

Help America Vote Act implementation		Agency/Program #: 3201-01-G1
		Division: Business and Government Se
		Program: Business and Government Se
Agency Name:	Secretary of State	
Agency Contact:	Justus Wendland or Christi Jacobsen	7911
LFC Contact:	Rep. Sesso and Rep. Taylor	
LFD Liaison:	Greg DeWitt	444-5392
OBPP Liaison:	Mark Bruno	444-4588

Program or Project Description:

The Secretary of State's election division is responsible for interpreting state election laws and ensuring that they are implemented uniformly throughout the state. The division also qualifies candidates, initiatives and referendums for the ballot, certifies the language on a form of the ballot, publishes the official state voter information pamphlet, conducts the official canvass of election results, and trains local election officials. The staff is responsible for filing and maintaining all official acts of the executive and legislative branches of state.

Appropriation, Expenditure and Source					
Fund Name:	2008		2009		Approp & Expenditure numbers are as of October 31, 2007
	Approp.	Expended	Approp.	Expended	
General Fund					
State Special					
Federal Funds	5,308,291	67,024			<i>See Data sheet for more detail</i>
Total:	\$5,308,291	\$67,024	\$0	\$0	

Goal(s):

Continue to implement the federal Help America Vote Act.

Performance Measures :

- o Starting with the 2004 elections and continuing through the 2006 elections and beyond, the Secretary of State's office will work with county election offices and advocates with disabilities to improve polling place access for persons with disabilities by providing grant money to counties wishing to upgrade the accessibility of their polling places.
- o By the 2006 primary election, each Montana polling place will be equipped with at least one voting system terminal to assist voters with disabilities, especially those with visual impairments, to vote independently and privately.
- o Starting with the 2004 federal election season, Montana counties will no longer use punch-card voting systems. This will involve the payment by the state of the costs of replacement voting machines in the six counties with punch card voting systems.
- o By 2006, implement a single statewide computerized database that will be used by county election officials.
- o Starting in 2006 and continuing without a specified end date, the state elections office will provide matching grants to counties for the latter's purchases of precinct counters that notify voters of a potential overvote and allow them to request a replacement ballot.

2009 Biennium Significant Milestones:	Completion Dates	
	Target	Actual
1 The Secretary of State's office will verify partial Social Security numbers in Montana VOTES database through an automated process.	12/31/2008	
2 The Secretary of State's office will finalize long term goals for polling place accessibility.	6/1/2008	
3 The Secretary of State's office will conduct regional trainings for county election administrators on the Montana VOTES statewide voter database best practices.	4/1/2008	
4 The Secretary of State's office will conduct targeted trainings for county election judges in order to increase uniformity of HAVA implementation.	6/1/2008	
5 The Secretary of State's office will conduct regional trainings for county election administrators on use of precinct counters that meet the HAVA requirement of notifying electors of overvotes.	6/1/2008	

The Secretary of State's office will monitor desktop and system security at the county level through an audit process.	6/3/2008	
--	----------	--

Performance Report:

- 1) The Secretary of State's office is working with the Montana Department of Justice to integrate partial Social Security Number verification within Montana VOTES database to confirm voter identity. The Secretary of State's office currently has temporary staff to perform manual partial Social Security number voter verification.
- 2) The Secretary of State's office is working with the Montana Advocacy Program to make more polling places more accessible.
- 3) The Secretary of State's office has created a tentative schedule for regional best practices trainings for county election officials.
- 4) The Secretary of State's office has hired a contractor to gauge levels of interest of county election officials regarding election judge trainings and to conduct election judge trainings as requested.
- 5) The Secretary of State's office is creating precinct counter training materials and procedures to be included in the regional training agenda.
- 6) The Secretary of State's office is working with the Elections Technology Taskforce to create a county desktop and system security audit process.

LFD Narrative:**EXECUTIVE CHANGES**

1. Changes to Goals/Initiatives: No
2. Changes to Performance Measures: No

LFD ASSESSMENT

1. Goal is measurable within the biennium: Yes However, the full implementation of HAVA will continue beyond the current biennium.
2. Progress toward goal: On-track

APPROPRIATION ISSUES

1. Appropriation/Expenditures Provided: Yes

OPTIONS REGARDING GOAL/INITIATIVE AND PERFORMANCE MEASURES

On track , but since the milestones occur just prior to the June 2008 LFC meeting, the working group may want to request a report of progress at that meeting and determine then if further reporting at the November 2008 meeting is needed.



Version	Date	Author
AO-1	12/7/2007	DeWitt

Change Description
LFD narrative of first submission to Dec. 2007 LFC

Help America Vote Act implementation		Agency/Program #: 3201-01-G1
		Division: Business and Government Services
		Program: Business and Government Services
Agency Name:	Secretary of State	
Agency Contact:	Justus Wendland or Christi Jacobsen	7911
LFC Contact:	Rep. Sesso and Rep. Taylor	
LFD Liaison:	Greg DeWitt	444-5392
OBPP Liaison:	Mark Bruno	444-4588

Program or Project Description:

The Secretary of State's election division is responsible for interpreting state election laws and ensuring that they are implemented uniformly throughout the state. The division also qualifies candidates, initiatives and referendums for the ballot, certifies the language and form of the ballot, publishes the official state voter information pamphlet, conducts the official canvass of election results, and trains local election officials. The staff is responsible for filing and maintaining all official acts of the executive and legislative branches of state.

Appropriation, Expenditure and Source					
Fund Name:	2008		2009		Approp & Expenditure numbers are as of October 31, 2007
	Approp.	Expended	Approp.	Expended	
General Fund					<i>See Data sheet for more detail</i>
State Special					
Federal Funds	5,308,291	67,024			
Total:	\$5,308,291	\$67,024	\$0	\$0	

Goal(s):

Continue to implement the federal Help America Vote Act.

Performance Measures :

- o Starting with the 2004 elections and continuing through the 2006 elections and beyond, the Secretary of State's office will work with county election offices and advocates with disabilities to improve polling place access for persons with disabilities by providing grant money to counties wishing to upgrade the accessibility of their polling places.
- o By the 2006 primary election, each Montana polling place will be equipped with at least one voting system terminal to assist voters with disabilities, especially those with visual impairments, to vote independently and privately.
- o Starting with the 2004 federal election season, Montana counties will no longer use punch-card voting systems. This will involve the payment by the state of the costs of replacement voting machines in the six counties with punch card voting systems.
- o By 2006, implement a single statewide computerized database that will be used by county election officials.
- o Starting in 2006 and continuing without a specified end date, the state elections office will provide matching grants to counties for the latter's purchases of precinct counters that notify voters of a potential overvote and allow them to request a replacement ballot.

2009 Biennium Significant Milestones:		Completion Dates	
		Target	Actual
1	The Secretary of State's office will verify partial Social Security numbers in Montana VOTES database through an automated process.	12/31/2008	
2	The Secretary of State's office will finalize long term goals for polling place accessibility.	6/1/2008	
3	The Secretary of State's office will conduct regional trainings for county election administrators on the Montana VOTES statewide voter database best practices.	4/1/2008	
4	The Secretary of State's office will conduct targeted trainings for county election judges in order to increase uniformity of HAVA implementation.	6/1/2008	
5	The Secretary of State's office will conduct regional trainings for county election administrators on use of precinct counters that meet the HAVA requirement of notifying electors of overvotes.	6/1/2008	

6	The Secretary of State's office will monitor desktop and system security at the county level through an audit process.	6/3/2008	
---	--	----------	--

Performance Report:

- 1) The Secretary of State's office is working with the Montana Department of Justice to integrate partial Social Security Number verification within Montana VOTES database to confirm voter identity. The Secretary of State's office currently has temporary staff to perform manual partial Social Security number voter verification.
- 2) The Secretary of State's office is working with the Montana Advocacy Program to make more polling places more accessible.
- 3) The Secretary of State's office has created a tentative schedule for regional best practices trainings for county election officials.
- 4) The Secretary of State's office has hired a contractor to gauge levels of interest of county election officials regarding election judge trainings and to conduct election judge trainings as requested.
- 5) The Secretary of State's office is creating precinct counter training materials and procedures to be included in the regional training agenda.
- 6) The Secretary of State's office is working with the Elections Technology Taskforce to create a county desktop and system security audit process.

LFD Narrative:



Version	Date	Author

Change Description





