

U. S. ELECTION ASSISTANCE COMMISSION OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR 1201 New York Avenue, NW, Suite 300 Washington, DC. 20005

February 14, 2011

SUBJECT: Transmittal of the FY 2012 Interim Congressional Budget Request, FY 2010 Annual Performance Report, and Cumulative Report on Grant Expenditures April 2003 -December 2010

Attached please find the U.S. Election Assistance Commission (EAC) FY 2012 Interim Congressional Budget Request and accompanying reports, supporting the request contained in the FY 2012 President's Budget.

Please note that since December 11, 2010, the EAC has lacked a quorum of Commissioners necessary to do certain business, including the adoption of a formal budget justification. However, in order to meet our responsibility to submit to Congress timely information regarding our budget request, we submit the necessary information that would be contained in a formal justification but for the lack of a quorum. It is our intention to formally submit this document and its attachments to the Commission for a ratification tally vote once a quorum has been reestablished.

We further wish to note that pending the reestablishment of a quorum, and in light of the present fiscal situation facing the Federal government, EAC staff is in the process of outlining structural reorganization scenarios. The scenarios will allow the agency to meet its statutory obligations in an effective and efficient manner with less resources, should there be a significant decrease in appropriations.

When the EAC first became operational in 2004, the very small staff concentrated on the agency's statutory responsibilities to disburse initial Help America Vote Act funds to the states, and conduct mandated studies. As a result, the Commission received criticism that it was not meeting some of the more standard and routine responsibilities of every Federal agency, and was not certifying voting systems quickly enough. Consequently, the EAC responded by hiring staff with specific skill sets who could establish sound operating procedures. The agency is now in a position to continue exercising its responsibilities with less resources.

We are happy to respond to any question that you may have.

Sincerely Thomas R. Wilkey **Executive Director**