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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Thursday, Jan. 13, 2011
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GOVERNOR REORGANIZES SEVERAL DEPARTMENTS

PIERRE, S.D. – Gov. Dennis Daugaard has signed an executive order reorganizing several state government departments and realigning various entities formerly in those departments.

“I believe these changes will make the best use of state resources and will benefit the citizens of South Dakota,” the Governor said. “This reorganization will help focus our mission to serve taxpayers by allowing state government to operate as efficiently and economically as possible.”

The Governor’s order:

- Abolishes the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs, replacing it with a Department of Veterans Affairs and a Department of the Military
- Creates a Department of Tribal Relations, transferring the Office of Tribal Government Relations to the new department
- Abolishes the Department of Revenue and Regulation, replacing it with a Department of Revenue
- Abolishes the Department of Labor, replacing it with a Department of Labor and Regulation
- Abolishes the Department of Tourism and State Development, replacing it with a Department of Tourism and a Governor’s Office of Economic Development
- Transfers certain divisions of the Department of Human Services to the Mental Health Division of the Department of Social Services

“It is especially important to elevate tribal relations, economic development, and tourism functions to Cabinet-level status,” Gov. Daugaard said. “Improving lives and creating jobs by fostering South Dakota’s business and visitor industry climate are among my primary goals.”

The changes and all other provisions of the Governor’s executive order may be viewed on the state homepage at: <http://www.sd.gov/>