

Subject HAVA Election Security Funding

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Summary

This bill appropriates approximately \$7.39 million from the Help America Vote Act account to the secretary of state for election security purposes.

This amount is Minnesota's share of federal money allocated for election security to each state by Congress in December of 2019. The specific authorized uses listed in the bill reflect the restrictions in federal law on how the money may be used. The funds are available until December 21, 2024. That date corresponds to a five-year window established in the federal law for use of the funds.

In order to use these funds, a 20 percent state match (approx. \$1.48 million) is required by December 2021. This bill does not appropriate funds to fulfill the match.

This is the second HAVA appropriation that has been made available to states in the last two years. In 2018, Congress allocated \$6.6 million to Minnesota, also for election security expenses. That full amount, as well as the state match, was appropriated during the 2019 legislative session and is available for use under existing law.