



Policy Update

May 30, 2025

South Dakota Plans to Submit Waiver for Medicaid Work Requirement

The State of South Dakota's Department for Social Services is intending to submit a waiver to the federal government to allow for a work requirement as a component of eligibility for the adult Medicaid expansion population. This change would align with the recent passage of Constitutional Amendment F during the 2024 South Dakota General Election. The Department of Social Services also plans on holding two hearings that will be open to the public. These hearings will take place in Pierre on May 30 and in Sioux Falls on June 12.

Click [here](#) to learn more about the waiver and information about the upcoming hearings.

South Dakota USDA Positions Appointed

The U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Brooke Rollins recently announced the latest slate of presidential appointments for key positions at the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) including the Food and Nutrition Service (FNS), Farm Service Agency (FSA) and Rural Development (RD). Below are the two individuals who will be serving their respective departments.

Lorraine Polak Appointed as State Director, South Dakota Rural Development

Lorraine Polak will serve as State Director for Rural Development in South Dakota. Growing up on a dairy farm in Nebraska, Lorraine has worked in public service for more than 30 years in the areas of housing and economic development serving most recently as the Housing Policy Specialist for U.S. Senator Mike Rounds.

Roger Chase Appointed as State Executive Director, South Dakota Farm Service Agency

Roger Chase will serve as State Director for the Farm Service Agency in South Dakota. He has an extensive background in both business and agriculture. He is an owner and partner in Chase Grain and Cattle with his oldest son. The farm raises diversified crops and cattle. He served as a State Representative in South Dakota from 2017-2024, conducting several leadership assignments on summer studies, and Chaired the House Agriculture and Natural Resources committee.

Click [here](#) for more information about the appointments.

Toby Doeden Announces Bid for Governor

Toby Doeden, a business owner from Brown County, recently announced his bid for governor. This is the second Republican candidate to officially enter the race as Jon Hansen from Dell Rapids announced his intention to seek the governor's office in April. Unlike Jon Hansen, Toby Doeden has not announced his running mate and has not held an elected office.

The South Dakota primary election will be held June 2, 2026.

Click [here](#) to learn more about the 2026 election.

Contact for Questions

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