

Secretary of the State SOS12500

Permanent Full-Time Positions

Fund	Actual FY 23	Actual FY 24	Appropriation FY 25	Governor Recommended		Legislative	
				FY 26	FY 27	FY 26	FY 27
General Fund	87	88	88	88	88	96	101

Budget Summary

Account	Actual FY 23	Actual FY 24	Appropriation FY 25	Governor Recommended		Legislative	
				FY 26	FY 27	FY 26	FY 27
Personal Services	3,169,850	3,141,961	4,122,878	3,965,359	3,965,359	5,011,011	5,402,637
Other Expenses	3,477,667	2,559,828	2,507,561	2,407,561	2,407,561	3,144,562	3,517,936
Other Current Expenses							
Commercial Recording Division	5,447,614	5,100,563	5,254,148	5,419,159	5,419,159	5,419,159	5,419,159
Early Voting	-	3,080,174	1,320,000	570,000	570,000	3,320,000	1,320,000
Bridgeport Election Monitor	-	-	-	-	-	150,000	150,000
Agency Total - General Fund	12,095,131	13,882,526	13,204,587	12,362,079	12,362,079	17,044,732	15,809,732

Account	Governor Recommended		Legislative		Difference from Governor	
	FY 26	FY 27	FY 26	FY 27	FY 26	FY 27

Policy Revisions

Provide Funding to Support Early Voting Grants to Municipalities

Early Voting	-	-	2,000,000	-	2,000,000	-
Total - General Fund	-	-	2,000,000	-	2,000,000	-

Background

The FY 24 and FY 25 Budget (PA 23-204) provided several sources of funding to support costs to the Secretary of the State and grants to municipalities for the passage of PA 23-5, *An Act Implementing Early Voting*. In FY 24 the Office of the Secretary of State distributed \$1 million in grants to towns, and in the FY 23 they distributed \$1.8 million to towns to offset costs associated with the implementation of early voting.

Legislative

Provide funding of \$2 million in FY 26 to support municipal grants related to early in person voting.

Provide Funding for Other Expenses

Other Expenses	-	-	1,100,000	1,100,000	1,100,000	1,100,000
Total - General Fund	-	-	1,100,000	1,100,000	1,100,000	1,100,000

Legislative

Provide \$1.1 million in FY 26 and FY 27 to support other expenses within the Office of the Secretary of the State.

Provide Funding to Support the CT Voting Rights Act

Personal Services	-	-	488,438	488,438	488,438	488,438
Other Expenses	-	-	500,000	500,000	500,000	500,000
Total - General Fund	-	-	988,438	988,438	988,438	988,438
Positions - General Fund	-	-	5	5	5	5

Account	Governor Recommended		Legislative		Difference from Governor	
	FY 26	FY 27	FY 26	FY 27	FY 26	FY 27

Background

Section 410 of the FY 24 and FY 25 Budget (PA 23-204), codified into state law the *Federal Voting Rights Act of 1965*. These positions were provided to support the implementation of this section and were previously paid for through ARPA funding.

Legislative

Provide funding of \$988,438 and five FTE in FY 26 and FY 27 to support the implementation of the Connecticut Voting Rights Act. This includes making permanent five positions including one deputy election director two staff attorneys, one elections officer, and one database manager. This includes \$475,000 in software and database costs and \$25,000 in translation cost.

Provide Funding to Support the Business Services Division

Personal Services	-	-	86,068	363,432	86,068	363,432
Other Expenses	-	-	-	390,000	-	390,000
Total - General Fund	-	-	86,068	753,432	86,068	753,432
Positions - General Fund	-	-	1	5	1	5

Background

The Business Services Division of the Secretary of State's Office role is to maintain an accurate public record of all business entities operating in the state, manage business filings, and record financing statements and personal property liens.

Legislative

Provide funding of \$86,068 and one position in FY 26 and \$753,432 and five positions in FY 27 to support the Business Services Division. This includes in FY 26 and FY 27 a staff attorney. In FY 27, this additionally includes four license and application analysts, \$360,000 to purchase fraud mitigation software, and \$30,000 to support staff training.

Provide Funding to Support Election Costs

Personal Services	-	-	164,110	164,110	164,110	164,110
Other Expenses	-	-	2,001	120,375	2,001	120,375
Total - General Fund	-	-	166,111	284,485	166,111	284,485
Positions - General Fund	-	-	2	2	2	2

Legislative

Provide two positions and funding of \$166,111 in FY 26 and \$284,485 in FY 27 to support election costs. The two positions are election program managers, who will work with the elections team to ensure that the process complies with all applicable law including the provisions of the CT Voting Rights Act. This additionally, in FY 27 includes \$80,000 in FY 27 to support increased printing costs, \$4,375 to support ADA compliant ballots, and \$36,000 to support the Fresh Desk ticketing systems.

Provide Funding for an Election Monitor for Bridgeport

Bridgeport Election Monitor	-	-	150,000	150,000	150,000	150,000
Total - General Fund	-	-	150,000	150,000	150,000	150,000

Background

Section 225 of PA 25-174, *An Act Authorizing and Adjusting Bonds of the State and Concerning Grant Programs, State Grant Commitments for School Building Projects, Revisions to the School Building Projects Statutes and Various Provisions Revising and Implementing the Budget for the Biennium Ending June 30, 2027*, requires that there be an election monitor for the 2025 and 2026 elections for any city with more than 140,000 residents. This provision currently only applies to Bridgeport.

Legislative

Provide funding of \$150,000 in FY 26 and FY 27 to support an election monitor for Bridgeport.

Provide Funding to Support Absentee Voting Costs

Other Expenses	-	-	135,000	-	135,000	-
Total - General Fund	-	-	135,000	-	135,000	-

Background

This funding is associated with the provisions and reprinting costs to implement HB 7241, *An Act Concerning Absentee Voting for All*.

Legislative

Provide funding of \$135,000 in FY 26 to support costs associated with absentee voting.

Account	Governor Recommended		Legislative		Difference from Governor	
	FY 26	FY 27	FY 26	FY 27	FY 26	FY 27

Provide funding for One IT Analyst 3

Personal Services	-	-	-	114,262	-	114,262
Total - General Fund	-	-	-	114,262	-	114,262
Positions - General Fund	-	-	-	1	-	1

Legislative

Provide funding of \$114,262 and one position in FY 27 to support one IT analyst 3. This position will be used to support the IT components of the elections division.

Provide Funding for Constitutional Officers' Salary Increases

Personal Services	-	-	7,036	7,036	7,036	7,036
Total - General Fund	-	-	7,036	7,036	7,036	7,036

Background

CGS 3-2, 3-11, 3-77, 3-111, and 3-124 tie the salary of the Governor to the salary of the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court and the salaries of other constitutional officers to the salary of a Superior Court judge. New salaries do not go into effect until after the next election for each position which takes place in November 2026.

Legislative

Provide funding of \$7,036 in FY 26 and FY 27 to support salary increases associated with judges' salary increases, which represents a 3.5% increase.

Adjust Funding to Reflect Actual Cost of Early Voting

Other Expenses	-	-	(1,000,000)	(1,000,000)	(1,000,000)	(1,000,000)
Early Voting	(750,000)	(750,000)	-	-	750,000	750,000
Total - General Fund	(750,000)	(750,000)	(1,000,000)	(1,000,000)	(250,000)	(250,000)

Background

The FY 24 and FY 25 Budget (PA 23-204) provided several sources of funding to support costs to the Secretary of the State and grants to municipalities to implement PA 23-5, *An Act Implementing Early Voting*.

Governor

Reduce funding by \$750,000 in FY 26 and FY 27 to reflect current requirements.

Legislative

Reduce funding by \$1,000,000 in FY 26 and FY 27 to reflect current requirements.

Current Services

Annualize the Cost of Existing Wage Agreements

Personal Services	142,481	142,481	142,481	142,481	-	-
Commercial Recording Division	165,011	165,011	165,011	165,011	-	-
Total - General Fund	307,492	307,492	307,492	307,492	-	-

Background

The Governor's Recommended Budget provides funding of \$124.4 million in FY 26 and FY 27, across nine appropriated funds, to reflect current wage-related adjustments resulting from existing wage agreements.

Governor

Provide funding of \$307,492 in both FY 26 and FY 27 to reflect this agency's increased wage costs.

Legislative

Same as Governor

Account	Governor Recommended		Legislative		Difference from Governor	
	FY 26	FY 27	FY 26	FY 27	FY 26	FY 27

Adjust Funding for Printing Services

Other Expenses	(100,000)	(100,000)	(100,000)	(100,000)	-	-
Total - General Fund	(100,000)	(100,000)	(100,000)	(100,000)	-	-

Governor

Reduce funding by \$100,000 in FY 26 and FY 27 to reflect current printing needs.

Legislative

Same as Governor.

Maintain Funding at Current Level

Personal Services	(300,000)	(300,000)	-	-	300,000	300,000
Total - General Fund	(300,000)	(300,000)	-	-	300,000	300,000

Governor

Reduce funding by \$300,000 in FY 26 and FY 27 to reflect current agency requirements.

Legislative

Maintain funding at current level.

Totals

Budget Components	Governor Recommended		Legislative		Difference from Governor	
	FY 26	FY 27	FY 26	FY 27	FY 26	FY 27
FY 25 Appropriation - GF	13,204,587	13,204,587	13,204,587	13,204,587	-	-
Policy Revisions	(750,000)	(750,000)	3,632,653	2,397,653	4,382,653	3,147,653
Current Services	(92,508)	(92,508)	207,492	207,492	300,000	300,000
Total Recommended - GF	12,362,079	12,362,079	17,044,732	15,809,732	4,682,653	3,447,653

Positions	Governor Recommended		Legislative		Difference from Governor	
	FY 26	FY 27	FY 26	FY 27	FY 26	FY 27
FY 25 Appropriation - GF	88	88	88	88	-	-
Policy Revisions	-	-	8	13	8	13
Total Recommended - GF	88	88	96	101	8	13