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**FW: Media Advisory: State Employee Union Accepts Governor Ricketts' Proposal for NDCS Salary Increase**

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Thu, Nov 10, 2016 at 3:28 PM

To: "damdor@leg.ne.gov" &lt;damdor@leg.ne.gov&gt;

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**From:** Maher, Eric**Sent:** Thursday, November 10, 2016 3:26 PM**Subject:** Media Advisory: State Employee Union Accepts Governor Ricketts' Proposal for NDCS Salary Increase**Governor Pete Ricketts***Growing Nebraska for the Next Generation***For Immediate Release:****3:25PM CT on November 10, 2016****Media Contacts:****Eric Maher, [402-471-1974](tel:402-471-1974)****Jessica Flanagan, [402-471-1967](tel:402-471-1967)*****Media Release:*****State Employee Union Accepts Governor Ricketts' Proposal for NDCS Salary Increase**

## *Audio quote from Governor Ricketts is attached.*

**LINCOLN** – Today, the Nebraska Association of Public Employees accepted a proposal from Governor Pete Ricketts to modify the current contract to increase salaries of certain staff at the Nebraska Department of Correctional Services (NDCS). An increase for NDCS staff was requested by Governor Ricketts' administration in August when pay competitiveness was identified as a need to increase staffing retention rates in corrections facilities.

“This agreement reflects our ongoing commitment to improve the working conditions and performance of the Department of Corrections,” said Governor Ricketts. “Attracting and retaining talented officers has been identified as a key priority and this agreement will allow us to address those challenges head on immediately rather than waiting until the spring.”

The seven month cost of the increases for the remainder of the biennium, including benefits, is \$1,860,428. The annual cost for 2017 is \$3,189,305. The raises will kick-in on November 28, in time for Christmas.

NDCS intends to manage the costs within the current budget.

# NDCS SALARY INCREASE AGREEMENT

*Classification:  
Hiring Rate:*

*Percentage Increase in*

Corrections Unit Caseworker	5%
Corrections Officer	4.5%
Corrections Corporal	5.4%
Corrections Sergeant	6%
Mental Health Practitioner I	2.4%
Mental Health Practitioner II	4%
Registered Nurse	3.7%
Food Service Specialist	4.2%

**AVERAGE INCREASE 4.4%**

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