



NORTH CAROLINA

STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS

Mailing Address:

P.O. Box 27255,
Raleigh, NC 27611

Phone:

(919) 814-0700 or
(866) 522-4723

Fax:

(919) 715-0135

April 27, 2020

To: Members of the US Election Assistance Commission

From: Karen Brinson Bell, Executive Director

Re: 2020 HAVA Security Grant Budget Narrative

With funding from the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2020 North Carolina will address cybersecurity vulnerabilities, implement a strong program to oversee and manage the certification and maintenance of voting systems across the state, expand state and local election auditing processes, acquire high-volume voting equipment and software to deploy to counties during events or incidents, and improve the accuracy of voter registration records statewide and across the country. This federal funding is critical as we work to conduct accessible, accurate and secure elections in 2020 and beyond.

CYBER VULNERABILITIES - \$5,017,473

- North Carolina has created new, state-level Security and Support Technician positions to provide ongoing security and related support to county boards in order to bridge resource gaps identified at the local level
- North Carolina will acquire a more secure system for the delivery and return of uniformed and overseas citizen absentee ballots
- North Carolina will provide subgrants to county boards to address security needs identified through ongoing security assessments
- North Carolina will fund security improvements at the State board to address needs identified through ongoing security assessments
- North Carolina will assemble Attack Response Kits to be deployed to county boards as needed for continuity of operations following cyber attacks
- North Carolina will increase its investment in incident response tools and training

VOTING REGISTRATION SYSTEMS - \$2,909,103

- North Carolina has created a new Database Administrator position to provide data analysis on voter registration data statewide
- North Carolina will join the Election Information Registration Center and perform all required mailings to improve the accuracy of voter registration records

VOTING SYSTEMS CERTIFICATION & MANAGEMENT - \$1,803,693

- North Carolina has created new positions to oversee the certification, recertification, decertification and ongoing maintenance of voting systems within the state

ELECTION AUDITING - \$1,804,503

- North Carolina has created an Advanced Data Analyst position to develop and perform advanced election audits
- North Carolina will replace barcode scanners used in 3,000 polling locations across the state that ensure accurate ballot style distribution during elections

VOTING EQUIPMENT - \$1,215,000

- North Carolina will purchase multiple high-speed ballot tabulators to be deployed to county boards as needed for disaster recovery or continuity of operations
- North Carolina will invest in increased ballot-on-demand capacity for county boards for disaster recovery or continuity of operations

COMMUNICATION - \$1,200,000

- North Carolina will increase advertising statewide to inform the public about changes to voting processes and procedures that occur as a result of COVID-19
- North Carolina will modernize its helpdesk by acquiring new software and investing in helpdesk staff training
- North Carolina will invest in continuity of operations tabletop exercises and other training for state and county elections personnel and their state and local partners
- North Carolina will invest in software and staff training to add a chatbot feature to its website
- North Carolina will adopt Intelligent Mail barcoding and acquire software to improve voters' ability to track absentee ballots through the mail and improve elections staff's ability to adjust staffing to incoming mail volume