

# Board of Elections

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**House Fiscal Staff Presentation**

FY 2018 Revised and FY 2019 Recommended

April 10, 2018

# Departmental Functions

- Managing voting machines
- Certifying election results
- Managing election officials
- Overseeing voter registration
- Monitoring campaign finance reporting
- Matching public funds for general elections

# Summary by Category

General Revenues	FY 2018 Enacted	FY 2018 Revised	FY 2019 Governor	Change to Enacted
Salaries & Benefits	\$1,252,717	\$1,180,299	\$1,712,585	\$459,868
Contracted Services	83,788	135,788	135,788	52,000
Operations	204,230	365,664	824,688	620,458
Assistance & Grants	-	-	2,620,856	2,620,856
Capital	8,000	8,000	21,600	13,600
Total	\$1,548,735	\$1,689,751	\$5,315,517	\$3,766,782

# Undistributed Savings

- FY 2018 enacted budget includes \$25.0 million of statewide savings
  - Undistributed in DOA's budget
- Governor's revised budget has proposals that total \$25.0 million
  - Not all repeat in FY 2019
- Board of Elections
  - No savings attributed to agency

# Centralized Services

- 2017 Assembly authorized establishment of internal service funds for centralized services
  - Information technology, capital asset management & maintenance, & HR
- Costs previously budgeted in DOA
  - Methodology on distribution needs review
  - Long term impacts and transparency concerns

# Centralized Services

- Governor's budget allocates costs to user agencies

General Revenues	FY 2018	FY 2019
Information Technology	\$54,382	\$54,801
Facilities Management	71,802	74,427
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$126,184</b>	<b>\$129,228</b>

# Summary by Category

## Excluding Internal Service Funds

General Revenues	FY 2018 Enacted	FY 2018 Revised	FY 2019 Governor	Change to Enacted
Salaries & Benefits	\$1,252,717	\$1,180,299	\$1,712,585	\$459,868
Contracted Services	83,788	135,788	135,788	52,000
Operations	204,230	239,480	695,460	491,230
Assistance & Grants	-	-	2,620,856	2,620,856
Capital	8,000	8,000	21,600	13,600
Total	\$1,548,735	\$1,563,567	\$5,186,289	\$3,637,554

# Target Budget

- Budget Office provided general revenue target of \$4.7 million
  - Current service adjustments of \$3.3 million
  - 10.0 % reduction of \$0.2 million
- No constrained request submitted
- Recommendation is \$0.5 million above target
  - Excluding centralized services



# Budget Issues

- Staffing
- Legal Services
- Voting Equipment Storage
- Voting Efficiency Project
- Election Expenses

# Staffing

## *Full-Time Equivalent Positions*

Full-Time Positions	FTEs	Chg. To Enacted
Enacted Authorized	12.0	-
FY 2018 Gov. Rev.	12.0	-
FY 2019 Request	12.0	-
FY 2019 Governor	12.0	-
FY 2019 Funded FTE	12.0	-
Filled as of March 31	11.0	(1.0)
FY 2017 Average Filled	9.2	(2.8)

# Staffing

FY 2019 Governor Recommendation		
	BOE	Statewide
Gross Salaries (in millions)	\$0.7	\$1,117.1
Turnover (in millions)	-	(42.9)
Turnover %	-	3.8%
Turnover FTE	-	592.2
FY 2019 FTE recommended	12.0	15,426.5
Funded FTE	12.0	14,834.3
Filled as of March 31	11.0	13,849.4
Funded but not filled	1.0	984.9

# Staffing

- Gov. FY 2019 - \$1.3 million
  - \$13,793 more than enacted
  - Current services
  - Funds all 12.0 FTE
- Gov. FY 2018 Revised - \$0.1 million less
  - Turnover and statewide medical benefit savings

# Legal Services

- Gov. FY 2019 - \$120,000
  - \$50,000 more than enacted
  - Election related legal services such as recounts, mail ballot certifications, etc.
- Gov. FY 2018 Revised - \$120,000
  - \$50,000 more than enacted
  - Ongoing litigation with the former director
  - Increased need relating to board meetings

# Voting Equipment Storage

- Agency requested \$60,000 for six months of rent in FY 2018 and \$120,000 for FY 2019
- Gov. FY 2019 and FY 2018 Revised
  - No funding recommended
    - Department of Administration looking for state-owned site for relocation
    - Current Board of Elections building may be repurposed to house another state office

# Voting Efficiency Study

- Agency requested \$50,000 over both FY 2018 and FY 2019
  - To implement the results of a study conducted by URI to increase efficiency at polling places
- Gov. FY 2019 and FY 2018 Revised
  - No funding recommended

# Role in Elections

- Board of Elections and Secretary of State's Elections & Civics Division are charged with different responsibilities
  - Complementary tasks, many of which are mandated by Rhode Island General Laws



# Role in Elections

Board of Elections	Secretary of State
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Supervises all elections</li><li>• Instructs and certifies all election officials assigned to polls</li><li>• Trains poll workers</li><li>• Prepares and distributes poll worker guides and related materials</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Provides municipalities with forms for candidates</li><li>• Certifies federal and state candidates for ballot placement</li><li>• Prepares state and local referenda</li><li>• Describes and explains state referenda in Voter Handbook</li></ul>

# Role in Elections

Board of Elections	Secretary of State
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Prepares and delivers voting machines and supplies to polling places</li><li>• Conducts recounts</li><li>• Certifies election results to Secretary of State</li><li>• Conducts voter registration drives</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Publishes guides for candidates, election officials, and voters</li><li>• Provides ballot information and polling place locations on website</li><li>• Prepares and prints ballots</li><li>• Maintains central voter registration system</li></ul>

# Election Expenses – FY 2019

Item	Gov. Recommended
Public Financing	\$2.6 million
Seasonal Staff	\$0.4 million
Miscellaneous Expenses	\$0.6 million
Telecommunications	\$0.1 million
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$3.7 million</b>

# Election Expenses – FY 2019

- Public Financing of Elections - \$2.6 million
  - FY 2015 was a similar amount
    - Candidates can receive two dollars of public funds per qualified dollar of private funds
    - Amount of public funds provided adjusted every four years, based on average consumer price index
    - Candidates must sign a statement of oath pledging to comply all terms and conditions of the statute

# Election Expenses – FY 2019

- Seasonal Staff - \$0.4 million
  - Poll workers, technicians, trainers for local election officials
  - Board expecting higher amount of mail ballots related to Secretary of State's increase on paid postage
  - Additional funding also related to e-poll book implementation
- Last election - \$0.2 million

# Election Expenses – FY 2019

- Miscellaneous Expenses - \$0.6 million
  - Printing expenses
  - Delivery of voting machines
  - Increased postage costs
  - Polling place equipment
- Last election - \$0.3 million spent of \$0.5 million appropriated

# Election Expenses – FY 2019

- Telecommunications - \$80,000
  - New contract relating to new voting equipment
    - \$24,000 increase from old contract
      - Also in FY 2018 revised recommendation
    - Additional \$10,000 for phone lines
  - Additional \$24,000 included in error

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