

Office of Minnesota Secretary of State

FY 2026-27 Biennial Budget Change Item

Change Item Title: 2024 HAVA Election Security Funds State Match

Fiscal Impact (\$000s)	FY 2026	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029
General Fund				
Expenditures	200	0	0	0
Revenues	0	0	0	0
Other Funds				
Expenditures	0	0	0	0
Revenues	0	0	0	0
Net Fiscal Impact = (Expenditures – Revenues)	200	0	0	0
FTEs	0	0	0	0

Request:

The Office of the Secretary of State is seeking a one-time amount of \$200,000 in FY26 to meet the state matching requirements described in the FY2024 Further Consolidated Appropriations Act, which will allow the Office of Secretary of State to utilize \$1,000,000 in federal Help America Vote Act (HAVA) funds to secure and improve Minnesota's election systems.

Rationale/Background:

The FY2024 Further Consolidated Appropriations Act included \$55 million in grants to states and U.S. territories to improve election administration and election security. These grants are authorized under Title I, Section 101, of the Help America Vote Act (HAVA) of 2002, and are designed to provide states with additional resources to secure and improve their election system. Minnesota's share of the \$55 million is \$1,000,000.

States are required to provide a 20 percent match within two years of receiving the federal funds. Minnesota has until April 30, 2026 to receive this match. This request would fulfill Minnesota's state match.

Proposal:

The Office of the Secretary of State requests \$200,000 in general funds to meet the 20 percent match the 2024 HAVA funds require. This matching funding will allow the Office to utilize the \$1,000,000 in federal funds. The Office proposes using the HAVA funds to continue to support our Security Navigator Team. This team works with all 87 counties to support the physical and cyber security of election operations.

Impact on Children and Families:

This proposal does not have a direct impact on children and families. However, it will improve the security and administration of elections for future generations.

Equity and Inclusion:

The security and integrity of Minnesota elections benefits all voters. Securing our elections with the funds provided may prevent bad actors from disenfranchising select voters.

Tribal Consultation:

Does this proposal have a substantial direct effect on one or more of the Minnesota Tribal governments?

☐ Yes
☒ No

IT Costs:

This proposal does not have an impact on IT costs via MNIT.

Results:

This request seeks matching funds which will allow the Office of the Secretary of State to utilize federal funds to support election administration, with the goal of securing our elections and maintaining public confidence in Minnesota’s election system. Examples of current performance measures for Minnesota’s elections are shown below.

<i>Type of Measure</i>	<i>Name of Measure</i>	<i>Previous</i>	<i>Current</i>	<i>Dates</i>
Quantity	Number of registered voters	3,392,082	3,594,940	2020/2024
Result	Voter Turnout	2,968,281 (74.72%)	3,292,997 (79.96%)	11/8/2016 11/3/2020
Quantity	General Absentee and Mail Ballots Returned by Election Day	638,846	672,571	11/6/2018 11/8/2022
Result	General Absentee Ballots Acceptance Rate	98.57%	98.37%	11/6/2018 11/8/2022

Statutory Change(s):

None.