

**Secretary of State
Budget No. 108
House Bill Nos. 1002, 1050, Senate Bill No. 2021**

	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
2005-07 executive budget (bills as introduced)	27.00	\$4,532,287	\$10,316,535	\$14,848,822
2005-07 legislative appropriations	27.00	4,489,363	9,944,028	14,433,391
Legislative increase (decrease) to executive budget	0.00	(\$42,924)	(\$372,507)	(\$415,431)
Legislative increase (decrease) to 2003-05 appropriations	0.00	\$346,519	\$63,665	\$410,184

NOTE: The amounts on the schedule above include funding for public printing. The 2005-07 executive budget recommended and the Legislative Assembly appropriated \$327,000 from the general fund for public printing, \$9,000 less than the 2003-05 biennium general fund appropriation of \$336,000.

SUMMARY OF LEGISLATIVE CHANGES TO THE EXECUTIVE BUDGET AND MAJOR FUNDING ITEMS

Salaries and Wages

The legislative action affecting the recommended appropriation for the Secretary of State is in accordance with legislative salary and fringe benefits guidelines as contained in House Bill No. 1050.

	Major Items FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
The legislative action:				
Added funding for state employee salary increases		\$9,221	\$212	\$9,433
Reduced funding recommended in the executive budget for state employee health insurance premiums from \$559.15 to \$553.95 per month per policy		(3,245)	(125)	(3,370)
Reduced funding recommended in the executive budget to \$125,000 from the general fund appropriated in Senate Bill No. 2021 for migrating the Secretary of State's information technology data base to a more current platform		(125,000)		(125,000)
Changed the recommended funding for election reform by removing \$372,594 of special funds from the counties included in the executive budget for providing the 5 percent state match and provided \$76,100 from the general fund for a portion of the state match (see Election Reform section below for additional information)		76,100	(372,594)	(296,494)
Total	0.00	(\$42,924)	(\$372,507)	(\$415,431)

FTE Changes

The Legislative Assembly did not change the executive recommendation which included funding for 27 FTE positions, the same as the 2003-05 biennium.

Election Reform

The Legislative Assembly appropriated \$9,579,728 for election reform funding. The federal government has made available an additional \$7,446,803 of election reform funding which requires a 5 percent state match. The Legislative Assembly provided \$76,100 from the general fund for a portion of the state matching requirement and it is anticipated that previous expenditures made by the Secretary of State and counties may be used for the remaining \$296,250 of state matching requirements. An emergency clause was added allowing the Secretary of State to access the federal election reform funding prior to July 1, 2005. The state is allowed to retain any interest earned on its election reform funding in the state election reform fund.

Section 4 was added requiring the Secretary of State to collect from counties or to make available from other sources, which may include savings from within the Secretary of State's budget, \$76,100 to reimburse the general fund for the \$76,100 appropriated for the matching requirement.

Section 5 was added authorizing the Secretary of State to continue, for the 2005-07 biennium, any unspent appropriation authority remaining from the agency's authorized carryover from the 2001-03 biennium of up to \$105,000 for providing a portion of the state matching funds for election reform funding available during the 2003-05 biennium.

Other Sections in Bill

Section 6, as amended by Section 18 of House Bill No. 1015, provides the statutory changes increasing the Secretary of State's salary by 4 percent for each year of the biennium. The Secretary of State's annual salary is increased from the current level of \$68,018 to \$70,739, effective July 1, 2005, and to \$73,568, effective July 1, 2006.

Section 7 was added amending North Dakota Century Code Section 54-09-08 requiring the Secretary of State to transfer any amounts in the Secretary of State's general services operating fund exceeding \$75,000 at the end of a biennium to the general fund, rather than at the end of each fiscal year.

Related Legislation

House Bill No. 1222 provides that the Secretary of State make information received from the Legislative Council on the estimated fiscal impact of an initiated measure available to the public.

House Bill No. 1507 requires the Secretary of State to register home inspectors and to collect registration fees for deposit in the general fund.