Secretary of State
NORTH DAKOTA

SB 2002 TESTIMONY

HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS

MICHAEL HOWE, SECRETARY OF STATE

MARCH 7, 2023

THE DESK

FONDLY REMEMBERING THE LEGACY OF SECT. JAEGER

DIVISIONS & SERVICES

BUSINESS SERVICES

- Review and file documents registering and creating businesses, trade names, and trademarks, as well as documents relating to their continued existence and termination.
- Provide certificates and copies.
- Accept service of process when named as Registered Agent.

ELECTIONS

- Serve as North Dakota's chief election officer, maintaining the integrity of the election process as provided in the constitution and laws of the state.
- Manage form and content of ballots.
- Review and certify measures for the ballot.
- Certify statewide and district candidates.
- File campaign finance statements; receive and file petitions; approve candidate filings; and maintain Central Voter File.

INFORMATION MANAGEMENT

- Assists in maintaining and managing multiple digital systems.

CENTRAL INDEXING

- File secured liens, as well as documents related to their continued existence and termination.

LICENSING

- License, commission, and register a variety of individuals and businesses.

OTHER DUTIES

- Act as custodian of the Great Seal and other original state documents.
- Attest signature of Governor on official acts.
- File oaths of office.
- Serve as member and officer on various boards.
- Distribute state law and rule publications.
- Publish and distribute *North Dakota Blue Book*.
- File original legislative bills and resolutions.

WHO WE SERVE

BUSINESSES

- Individuals and entities transacting business in the state
- Business professionals such as attorneys, accountants, and registered agents
- The general public and private entities verifying the existence, standing, and status of businesses

ALL CITIZENS

Through protection of records:
- Certain Legal Documents
- Public Records
- Notices

LENDING COMMUNITY

Through the Central Indexing System:
- Lenders
- Debtors

VOTERS & CANDIDATES

- Voters in North Dakota
- North Dakota military and overseas voters
- Candidates
- Political parties and political committees

LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

Through election guidance and administration:
- County auditors and election staff
- Jurisdictions (legislative, judicial, cities, counties, and school districts)

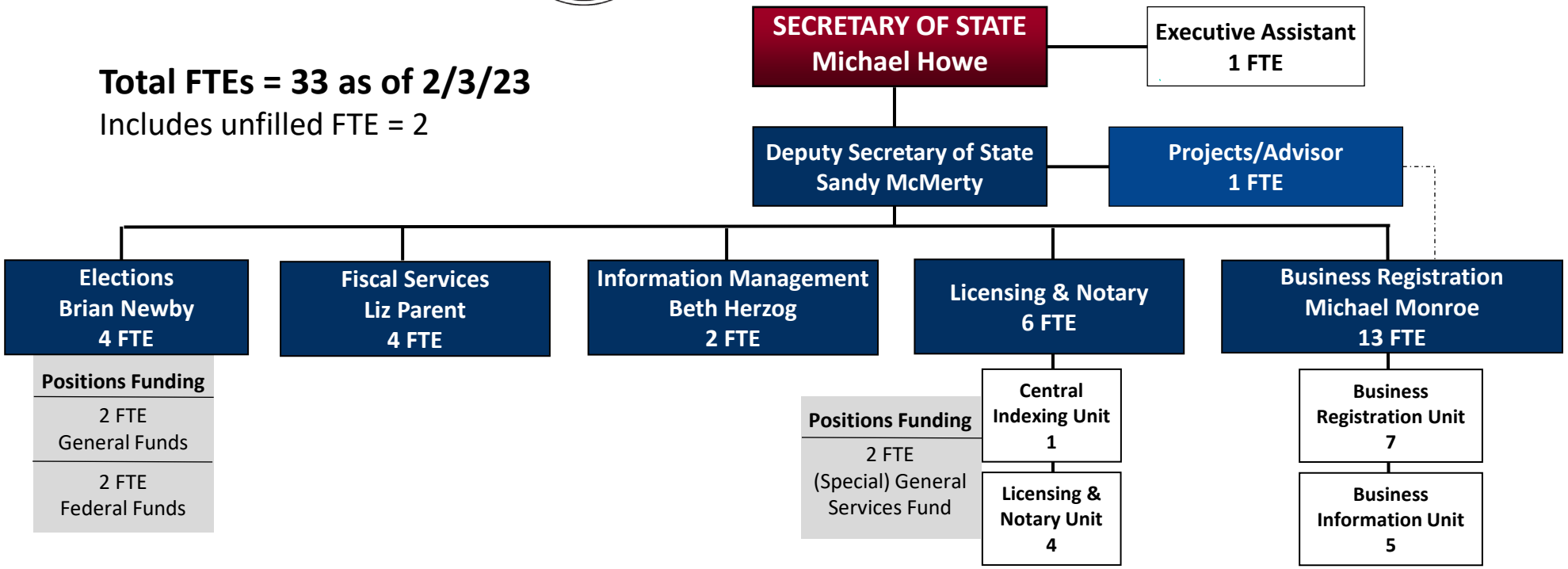
LICENSEES

- Athlete Agents (registrations)
- Combative Sports fighters, trainers, managers, referees, judges, matchmakers, ring announcers, knockdown counters, physicians, and timekeepers (licenses)
- Charitable Organizations (registrations)
- Contractors (licenses)
- Home Inspectors (registrations)
- Lobbyists (registrations)
- Notaries Public (commissions)
- Professional Employer Organizations (licenses)

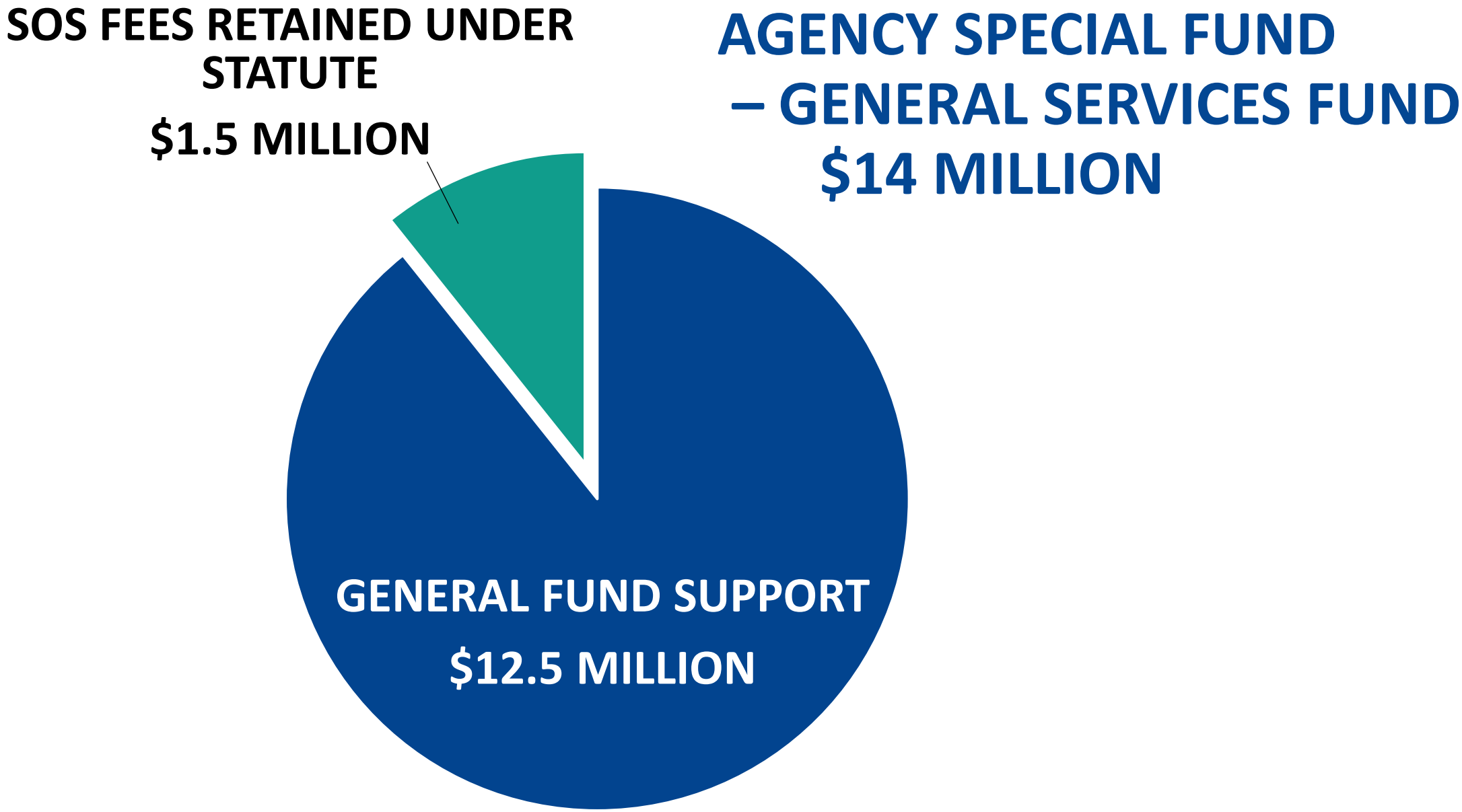
Secretary of State
NORTH DAKOTA

Total FTEs = 33 as of 2/3/23

Includes unfilled FTE = 2

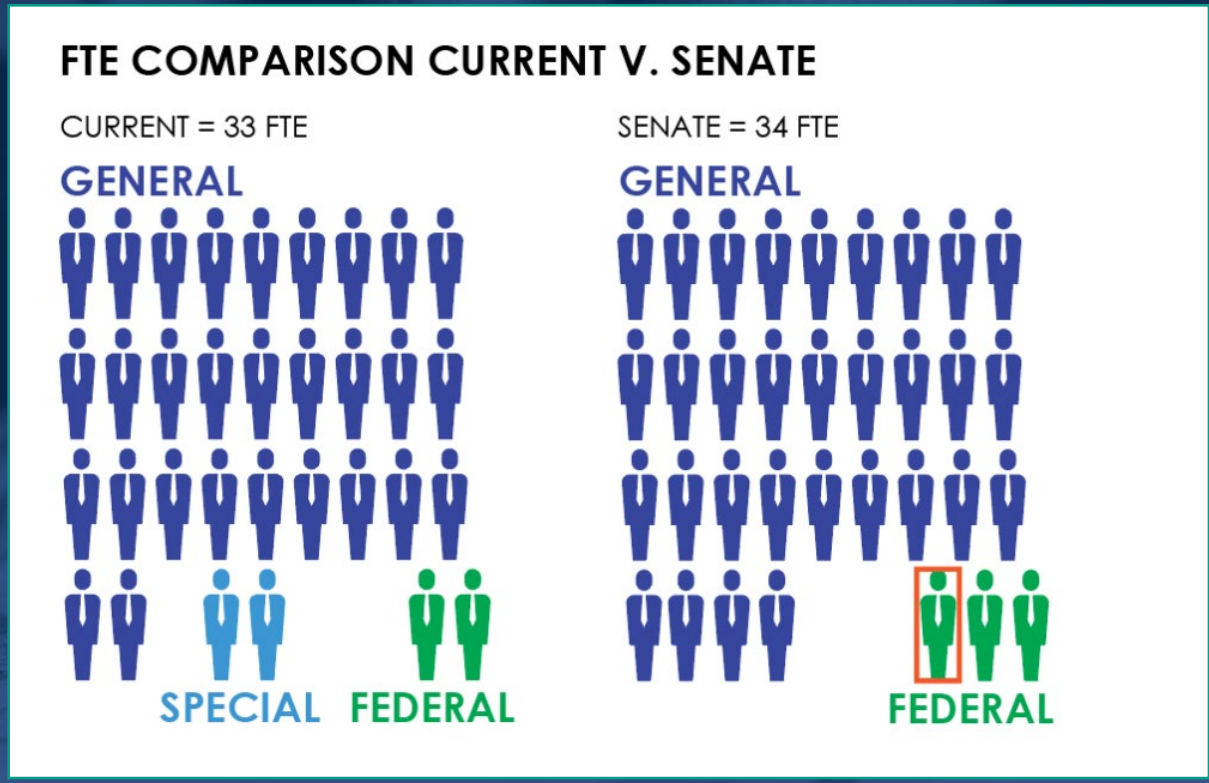


AGENCY SPECIAL FUND – GENERAL SERVICES FUND $14 MILLION



SENATE SALARY/FTE RECOMMENDATIONS

- Shifted $479,143 from special to general fund salary support for 2 FTEs currently funded through special funds
- 1 FTE supported by authority of $200,950 in Federal Funding for salary and related operating expenses for election support
- Supported $100,000 in salary for repurposing and reclassification of positions for increased skillsets



SENATE OPERATION RECOMMENDATIONS

- $1.5 million - SIIF one-time funding for technology projects
- $330,000 – support for on-going IT maintenance and procurement of text messaging system
- $13,404 – increase in public printing
- $201,331 – OMB rent model for capitol space

- $1 million – Federal authority to receive 2023 HAVA election related funding
- $200,000 – state match for Federal funding
- $389,342 – restoration of authority for federal funds already received (error in Gov. Rec.)

FEDERAL HELP AMERICA VOTE ACTS - $ 4 MILLION

	Federal Advance	Fed Exp to 9/30/2022	State Match	State Exp to 9/30/2022
2020 HAVA	$ 3,000,000		$ 600,000	$ 600,000
2022 HAVA	$ 100,000		$ 200,000	$ 59,700
Total Remaining	**$ 4,000,000**		**$ 800,000**	**$ 659,700**
	Dollars available with 20% match in March 2023.			
2023 HAVA	$ 1,000,000		$ 200,000	

2023-25 BIENNIUM COSTS

$2 million (estimated)

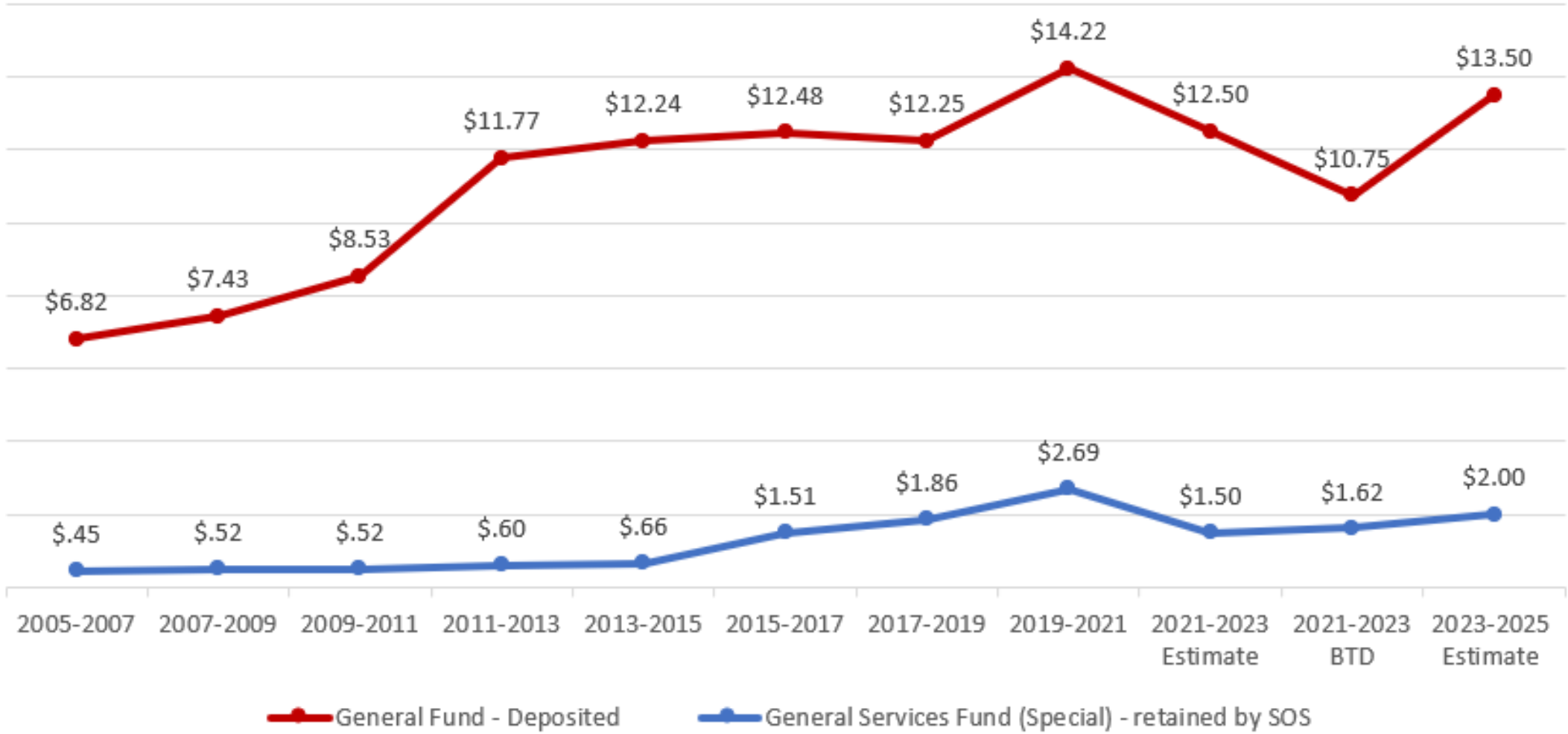
- **Elections Software/Equipment - $1.65 M**
- **Staffing - $330,000**
- **Supplies/Support - $50,000**

2025-27 BIENNIUM COSTS

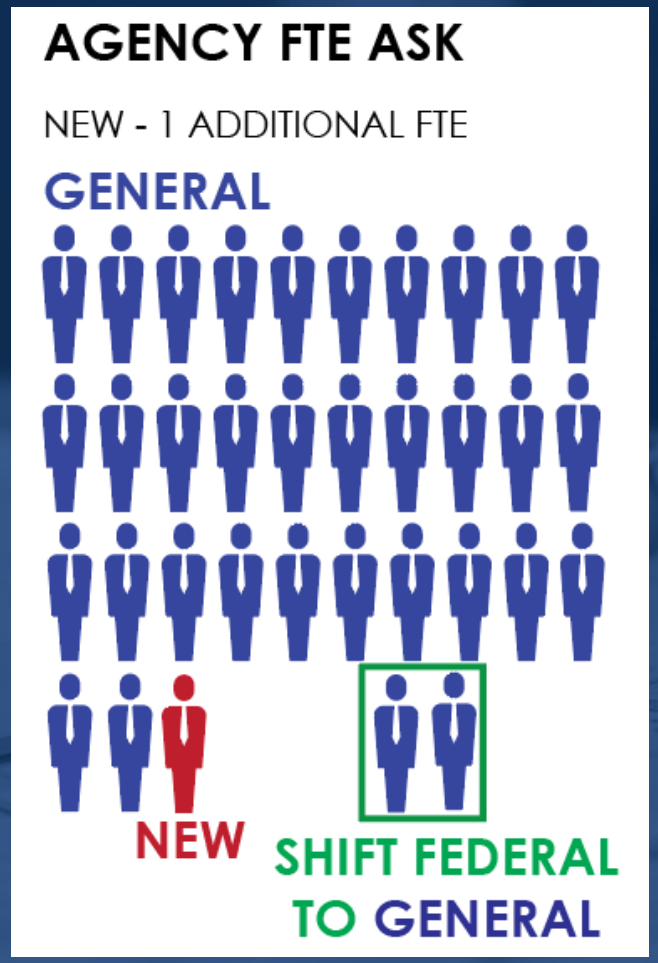
$2 million (estimated)

- **Elections Software/Equipment - $1.65 M**
- **Staffing - $330,000**
- **Supplies/Support - $50,000**

REVENUE TRENDS FROM FEES COLLECTED BY SECRETARY OF STATE
GENERAL FUND & GENERAL SERVICES FUND (SPECIAL)
IN MILLIONS



SOS – ADDITIONAL REQUEST



- Shift $362,111 in salaries to general fund from federal funds
  - $362,111 (2 current FTEs – paid federal)

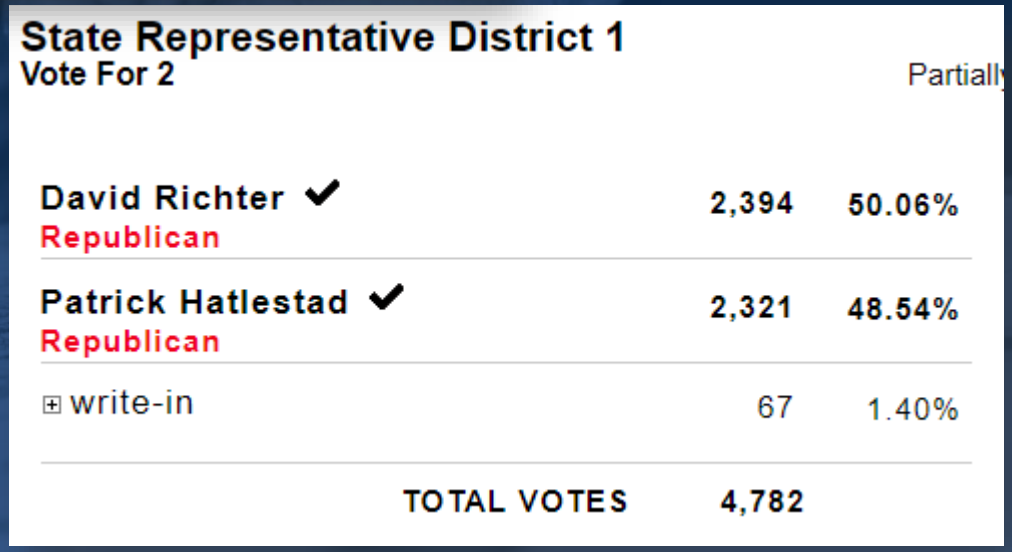
- 1 New FTE – Technology Support - $180,000

SOS – ADDITIONAL REQUEST

- $5 Million – One-Time Funding
  - End-of-Life – ND Voices – Election Management
- $1 Million - FirstStop – Needed Upgrade 2.0 → 4.0

ND VOICES
Voter Information

FirstStop
North Dakota Secretary of State



State Representative District 1
Vote For 2

David Richter ✔ Republican	2,394	50.06%
Patrick Hatlestad ✔ Republican	2,321	48.54%
⊞ write-in	67	1.40%
TOTAL VOTES	4,782	

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GREAT SEAL
STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA