

# NM Secretary of State FY23 Budget Request

Presented to Legislative Finance Committee

October 29, 2021



STATE OF NEW MEXICO  
**MAGGIE TOULOUSE OLIVER**  
SECRETARY OF STATE

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## 2020 Election Cycle

- ▶ General Election - November 2020
  - ▶ 62% turnout, highest in state history
  - ▶ Conducted safely with COVID precautions and protocols
  - ▶ CARES from state helped to implement ballot box project and provide PPE
- ▶ Special Congressional District 1 Election - May 2021
  - ▶ Successful election in 5 counties
  - ▶ Conducted safely with COVID precautions and protocols

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## Overall Budget Request

- ▶ Total request is \$15,084,100
- ▶ Overall decrease from FY22 Operating Budget
  - ▶ No Regular Local Election in odd fiscal years
  - ▶ Consideration for funding every fiscal year
- ▶ Increases in personal services
  - ▶ Incorporating Election Security Program staff into operating budget
  - ▶ Repurposing and funding vacant positions
- ▶ Increases in IT Costs
  - ▶ Increasing costs in maintaining licenses and warranty

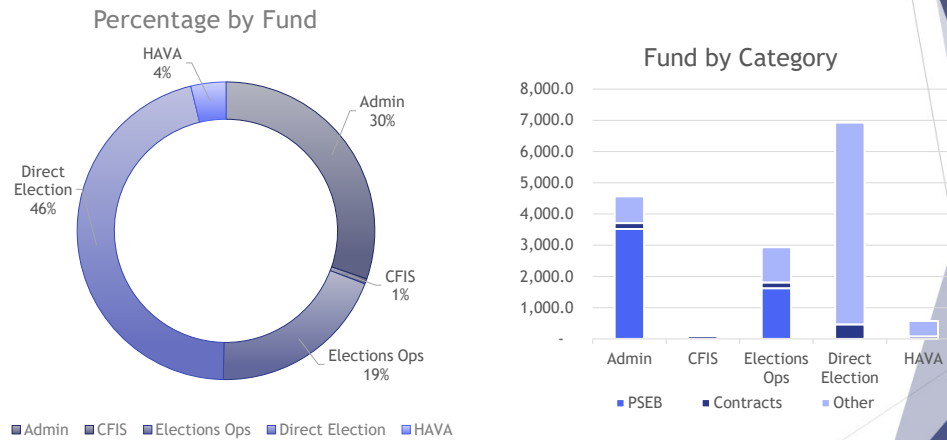
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## Consideration of Funding Regular Local Election Fund Annually

- ▶ Provide funding of \$3 million each fiscal year
- ▶ Expenditures only in even fiscal years, estimate of \$6 million
- ▶ SOS will have a more predictable year to year budget
- ▶ RLE is not unknown, unplanned or a one-time expenditure as with Special Appropriations

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## Budget request by Fund and Category



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## Structural Changes to SOS Funding

- ▶ **New Funds Established**
  - ▶ Established by Election Code in 2018 and 2019
  - ▶ **Regular Local Election Fund**
    - ▶ Only used in even fiscal years for Regular Local Elections in November of odd years
    - ▶ Pays for all direct election costs incurred at both state and county levels
  - ▶ **Statewide Election Fund**
    - ▶ Used for General and Primary Elections every fiscal year
    - ▶ Pays for all direct election costs incurred at both state and county levels
- ▶ **Operating Funds**
  - ▶ Elections Operations and Administration Operations
    - ▶ All PSEB and contractual and other office operational costs

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## Increases to Personal Services

- ▶ No additional FTE requested
- ▶ Repurposing vacant unfunded positions
  - ▶ Auditor to support disclosure compliance
  - ▶ Finance staff for grant funding structure to counties for election costs
  - ▶ IT staff to maintain and support election and business services systems
- ▶ Incorporating Election Security Program into Operations
  - ▶ 5 staff members, currently term positions
  - ▶ Essential to the integrity and security of elections
  - ▶ Continues the program beyond the grant funding
  - ▶ Demonstrates the State's commitment to fair and secure elections

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## Special and Supplemental Requests

- ▶ Operating Budget Supplemental
  - ▶ Admin & Operations Budget
    - ▶ Personal services underfunded for current staffing levels
    - ▶ Hire finance and IT staff
    - ▶ Additional contractual services
  - ▶ Elections Operations Budget
    - ▶ Personal services underfunded for current staffing levels
    - ▶ Hire disclosure auditor
  - ▶ Statewide Election Fund
    - ▶ Underfunded for the 2022 Primary Election
- ▶ Special Appropriations
  - ▶ Redistricting Costs - Notice to registered voters \$1.5 million
  - ▶ Document Imaging Project \$80,000
  - ▶ Replacement scanners for mail ballot tabulators \$170,000
  - ▶ SERVIS Enhancements (and match for HAVA funds) \$100,000
- ▶ Reauthorization Request
  - ▶ Balance of Special Appropriation for CD1 Election for use in the Primary Election

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# Questions

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