



2022 South Dakota Legislature

Senate Bill 155

Introduced by: **Senator Kolbeck**

1 **An Act to create the families first grant program and to make an appropriation**
2 **therefor.**

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA:

4 **Section 1. That chapter 1-51 be amended with a NEW SECTION:**

5 The families first grant program is established in the Department of Public Safety.

6 The program must be used to provide grants to organizations that assist:

7 (1) Children who have been abused or neglected;

8 (2) Victims of domestic violence; and

9 (3) Victims of sexual assault.

10 **Section 2. That chapter 1-51 be amended with a NEW SECTION:**

11 The families first grant program fund is established in the state treasury. The fund
12 is to be administered by Department of Public Safety.

13 The fund consists of contributions, grants, transfers, settlement funds, interest
14 received on moneys in the fund, and any other moneys collected for the purpose of
15 providing grants, as authorized by section 1 of this Act.

16 The state treasurer shall distribute the fund balance quarterly to the department,
17 for the purpose of administering and funding the families first grant program.

18 **Section 3. That chapter 1-51 be amended with a NEW SECTION:**

19 Grants provided in accordance with section 1 of this Act may be used to fund the
20 operation of shelters, provide legal services, provide counseling services, provide staff
21 education and training, and support court-appointed special advocate services. The
22 awarding of grants is subject to recommendations by the South Dakota Network Against
23 Family Violence and Sexual Assault.

1 **Section 4. That chapter 1-51 be amended with a NEW SECTION:**

2 The Department of Public Safety shall submit a report to the state treasurer on or
3 before October first of each year setting forth the name and location of each organization
4 that received a families first grant, the purpose of the grant, and the administrative
5 expenses incurred by the grant recipient.

6 **Section 5.** There is hereby appropriated from the general fund the sum of \$6,000,000 for
7 the purpose of providing grants through the families first grant program.

8 **Section 6.** The secretary of the Department of Public Safety shall approve vouchers and the
9 state auditor shall draw warrants to pay expenditures authorized by this Act.

10 **Section 7.** Any amounts appropriated in this Act not lawfully expended or obligated shall
11 revert in accordance with the procedures prescribed in chapter 4-8.

12 **Section 8.** Whereas, this Act is necessary for the support of the state government and its
13 existing public institutions, an emergency is hereby declared to exist, and this Act shall be in
14 full force and effect from and after its passage and approval.