

Elections Security Under the Help America Vote Act

FY2023 Request: \$0
Reference No: 64370

AP/AL: Appropriation

Project Type: Information Technology / Systems / Communication

Category: General Government

Location: Statewide

House District: Statewide (HD 1-40)

Impact House District: Statewide (HD 1-40)

Contact: Gail Fenumiai

Estimated Project Dates: 07/01/2021 - 06/30/2026

Contact Phone: (907)465-4611

Brief Summary and Statement of Need:

The FY 2022 Omnibus Appropriations Bill passed by Congress on Thursday, March 10, 2022, includes a \$1 million grant to the Division of Elections for activities to improve the administration of elections, including to enhance technology and make election security improvements. To receive these funds the State of Alaska must provide a 20% match. Under the Federal Help America Vote Act, funds must be deposited in the State Election Fund and any interest earnings, estimated to be up to \$50,000, must be retained in the State Election Fund to be used for grant purposes.

Funding:	<u>FY2022</u>	<u>FY2023</u>	<u>FY2024</u>	<u>FY2025</u>	<u>FY2026</u>	<u>FY2027</u>	<u>Total</u>
1185 ElectionFd	\$1,250,000						\$1,250,000
Total:	\$1,250,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,250,000

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State Match Required	<input type="checkbox"/> One-Time Project	<input type="checkbox"/> Phased - new	<input type="checkbox"/> Phased - underway	<input type="checkbox"/> Ongoing
20% = Minimum State Match % Required		<input type="checkbox"/> Amendment	<input type="checkbox"/> Mental Health Bill	

Operating & Maintenance Costs:

	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Staff</u>
Project Development:	0	0
Ongoing Operating:	0	0
One-Time Startup:	0	0
Totals:	0	0

Prior Funding History / Additional Information:

Project Description/Justification:

For the Division of Elections to receive and expend these funds, a two-step process required. First, to authorize the grant receipt in the State Election Fund, the legislature must appropriate the grant proceeds along the required state match to the State Election Fund. Second, to authorize the expenditure, the Legislature must make an appropriation to the Division of Elections authorizing expenditure of grant proceeds for the allowable purposes.

In addition to this direct appropriation request, the following fund capitalization language is included in a FY2022 operating Governor amend package to authorize receipt of the grant and general fund match in the State Election Fund, along with an immediate effective date and statement that the appropriation does not lapse:

* **Sec. xx** (a) FUND CAPITALIZATION. The sum of \$1,000,000 is appropriated from federal receipts and \$200,000 from the general fund to the election fund required by the federal Help America State of Alaska Capital Project Summary

Vote Act.