



2020 HAVA Election Security Funds Plan – Florida Appropriations Act of 2020

The mission of the Florida Department of State is to ensure that Florida has fair and accurate elections, to uniformly interpret and implement Florida’s election laws, and to promote public awareness and participation in the electoral process. Florida is committed to ensuring that all elections are supervised and securely executed with integrity to eliminate the threat of fraud and injustice.

PROJECT SUMMARY:

The US Department of Homeland Security designated elections as critical infrastructure in January 2017. Even before such designation of elections, Florida had been focused on securing our elections as part of its election preparedness and readiness.

On December 20, 2019, President Donald J. Trump signed the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2020 into law. The Act includes \$425 million in new Help America Vote Act (HAVA) funds, made available to states to improve the administration of elections for Federal office, including to enhance technology and make election security improvements. The 2020 HAVA Election Security Fund, authorized under Title I Section 101 of the Help America Vote Act (HAVA) of 2002, marks the second new appropriations for HAVA grants since FY2010. This funding will provide states with additional resources to secure and improve election administration. Florida has been allocated \$21,506,406 in election security funds with \$4,301,281 in State Share Match (20%). Once Florida receives the funding it will be deposited into State Treasury in an interest-bearing account.

The Florida Department of State has prepared the following preliminary plan for consideration:

PLANNED EXPENDITURES FOR 2020 ELECTIONS

Voting Equipment and Upgrades

\$1,975,000 These funds will be used to establish an online grant program for 67 county supervisors of elections to apply for funding to improve their voting systems.

\$800,000 These funds will be used to establish an online grant program for 67 county supervisors of elections to improve on voting accessibility which may include improving voting place accessibility, enhancing poll book accessibility, ballot delivery, and voting systems accessibility.

Cyber Vulnerabilities and Voter Registration Systems and Management

\$3,000,000 These funds will be used to bolster internal Department of State infrastructure, and implement security enhancements to the Florida Voter Registration System and other election applications.

Training

\$100,000 Provide internal and external cybersecurity training opportunities.

Communication

\$750,000 These funds will be used to fund a voter education campaign.

LONGER-TERM ACTIVITIES THROUGH 2024 (The narrative information and amount provided for future years is subject to an appropriation by the Florida Legislature.)

Cyber Vulnerabilities

\$14,881,406 Cyber Security grants to counties to address vulnerabilities (\$3,475,000 will be provided during FY 20)