



Volunteer Fire Service Assistance

Department of Public Safety

Overview

Governor Noem's recommended budget includes \$2,000,000 in one-time funding to support firefighter training as well as recruitment and retention efforts for fire departments statewide. Firefighters play an important role in South Dakota's emergency response plan and provide support to citizens in their time of need. To ensure our firefighters are providing these necessary services in the safest and most efficient manner possible, the Governor is recommending funding to support training and recruitment efforts.

Project Description

This funding will be utilized to purchase mobile live-fire simulation trailers to support the specialized training that the SD Firefighters Association provides for firefighters across South Dakota. These tools are intended to help firefighters improve their knowledge, skills, and abilities to assist them in meeting standardized training requirements and enhance their effectiveness while on the fireground.

In addition, funding will be used to provide training and equipment at the firefighter training facility in Rapid City, which will be available for use by all fire departments in the state. The availability of a standardized facility will ensure that firefighters receive the training needed to fight fires safely and efficiently.

Finally, this funding will be used to launch a statewide recruitment and retention campaign in collaboration with the Department of Public Safety. This campaign will help South Dakota's fire departments maintain a viable and sustainable volunteer firefighter workforce.