on January 1, 2027.

Dated in Pierre, South Dakota, this 23rd day of September, 2025.




Larry Rhoden
Governor

ATTEST:


Monae L. Johnson
Secretary of State