

**STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA
OFFICE OF GOVERNOR
EXECUTIVE ORDER 2025-04**

Whereas, The State of South Dakota's state motto is "Under God, the People Rule", a statement of the fundamental responsibility to serve in a manner that reflects the values, priorities, and trust of its people; and,

Whereas, Public service requires integrity of actions and entrustment of tax dollars to the state employees charged with providing essential public services, infrastructure, and programs that serve the people; and,

Whereas, When a state employee acts, even in isolation, to misuse their position or mismanage tax dollars, that can erode confidence, create inefficiencies, and undermine the integrity of our public institutions and caused a review to strengthen a system's checks and balances and the enforcement of laws, regulations, policies, internal controls, and other accountability measures that are implemented to ensure oversight, auditing, and controls meet proper stewardship of public funds and services; and,

Whereas, In addition to the many accountability measures implemented over the last year under the Noem-Rhoden Administration, the Governor signed into law, an Act to establish mandatory reporting requirements related to improper governmental conduct and crime ("SB62") and an Act to establish protections for state employees who report improper governmental conduct and crime ("SB63"); and,

Whereas, Statewide implementation of these Acts through a secure and standard reporting mechanism is an important priority to facilitate the obligations and protections required of the Acts in furtherance of the integrity of state operations and functions; and,

Whereas, Statewide employee and supervisor training to understand key principles and obligations about these accountability measures provides necessary protections owed to the citizens' government to ensure integrity of our public institutions:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Larry Rhoden, Governor of the State of South Dakota, by the authority vested in me by the Constitution and Laws of the State, do hereby Order and Direct the following:

Section 1 Standard Reporting Mechanism: The Bureau of Human Resources and Administration and the Bureau of Information and Telecommunications shall cooperate to create a secure standard reporting mechanism that can easily be accessed by all state employees and supervisors on the state's computer network systems via online desktop application or website link. This secure standard reporting system will facilitate the secure and efficient submission of both employee reports to supervisors and supervisor required reports to the Attorney General and

Auditor General in accordance with the statutory requirements of SB62.

Section 2 Employee Report of Improper Governmental Conduct: An employee may submit a required report through the standard online reporting system to ensure secure and efficient reporting that meets statutory obligations beginning no later than July 1, 2025. Exceptions may apply in the case of prolonged computer network outages or access impediments that unduly impede the prompt notification of a supervisor as required by statute. In such case, an employee may submit a hardcopy of the employee report to their supervisor on a form that meets the same standards and requirements established for online submission of the employee report.

Section 3 Supervisor Required Report of Improper Governmental Conduct: Unless the Attorney General or Auditor General grants exception, all supervisors are required to submit a SB62 supervisor required report to the Attorney General and Auditor General through the standard online reporting system beginning no later than July 1, 2025. Exceptions may apply in the case of prolonged computer network outages or access impediments that unduly impede the prompt submission of required reports. In such case, unless directed otherwise by the Attorney General or Auditor General, supervisors may submit a hardcopy of the supervisor required report on a form that meets the same standards and requirements established for online submission of the supervisor required report.

Section 4 Training: The Bureau of Human Resources and Administration shall create and implement training to ensure all state employees and supervisors are informed of the obligations and protections encompassed in Senate Bill 62 and Senate Bill 63.

BE IT FURTHER ORDERED, This Executive Order shall continue until revoked.

Dated in Pierre, South Dakota, this 28th day of April, 2025.



A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Larry Rhoden".

Larry Rhoden
Governor

ATTEST:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Monae L. Johnson".

Monae L. Johnson
Secretary of State