

## **2023 Help America Vote Act (HAVA) Election Security Grant Program Narrative State of Alabama, Secretary of State**

The purpose of this letter is, in part, to request \$1,067,681.00 of the State of Alabama's Help America Vote Act (HAVA) Election Security allocation. We understand that we must match \$213,536.00 as a requirement to obtain the federal funds.

Specifically, our program narrative and budget for the 2023 HAVA Election Security Grant will be apportioned in one category, as follows:

- Voting Registration Systems and Management

Please find below our brief description of how the grant funding will be allocated, per the one above referenced category, as follows:

### Voting Registration Systems and Management

The State of Alabama has planned, by the attached budget, to allocate \$1,281,217.00 of the 2023 HAVA Election Security Grant (which includes the federal grant award and state match share) to provide for the provision of a computerized statewide voter registration list for the entire state. The computerized statewide voter registration list is the uniform voter registration database, administered by the State of Alabama and through its Secretary of State, used by all of Alabama's counties to ensure all voter registrations statewide are consistent, secure, accurate, and reliable. These funds will assist the Secretary of State in improving the system by migrating to a more secure, web-based solution while continuing to host and maintain a statewide voter registration and election management database for Alabama's 67 counties to utilize to administer safe and secure elections.

### State Match Share

The State of Alabama will be required to provide a State Match Share in the amount of \$213,536.00 related to the \$1,067,681.00 federal grant award.

The State of Alabama has planned, by the attached budget, to meet its required State Match Share by using \$213,536.00 in state funds to pay for costs related to the state's voter registration system.

## **2022 Help America Vote Act (HAVA) Election Security Grant Program Narrative State of Alabama, Secretary of State**

The Secretary of State has no narrative changes to submit to the 2022 HAVA grant. Of the \$1,067,681.00 provided to our office, \$908,062.85 remains unspent. Our program narrative and budget for the 2022 HAVA Election Security Grant is apportioned in one category, as follows:

- Voting Registration Systems and Management

### State Match Share

The State of Alabama will continue to meet its match requirement of the initially required \$213,536.00 by paying for costs related to the state's voter registration system. Of the \$213,536.00 initial requirement, \$183,536.00 remains unmatched.

## **2020 Help America Vote Act (HAVA) Election Security Grant Program Narrative State of Alabama, Secretary of State**

The Secretary of State program narrative and budget for the 2020 HAVA grant has been apportioned into one category, as follows. Of the \$6,928,023.00 provided to our office, \$1,192,162.57 remains unspent.

- Geographic Information Systems (GIS) for counties

Please find below our brief description of how the grant funding will be allocated, per the one above referenced category.

### Geographic Information Systems (GIS)

Currently, there are approximately 45 of Alabama's 67 counties without the expertise or technology to perform redistricting services or normal daily district assignments for voters. These counties resort to archaic methods of voters' district assignments, which leads to numerous inaccuracies. District assignments for voters would include, but not be limited to, Alabama's 7 congressional districts.

The Secretary of State seeks to utilize federal funds to assist these counties in procuring and utilizing GIS software and the expertise to manage the software going forward. Without GIS, counties will continue to make errors that affect election integrity and voter confidence in the administration of federal elections in Alabama.

### State Match Share

The Secretary of State will alter the previous state match categories for the 2020 grant to one singular category, as follows. Of the \$1,385,605 initially required, \$961,077.37 remains unmatched.

- Voting Registration Systems and Management

## **2018 Help America Vote Act (HAVA) Election Security Grant Program Narrative State of Alabama, Secretary of State**

The Secretary of State program narrative and budget for the 2018 HAVA grant has been apportioned into two categories, as follows. Of the \$6,160,393.00 provided to our office, \$2,803,564.34 remains unspent.

- Geographic Information Systems (GIS) for counties (\$796,701.92)
- Cyber Vulnerabilities (\$2,006,862.42)

Please find below our brief description of how the grant funding will be allocated, per the two above referenced categories.

### Geographic Information Systems (GIS)

Currently, there are approximately 45 of Alabama's 67 counties without the expertise or technology to perform redistricting services or normal daily district assignments for voters. These counties resort to archaic methods of voters' district assignments, which leads to numerous inaccuracies. District assignments for voters would include, but not be limited to, Alabama's 7 congressional districts.

The Secretary of State seeks to utilize federal funds to assist these counties in procuring and utilizing GIS software and the expertise to manage the software going forward. Without GIS, counties will continue to make errors that affect election integrity and voter confidence in the administration of federal elections in Alabama.

### Cyber Vulnerabilities

The Secretary of State intends to continue to provide for cybersecurity enhancements to augment the existing network provided by the state through its information technology department. Currently, the state provides agencies of the state government, through its Office of Information Technology, a department exclusive of the Secretary of State's Office, certain cyber and other information technology assistance and support. Due to the current climate throughout the nation, where reoccurring instances of bad actors have been identified either attempting to penetrate governmental cyber environments or their being successful in compromising said cyber environments, and coupled with new cyber technologies available to governments, the state will investigate, implement and identify new technologies to work to eliminate potential cyber vulnerabilities.

### State Match Share

The Secretary of State has already met its match share for the 2018 HAVA grant.

