

# Board of Elections

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**House Fiscal Staff Presentation**

FY 2019 Revised and FY 2020 Recommended

April 3, 2019

# 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 2019 Enacted	FY 2019 Revised	FY 2020 Governor	Change to Enacted
Salaries & Benefits	\$1,673,584	\$1,612,977	\$1,678,429	\$4,845
Contracted Services	135,788	190,982	208,688	72,900
Operations	800,688	987,970	567,466	(233,222)
Assistance & Grants	2,620,856	1,830,998	-	(2,620,856)
Capital	21,600	31,600	8,000	(13,600)
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$5,252,516</b>	<b>\$4,654,527</b>	<b>\$2,462,583</b>	<b>\$(2,789,933)</b>

# Centralized Services

- 2017 Assembly authorized establishment of internal service funds for centralized services
  - Information technology, capital asset management & maintenance, & human resources
- Costs previously budgeted in DOA
  - 2018 Assembly included costs in user agency budgets
  - Final FY 2018 & FY 2019 budget

# Centralized Services

<b>General Revenues</b>	<b>FY 2019 Enacted</b>	<b>FY 2019 Revised</b>	<b>Chg. to Enacted</b>	<b>FY 2020</b>	<b>Chg. to Enacted</b>
IT	\$74,427	\$90,206	\$15,779	\$87,944	\$13,517
Facilities	54,801	212,592	157,791	212,592	157,791
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$129,228</b>	<b>\$302,798</b>	<b>\$173,570</b>	<b>\$300,536</b>	<b>\$171,308</b>

# Statewide Savings Initiatives

- Governor distributes statewide general revenue savings enacted for FY 2019 in the Department of Administration
  - Prompt Payment - \$0.4 million
    - Vendors voluntarily offer a discount if payments are received within an agreed upon date
  - Contracts - \$3.0 million
    - Effort to reduce costs of certain commodities
      - Food, maintenance, office equipment, telecommunications
  - Insurance - \$0.5 million
    - Reductions in policies for property & crime

# Statewide Savings Initiatives

- Projected Board savings in FY 2019 revised and FY 2020

<b>Initiative</b>	<b>FY 2019 Revised</b>	<b>FY 2020</b>
Prompt Payment	\$(799)	\$(799)
Contract	(15,681)	(10,612)
Insurance	(1,361)	(1,362)
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$(17,841)</b>	<b>(\$12,773)</b>

# Target Budget

- Budget Office provided general revenue target of \$1.8 million
  - Current service adjustments of \$65,012
  - Reduction of \$3.4 million for election items
  - 5.0 % reduction of \$0.1 million
- No constrained request submitted



# Budget Issues

- Staffing
- Legal Services
- Voting Equipment Storage/Relocation
- Election Expenses
  - FY 2019 – November 2018
  - FY 2020 – April 2020 – Presidential Primary

# Staffing

## *Full-Time Equivalent Positions*

Full-Time Positions	FTEs	Chg. To Enacted
Enacted Authorized	13.0	-
FY 2019 Gov. Rev.	13.0	-
FY 2020 Request	14.0	1.0
FY 2020 Governor	13.0	-
FY 2020 Funded FTE	13.0	-
Filled as of March 30	12.0	(1.0)
FY 2018 Average Filled	10.3	(2.7)

# Staffing

<b>FY 2020 Governor Recommendation</b>		
	BOE	Statewide
Gross Salaries (in millions)	\$0.9	\$1,249.1
Turnover (in millions)	-	(42.9)
Turnover %	-	3.4%
Turnover FTE	-	529.0
FY 2020 FTE recommended	13.0	15,413.1
Funded FTE	13.0	14,884.1
Filled as of March 30	12.0	14,131.4
Funded but not filled	1.0	752.7

# Staffing

- Gov. FY 2020 - \$1.5 million
  - \$0.2 million more
    - Current services
    - Funds all 13.0 FTE
    - \$15,196 of statewide benefit savings
  - Converts vacant FTE into a new position partially responsible for risk-limiting audits
- Gov. FY 2019 Revised - \$0.1 million less
  - Turnover savings
  - \$14,518 of statewide benefit savings

# Legal Services

- Gov. FY 2020 - \$150,000
  - \$30,000 more than enacted
  - Ongoing litigation, rules, regulations, and legislation reviews
- Gov. FY 2019 Revised - \$140,000
  - \$20,000 more than enacted
  - Election related legal services such as recounts, mail ballot certifications, etc.
  - Ongoing litigation

# Voting Equipment Storage / Relocation

- Board requested \$0.3 million from RICAP for FY 2019 for a study to renovate a DOT-owned building for its new location
  - Also included \$5.7 million for FY 2020 to begin construction
  - No funding recommended
- Budget Office notes two studies underway through DCAMM, expected in September
  - Feasibility of DOT-owned property for BOE
  - Feasibility of reuse of 50 Branch Ave

# 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

<b>Board of Elections</b>	<b>Secretary of State</b>
<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

<b>Board of Elections</b>	<b>Secretary of State</b>
<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

	<b>FY 2019 Enacted</b>	<b>FY 2019 Gov. Rev.</b>	<b>FY 2020 Gov. Rec.</b>
Public Financing	\$2.6	\$1.8	\$-
Seasonal Staff	0.4	0.4	0.2
Miscellaneous Expenses	0.6	0.7	0.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$3.6</b>	<b>\$2.9</b>	<b>\$0.4</b>

*\$ in millions*

# Election Expenses

- Public Financing of Elections
  - Only available in general officer election years; candidates can receive two dollars of public funds per qualified dollar of private funds
    - Amount 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
  - FY 2019 Revised - \$1.8 million
    - Reduction of \$0.8 million based on actual costs
  - FY 2020 – no funding

# Election Expenses – FY 2019

- Seasonal Staff
  - FY 2019 Revised - \$0.4 million
    - Poll workers for mail ballots, technicians for e-poll books
  - FY 2020 - \$0.2 million
    - Technicians for voting machines and e-poll books
    - Nursing home supervisors
    - Full-time seasonal for mail ballots
    - \$0.1 million last primary, 2016

# Election Expenses – FY 2019

- Miscellaneous Expenses
  - Printing expenses
  - Delivery of voting machines
  - Increased postage costs
  - Polling place equipment
- FY 2019 Revised - \$0.7 million
- FY 2020 - \$0.2 million
  - Last primary 2016 - \$0.1 million

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