



South Dakota Secretary of State

Monae L. Johnson
Secretary of State

Thomas J. Deadrick
Deputy Secretary of State

For Immediate Release: January 27, 2025

Contact: SOS.Media@state.sd.us

Secretary of State Monae L. Johnson Congratulates Homeland Security Director Kristi Noem and Governor Larry Rhoden

(PIERRE, S.D.) – Secretary of State Monae L. Johnson released the following statement in response to the U.S. Senate's confirmation of Gov. Kristi Noem as U.S. Homeland Security Director and Lt. Gov. Larry Rhoden becoming South Dakota's 34th Governor:

"Congratulations to Secretary Noem on her confirmation as U.S. Homeland Security Director. It has been an honor working with her as Secretary of State, and I am confident she will bring her strong leadership and unwavering commitment to this important role, keeping America safe and secure.

"Congratulations as well to Governor Larry Rhoden. Having worked alongside him for years, including during my time as the Meade County Republican Women's President, I know firsthand his dedication to South Dakota and his passion for promoting South Dakota. I look forward to continuing to work closely with him as he leads our state.

"Both leaders embody the spirit of service that makes South Dakota great, and I wish them success in their new roles."