

NORTH DAKOTA
SECRETARY OF STATE
MICHAEL HOWE

HB 1002

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS – GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

Michael Howe, Secretary of State

3/6/2025



THE STARTING POINT FOR DEMOCRACY & TRANSPARENCY

We Serve, Guide, & Engage Citizens Through
Elections, Business, & Official Records

AGENCY FUNCTIONS

DIVISIONS & SERVICES



ELECTIONS

- Election Administration Oversight
- Campaign Finance

BUSINESS SERVICES

- File Point for 46 Entity/Records
- Public Search

LICENSING & NOTARY

- License/Register Professions
- Commission Notaries Public

CENTRAL INDEXING

- Lien Filing & Search

INFORMATION MANAGEMENT

- System Support & Interfaces

FISCAL & ADMINISTRATIVE

- Official Records – Lobbyists
- Fiscal & Operations

COMBATIVE SPORTS

- Oversight of Combative Contests



WE'VE
BEEN
BUSY

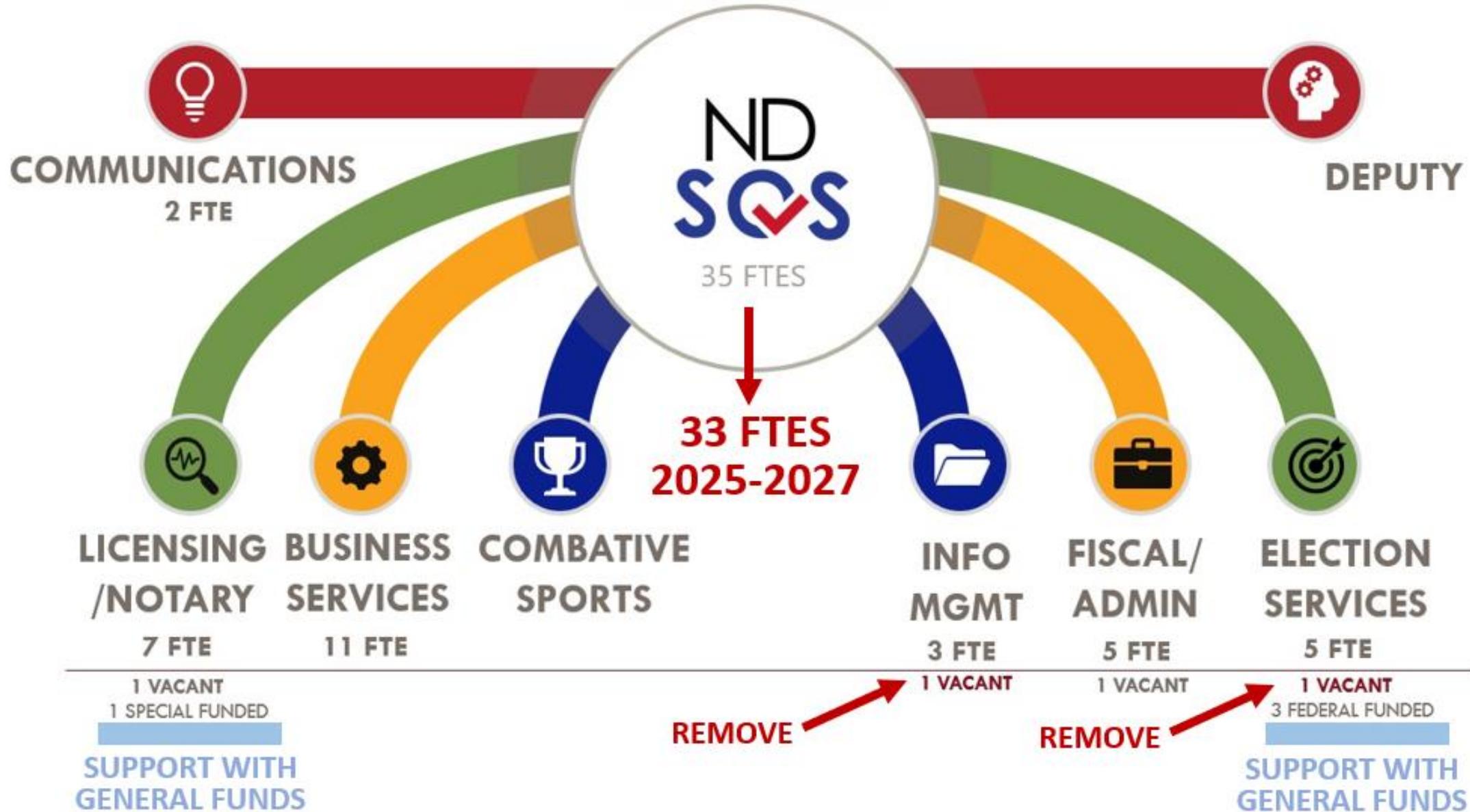


WHO WE SERVE

- Voters
- Candidates
- Local Government
- Business
- Licensees
- Lending Community
- All Citizens

2023-2025

SECRETARY



SECTION 1

REVIEW OF ADJUSTMENTS / ENHANCEMENTS

SALARIES & WAGES - \$587,108

- Removes 2 FTEs (1 special/1 federal) – 35 FTE → 33 FTE
 - Special funds used for salary → shift to operating
- General Fund Support for 3 FTEs (formerly special funds)
- FTE Pool Changes
- Base Payroll Changes & Health Insurance
- Salary Increase at 3%/3%

SECTION 1

REVIEW OF ADJUSTMENTS / ENHANCEMENTS

NEW & VACANT FTE POOL - \$148,177

- 70% of FTE Pool Moves to New Line

SECTION 1

REVIEW OF ADJUSTMENTS / ENHANCEMENTS

OPERATING EXPENSES - \$2,171,051

- → Restores Special Fund Salary to Operating Line
- One-Time – \$700,000
 - AS400 Server Costs – \$200,000
 - Central Indexing Upgrade 1.0 to 4.0 – \$500,000

SECTION 1

REVIEW OF ADJUSTMENTS / ENHANCEMENTS

OPERATING EXPENSES - \$2,171,051

- IT License/Maintenance Support - \$1.06M
 - FirstStop, Election Mgmt, Camp. Finance - \$650,000
 - Central Indexing - \$410,000
- NDIT Funded Increase - \$22,506
- NDIT Data Hosting Increase - \$170,000

SECTION 1

REVIEW OF ADJUSTMENTS / ENHANCEMENTS

GRANTS – NO CHANGE

- \$25,000 – Grants Available to Tribes for ID Efforts for Voting

PETITIONS – NO CHANGE

- \$8,000 – Petition Review – postcards/postage (est. for 1)
- Request Funding through Emergency Commission as Needed

SECTION 1

REVIEW OF ADJUSTMENTS / ENHANCEMENTS

ELECTION REFORM - \$4,397,006

- → Restores Federal Fund Salary to Election Reform Line
- One-Time Funding/Authority
 - SIF – Replace Poll Pads & Cradle Points – \$2.8 M
 - Authority – DES Election Security Grant – \$100,359
 - Authority – HAVA 2025 Anticipated Award – \$1 M

ELECTION EQUIPMENT

SECRETARY OF STATE APPROVES VOTING SYSTEMS



POLLPADS – ELECTRONIC POLLBOOKS

Vendor - KNOWiNK

CHECKS VOTER IN AT POLLING LOCATION

Ensures One Person = One Vote

Updates Central Voter File – Checks in Voter

Knows which voters voted by mail

Sends check-in info to PollPads in the State



PRINTS BALLOT TICKET

Voter uses ticket to get correct ballot



CONNECTED TO OTHER POLLING LOCATIONS IN NORTH DAKOTA =

→ SECURE portal - encryption

→ SIGNAL ACTIVE with secure access

SECTION 1

REVIEW OF ADJUSTMENTS / ENHANCEMENTS

ELECTION REFORM - \$4,397,006

- NDIT Election IT Increases - \$80,000 (Poll Pad/Cradle Points)
- HAVA – State Match Requirement for 2025 - \$200,000
 - On-going funding allows for match both years of biennium
 - Senate provided \$200,000 last biennium (Applied to 2024 HAVA)

SECTION 1

REVIEW OF ADJUSTMENTS / ENHANCEMENTS

PUBLIC PRINTING - \$271,335

- Removes \$271,335 from NDSOS
 - → Shifts Funding to Legislative Council Budget

SECTION 2

ONE-TIME FUNDING – EFFECT ON BASE BUDGET

ONE-TIME FUNDING DETAIL

- \$2.8 M – Poll Pads & Cradle Points (SIIF)
- \$700,000 – IT - Central Index Upgrade/AS400 Support (SIIF)
- \$100,359 – Authority – DES Election Security Grant
- \$1 M – Authority – HAVA 2025 Anticipated Award

SECTION 3

CREATES NEW BUDGET LINE ITEM

NEW AND VACANT FTE POOL

- Creates New Line Item for FTE Pool
- Must Request from OMB to Use

SECTION 4

STATE INVESTMENT AND IMPROVEMENTS FUNDING

\$3.5 M – TOTAL SIIF FUNDING

- \$2.8 M – Poll Pad & Cradle Point Replacement
- \$500,000 – Central Indexing Upgrade
- \$200,000 – AS400 Server Support

SECTION 5

TRANSFER AUTHORITY - HAVA

\$600,000 – Transfer Authority for HAVA Match

- Allows for movement of General Funds to Election Fund to meet HAVA Match
 - Must be in Election Fund for interest requirements

SECTIONS 6 THRU 13

STATUTE CHANGE – PUBLIC PRINTING TO LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

Updates Statute to Transfer Public Printing

- Moves \$271,335 to Legislative Council
- Updates statute references to “Legislative Council” rather than Secretary of State

SECTIONS 14

SALARY ADJUSTMENT FOR SOS

UPDATES THE SALARY FOR SECRETARY OF STATE



SECTIONS 15 & 16

CARRY-FORWARD ONE-TIME ITEMS – LAST BIENNIUM

ARPA – SECT. 15 - \$6 M

- Election Management System - \$5,000,000 (Jan. '26)
- FirstStop Upgrade - \$1,000,000 (Mar. '26)

SIIF – SECT. 16 - \$1.5 M

- Campaign Finance System - \$1,000,000 (Jan. '26)
- IT System Enhancements - \$500,000 (May '26)

	2025-2027 Legislative Base Level	House Version 1002	\$ Increase/ (Decrease) Compared to Legislative Base
Salaries and Wages	6,366,407	6,953,515	587,108
New & Vacant FTE Pool	-	148,177	148,177
Operating Expenses	4,984,331	7,155,382	2,171,051
Grants	25,000	25,000	-
Petition Review	8,000	8,000	-
Election Reform	4,830,808	9,227,814	4,397,006
Public Printing	271,335	-	(271,335)
Total Line Items	16,485,881	23,517,888	7,032,007
By Funding Source			
General Funds	7,141,710	9,440,819	2,299,109
Federal Funds	4,195,655	5,395,994	1,200,339
Special Funds	5,148,516	8,681,075	3,532,559
Total Funding Source	16,485,881	23,517,888	7,032,007
FTE	35	33	(2)

POTENTIAL BUDGET IMPACT BILLS

BILLS WITH APPROPRIATIONS FOR NDSOS

SB 2230

– \$600,000 to Support Voter Education on Measures

HB 1507

– \$53,000 to Create New Entity – Coop. Financial Inst.

NORTH DAKOTA
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