

Secretary of State
Budget 108
Senate Bill No. 2002

	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
2003-05 legislative appropriation	27.00	\$4,142,844	\$9,880,363	\$14,023,207
2001-03 legislative appropriation	<u>26.00</u>	<u>4,417,990</u>	<u>391,000</u>	<u>4,808,990</u>
2003-05 appropriation increase (decrease) to 2001-03 appropriation	1.00	(\$275,146)	\$9,489,363	\$9,214,217

Item Description

Election reform - The 2003 Legislative Assembly appropriated \$9.5 million of federal funds and authorized one full-time equivalent position for election reform activities.

Status/Result

As of March 2004, the Secretary of State has received \$5 million of federal Help America Vote Act funds and anticipates receiving the remaining \$4.5 million appropriated for this biennium before September 2004. The Secretary of State has not yet filled the office assistant III position authorized by the Legislative Assembly to assist with election reform activities. In addition, the federal government may be providing approximately \$7 million more to the state for election reform. If these funds become available during this biennium, the Secretary of State will seek Emergency Commission and Budget Section approval to accept these funds. The funds may require a 5 percent state match.

The Secretary of State has contracted with Election Systems and Software, Inc., for \$5.3 million to provide touchscreen voting machines for all North Dakota counties by 2006. Grand Forks and Williams Counties will have the electronic equipment installed in 2004 and use it for the November 2004 general election.