April 15, 2020

Mona Harrington, Acting Executive Director
U.S. Election Assistance Commission
1335 East-West Highway, Suite 4300
Silver Spring, MD  20910

Dear Ms. Harrington:

The purpose of this letter is to certify that the state of Georgia will use the funds provided under the Notice of Grant Award, Agreement GA2010CARES, for activities consistent with the laws described in Section 906 of HAVA and will not use the funds in a manner that is inconsistent with the requirements of Title III of HAVA.

We further certify that we have reviewed and accept the terms of the award as specified in the Notice of Grant Award. Our UEI number 099660420 and the signed Certifications are enclosed.

We are requesting $10,875,912. We will use the funds to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus, domestically or internationally, for the 2020 Federal election cycle. To address the effects of the coronavirus on the election we have already taken significant steps to mitigate the impact of the crisis on elections in Georgia.

Our office postponed the Presidential Preference Primary twice and the state primary one time to protect voters and poll workers from having to vote at or near peak periods of virus impact.

Georgia mailed 6.9 million absentee ballot applications to voters for the Presidential Preference Primary and is paying to have a contractor mail the requested absentee ballots to the voters who apply for absentee ballots. Georgia may consider providing similar services for the primary runoff and November General Election.

In order to handle the increased volume of absentee ballots, our office will also be purchasing high speed scanners/tabulators for use in the counties. I have also directed electronic adjudication systems be procured and deployed to the counties to allow for a unified and speedier system for ascertaining voter intent on ballots that are in question.

Georgia is attempting to located and purchase PPE and sanitation supplies for voters and poll workers for all elections this year. Georgia is also offering a grant reimbursement program to counties who expend their own funds in efforts to mitigate the impact of
Covid-19 on their election offices, polling places, and other additional expenses caused by the pandemic.

The office will be offering a grant program to counties to allow for monitored drop boxes to allow voters to drop their absentee ballots securely to their county election offices.

If you have any questions about this request, please contact our Statewide Voting System Implementation Manager, Gabriel Sterling, at sterlinginnovative@gmail.com.

Sincerely,

Brad Raffensperger
Secretary of State

cc: Kinza Ghaznavi, Grants Manager