

South Dakota State Board of Charities and Corrections

The South Dakota State Board of Charities and Corrections was established in 1890, shortly after South Dakota became a state. The board supervised many state institutions, including prisons, reform schools, hospitals, and specialized educational institutions.

The South Dakota School for the Deaf came under its authority in 1889–1890, when statehood replaced territorial governance. Under this system, the board oversaw budgets, salaries, maintenance, and administrative matters for the school.

In 1944, South Dakota voters approved a constitutional amendment transferring supervision of the South Dakota School for the Deaf to the South Dakota Board of Regents. The change took effect in 1945.

The State Board of Charities and Corrections was eventually phased out during later state government reorganizations, with its duties transferred to newer departments and specialized boards. It no longer exists under that name today, but it played a major role in shaping South Dakota's early public institutions.