

Secretary of the State

SOS12500

Permanent Full-Time Positions

Fund	Actual FY 24	Actual FY 25	Governor Estimated FY 26	Original Appropriation FY 27	Governor Revised FY 27	Legislative FY 27	Difference -Gov FY 27
General Fund	88	88	96	101	101	101	-

Budget Summary

Account	Actual FY 24	Actual FY 25	Governor Estimated FY 26	Original Appropriation FY 27	Governor Revised FY 27	Legislative FY 27	Difference -Gov FY 27
Personal Services	3,141,961	3,155,482	4,411,011	5,402,637	5,402,637	4,511,688	(890,949)
Other Expenses	2,559,828	2,466,319	3,144,562	3,517,936	2,617,936	6,227,936	3,610,000
Other Current Expenses							
Commercial Recording Division	5,100,563	5,069,619	5,419,159	5,419,159	5,419,159	5,419,159	-
Early Voting	3,080,174	1,227,379	3,320,000	1,320,000	1,320,000	1,320,000	-
Bridgeport Election Monitor	-	-	150,000	150,000	150,000	150,000	-
Agency Total - General Fund	13,882,526	11,918,799	16,444,732	15,809,732	14,909,732	17,628,783	2,719,051

Account	Governor Revised FY 27	Legislative FY 27	Difference from Governor
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Policy Revisions

Provide Funding for Early Voting Grants to Municipalities

Background

PA 23-204, the FY 24 and FY 25 Budget, provided multiple sources of funding to support costs to the Secretary of the State (SOTS) and grants to municipalities for the passage of PA 23-5, *An Act Implementing Early Voting*. Grants to towns for early voting over the most recent fiscal years have totaled approximately \$1.8 million in FY 24 (carryforward funding), \$1 million in FY 25 (ARPA funding), and \$2 million in FY 26 (General Fund appropriation).

Legislative

Transfer funding of \$2.25 million in FY 27 from the Citizens' Election Fund (CEF) to SOTS to support municipal expenses related to early in-person voting pursuant to Section 467 of PA 26-68, the FY 27 Revised Budget. The funding will be distributed to each town based on the grant received in FY 26, with a 12.5% increase in FY 27.

Provide Funding for Absentee Voting for All

Other Expenses	-	2,110,000	2,110,000
Total - General Fund	-	2,110,000	2,110,000

Background

PA 26-42, *An Act Concerning Absentee Voting for All and Various Other Reforms Related to the Administration of Elections*, eliminated the requirement to provide an excuse to participate via absentee voting, and made a variety of changes to absentee voting procedures.

Legislative

Provide funding of \$2.11 million in FY 27 to support the implementation of absentee voting for all. This funding will be used to redesign and reprint election forms, integrate the centralized voter registration system into the United States Postal Service tracking system, and purchase election-related materials.

Account	Governor Revised FY 27	Legislative FY 27	Difference from Governor
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Provide Funding for a Voter Information Campaign

Background

The Secretary of the State conducted a voter information campaign in both 2020 and 2022. These campaigns each generated more than 100 million impressions at a cost of \$2 million per campaign.

Legislative

Transfer funding of \$1 million in FY 27 from the Citizens' Election Fund (CEF) to SOTS to support a voter information campaign pursuant to Section 467 of PA 26-68, the FY 27 Revised Budget. The voter information campaign will focus on voting locations and timelines, absentee ballot procedures, recognition and reporting of irregularities, and how voting options work.

Provide Funding for Risk-Limiting Audits

Other Expenses	-	400,000	400,000
Total - General Fund	-	400,000	400,000

Background

Sections 44 and 56 of PA 26-42, *An Act Concerning Absentee Voting for All and Various Other Reforms Related to the Administration of Elections*, require the Secretary of the State to, respectively: (1) conduct risk-limiting audits (RLAs) for state elections beginning in 2027; and (2) pilot RLAs in three municipalities for the 2026 election. Risk-limiting audits are publicly verifiable auditing procedures that manually examine a statistical sample of paper ballots and cap risk at a specified limit. The act caps the risk limit at five percent.

Legislative

Provide \$400,000 in FY 27 to support the implementation of RLAs.

Provide Funding for Salary Increases for Judges, Constitutional Officers, and Workers' Compensation Commissioners

Personal Services	-	9,051	9,051
Total - General Fund	-	9,051	9,051

Background

CGS Sec. 3-77 sets the salary of the Secretary of the State to the salary of a Superior Court Judge.

Legislative

Provide funding of \$9,051 in FY 27 to reflect a 4.35% increase in the salaries of judges, constitutional officers, and workers' compensation commissioners.

Current Services

Adjust Funding to Reflect Current Requirements

Personal Services	-	(900,000)	(900,000)
Other Expenses	(900,000)	-	900,000
Total - General Fund	(900,000)	(900,000)	-

Background

PA 25-168, the FY 26 and FY 27 Budget, included additional funding of \$1.1 million in both FY 26 and FY 27 to support other expenses within the agency.

Governor

Reduce funding by \$900,000 in FY 27 to reflect current agency requirements for Other Expenses.

Legislative

Reduce funding by \$900,000 in FY 27 to reflect current agency requirements for Personal Services.

Account	Governor Revised FY 27	Legislative FY 27	Difference from Governor
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Provide Funding to Support IVS Ballot Marking System

Other Expenses	-	200,000	200,000
Total - General Fund	-	200,000	200,000

Background

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and the Help America Vote Act (HAVA) both require accessible ballot-marking systems to be made available to voters. The Secretary of the State has an existing contract to provide this access at an annual cost of \$795,050, which is \$200,000 more than available funding.

Legislative

Provide funding of \$200,000 in FY 27 to support the IVS Ballot Marking System.

Totals

Budget Components	Governor Revised FY 27	Legislative FY 27	Difference from Governor
Original Appropriation - GF	15,809,732	15,809,732	-
Policy Revisions	-	2,519,051	2,519,051
Current Services	(900,000)	(700,000)	200,000
Total Recommended - GF	14,909,732	17,628,783	2,719,051

Positions	Governor Revised FY 27	Legislative FY 27	Difference from Governor
Original Appropriation - GF	101	101	-
Total Recommended - GF	101	101	-