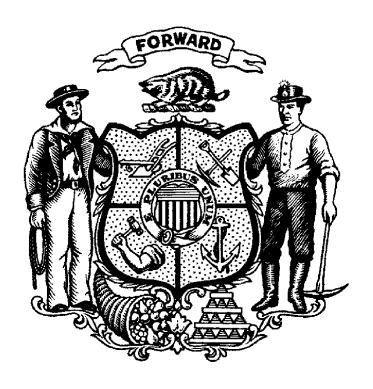
# State of Wisconsin

# **Elections Commission**



Agency Budget Request 2021 – 2023 Biennium September 15, 2020

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### Wisconsin Elections Commission

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September 15, 2020

The Honorable Joel Brennan, Secretary Department of Administration 101 East Wilson Street, 10<sup>th</sup> Floor Madison, WI 53703

#### Dear Secretary Brennan:

Enclosed is the 2021-23 budget submission for the Wisconsin Elections Commission (WEC). The WEC has included two decision items for consideration by the Executive Office as it prepares the executive budget for submission to the Legislature. These decision items will ensure statutorily required agency programs and operations can continue into the next biennium.

The Wisconsin Elections Commission is a national leader in election administration and election security, initiatives that require long term sustained planning and support of our state. The agency budget request is designed to enable the Elections Commission to carry out its legislative mandates to maintain the integrity of the electoral process and provide complete, accurate and timely information and guidance to local election officials, candidates, voters, and the public.

Also enclosed are the agency's Act 201 exercise and calculations. Please note that we can comply with the Act 201 directive only by significantly impacting the Commission's program responsibilities. We believe it is not advisable to reduce current GPR spending by the required 5% goal because each of our initiatives ultimately ensures the accurate and consistent administration of elections throughout the state, including the state-level tasks completed by our staff, our training of local election officials, and the information and assistance we provide to voters.

We look forward to working with your agency, the Executive Office, and the Legislature throughout the budget process. If you have any specific questions concerning the Wisconsin Elections Commission's budget request, please contact Sharrie Hauge at 266-0404. I can also be reached at 266-8175. Thank you for your assistance and support.

**Wisconsin Elections Commission** 

Meagan Wolfe Administrator

Wisconsin Elections Commissioners

Ann S. Jacobs, chair | Marge Bostelmann | Julie M. Glancey | Dean Knudson | Robert Spindell | Mark L. Thomsen

Administrator

Meagan Wolfe

#### AGENCY DESCRIPTION

The Elections Commission is comprised of six members, who serve for 5-year terms. One member is appointed by the senate majority leader; one appointed by the senate minority leader; one appointed by the speaker of the assembly; one appointed by the assembly minority leader; and two are members who formerly served as county or municipal clerks and who are nominated by the governor with the advice and consent of a majority of the members of the senate. A detailed description of the appointment of Commissioners is provided in WIS. STAT. §15.61. The Elections Commission and the Department of Administration established a rotational term schedule of the Commissioners. The Commission elects a chair and vice-chair from its members by a majority vote.

The Commission Administrator serves as the agency head and the chief election officer of the state. The Commission staff is required to be non-partisan. The agency has a staff of 25.75 GPR and 6.00 SEGF full-time employees.

The Commission administers and enforces Wisconsin law pertaining to elections (Wisconsin Chapters 5 to 10 and 12). The mission of the Commission is to enhance representative democracy by ensuring the integrity of Wisconsin's electoral process through the administration of Wisconsin's elections laws and the dissemination of information, guidance and services to local election officials, candidates, policymakers, voters and the public, utilizing both staff expertise and technology solutions.

Commission activities fit into four general functions: general administration; education, training and assistance to local election officials, candidates, and officeholders; voter education and outreach; and complaint resolution. Within these functional areas, the Commission implements legislative changes and initiatives, develops policy, issues formal opinions and guidance, promulgates administrative rules, prescribes procedures and forms, carries out investigations, responds to inquiries from local election officials, candidates and the public, and completes related activities.

The Commission has four general program areas which are described below:

#### **State Election Administration**

The Agency ensures compliance with federal and state election laws. Commission staff evaluates nomination papers and other documents to recommend to the Commission as to whether state and federal candidates qualify for ballot access. Agency staff completes testing of electronic voting systems and makes recommendations regarding Commission approval of such systems, conducts accessibility audits of polling places, and certifies state and federal election results in Wisconsin. Commission staff also develops and maintains the statewide voter registration system (WisVote) as well as other election management IT systems and applications. Staff also prepares reports and documentation to assist the Commission in making decisions related to election administration at its regular meetings and works with the Legislature in its development of election-related legislation. In recent years the Commission has increased its focus on elections security and protecting state and local elections systems.

#### **Support for Local Election Officials**

Elections in Wisconsin are conducted by 1,922 local clerks at the town, village, city and county levels. Commission staff provides education, training, and administrative and technical support to local election officials, on both a cyclical and daily basis. Courses and classes for election officials on both election administration responsibilities and tasks involving the security and administration of the statewide voter registration system are available on the Internet through an extensive webinar series and through the agency's online learning center. The Agency also offers in-person presentations to various professional associations and other groups. The Agency prepares detailed manuals to assist local election officials in carrying out their election–related responsibilities. Ongoing support to local clerks includes review of ballot formats, providing election forms, and answering inquiries regarding voting equipment and election procedures, as well as completing tasks in WisVote such as printing poll books, tracking ballot issuance and voter participation, updating voter registration records; maintaining candidate lists and polling place locations, and producing various reports for clerks. Local election officials rely on the WisVote application and Agency staff support to conduct all federal, state and local elections.

#### **Voter Information**

Agency staff conducts extensive voter outreach regarding election procedures, voter registration and voting requirements. Agency staff maintains and updates the MyVote Wisconsin website (http://myvote.wi.gov), which is linked to the agency website (http://elections.wi.gov/), which enables voters to check their voter registration status, and locate polling place and ballot information. Data available on the MyVote Wisconsin site is drawn from the statewide voter registration system, WisVote. The MyVote Wisconsin site enables voters to click on a link, complete and print a voter registration application and mail it to their municipal clerk. The information completed by the voter is saved in the WisVote system to expedite the voter's registration. The MyVote site houses the state's online voter registration system. The site also provides a secure method for military and overseas voters to apply for an absentee ballot and have it delivered to them electronically. Additional resources are available to voters and the public on the agency's website. The agency also assists members of the public with obtaining valid photo identification for voting.

#### **Voter and Election Data**

Through maintenance of WisVote, the agency's Election Data Collection System, and the Canvass Reporting System, agency staff collects and analyzes election and voter data, and compiles information for required reports to the federal government and state policymakers.

Agency staff also makes the data available to the public and research organizations through its BADGER Voters website (https://badgervoters.wi.gov) as well as on the agency's main website. Agency staff creates reports to comply with federal statutes and federal grant requirements.

#### **MISSION**

The mission of the commission is to enhance representative democracy by ensuring the integrity of Wisconsin's electoral process through the administration of Wisconsin's elections laws and the dissemination of information, guidance and services to local election officials, candidates, policymakers, voters and the public, utilizing both staff expertise and technology solutions.

### PROGRAMS, GOALS, OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

#### **Program 1: Administration of Elections**

Goal: Ensure open, fair and transparent elections, by cultivating public confidence in the integrity of the electoral process.

Objective/Activity: Administer state-level election responsibilities and provide educational, training and customer service resources to local elections officials, candidates, voters and the general public.

### PERFORMANCE MEASURES

2019 AND 2020 GOALS AND ACTUALS

| Prog.<br>No. | Performance Measure  | Goal<br>2019 | Actual<br>2019 | Goal<br>2020 | Actual<br>2020 |
|--------------|--|--------------|----------------|--------------|----------------|
| 1.           | Monitor the number of contacts the public makes to WEC.  | 1,850,000    | 4,053,508      | 1,310,000    | 4,965,119      |
| 1.           | Percentage of sworn complaints resolved within 60-days of submission.  | 90%          | 55%            | 90%          | 73%            |
| 1.           | Conduct training events and maintain training resources for local elections partners and the general public. | 150          | 156            | 150          | 286            |
| 1.           | Percentage of candidates receiving nomination paper review results within 48 hours of filing.                | 90%          | 100%           | 90%          | 99%            |

Note: Based on fiscal year.

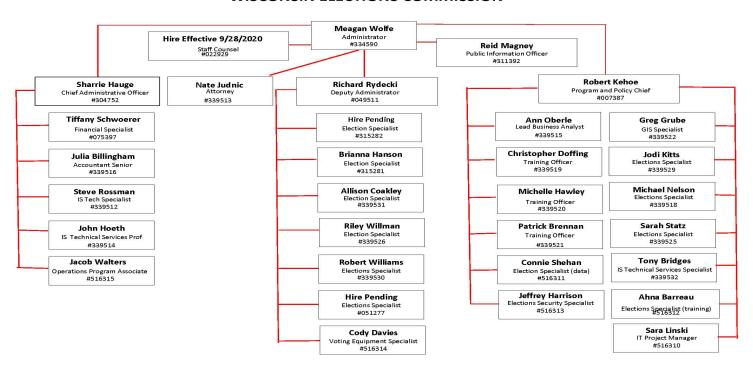
2021, 2022 AND 2023 GOALS

| Prog.<br>No. | Performance Measure   | Goal<br>2021 | Goal<br>2022 | Goal<br>2023 |
|--------------|---|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| 1.           | Monitor the number of contacts the public makes to WEC.   | 4,000,000    | 4,900,000    | 4,000,000    |
| 1.           | Percentage of sworn complaints resolved within 60-days of submission.   | 90%          | 90%          | 90%          |
| 1.           | Conduct training events and maintain training resources for local elections partners and the general public.        | 150          | 250          | 150          |
| 1.           | Percentage of candidates receiving nomination paper review results within two business days of filing. <sup>1</sup> | 90%          | 90%          | 90%          |

Note: Based on fiscal year.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>New performance measure for upcoming biennium.

#### WISCONSIN ELECTIONS COMMISSION



|                |   |                     | Į.               | BIENNIAL SUMMARY  |                   |                    |                    |                               |                     |                      |                         |
|----------------|---|---------------------|------------------|-------------------|-------------------|--------------------|--------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|
| Source<br>Fund |   | Prior Year<br>Total | Adjusted<br>Base | 1st Year<br>Total | 2nd Year<br>Total | 1st<br>Year<br>FTE | 2nd<br>Year<br>FTE | Base Year<br>Doubled<br>(BYD) | Biennial<br>Request | Change<br>From (BYD) | Change<br>From<br>BYD % |
| GPR            | S | \$4,269,132         | \$4,705,700      | \$4,784,500       | \$4,788,100       | 25.75              | 25.75              | \$9,411,400                   | \$9,572,600         | \$161,200            | 1.7%                    |
| Total          |   | \$4,269,132         | \$4,705,700      | \$4,784,500       | \$4,788,100       | 25.75              | 25.75              | \$9,411,400                   | \$9,572,600         | \$161,200            | 1.7%                    |
| PR             | S | \$462               | \$1,000          | \$150,200         | \$350,500         | 3.00               | 3.00               | \$2,000                       | \$500,700           | \$498,700            | 24935.0%                |
| Total          |   | \$462               | \$1,000          | \$150,200         | \$350,500         | 3.00               | 3.00               | \$2,000                       | \$500,700           | \$498,700            | 24935.0%                |
| SEG            | S | \$0                 | \$100            | \$100             | \$100             | 0.00               | 0.00               | \$200                         | \$200               | \$0                  | 0.0%                    |
| Total          |   | \$0                 | \$100            | \$100             | \$100             | 0.00               | 0.00               | \$200                         | \$200               | \$0                  | 0.0%                    |
| SEG<br>Federal | S | \$4,043,586         | \$994,900        | \$1,043,000       | \$843,700         | 3.00               | 3.00               | \$1,989,800                   | \$1,886,700         | (\$103,100)          | -5.2%                   |
| Total          |   | \$4,043,586         | \$994,900        | \$1,043,000       | \$843,700         | 3.00               | 3.00               | \$1,989,800                   | \$1,886,700         | (\$103,100)          | -5.2%                   |
| Grand<br>Total |   | \$8,313,180         | \$5,701,700      | \$5,977,800       | \$5,982,400       | 31.75              | 31.75              | \$11,403,400                  | \$11,960,200        | \$556,800            | 4.9%                    |

|                        |      |                      |               | ANNU           | JAL SUMMAI     | RY           |                 |                            | BIENNIAL            | SUMMARY           |                   |
|------------------------|------|----------------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|--------------|-----------------|----------------------------|---------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Source of F            | unds | Prior Year<br>Actual | Adjusted Base | 1st Year Total | 2nd Year Total | 1st Year FTE | 2nd Year<br>FTE | Base Year<br>Doubled (BYD) | Biennial<br>Request | Change From (BYD) | Change From BYD % |
|                        |      | TION OF ELEC         | •             |                |                |              |                 | ,                          | 1                   | ,                 |                   |
| Non Federal            |      |                      |               |                |                |              |                 |                            |                     |                   |                   |
| GPR                    |      | \$4,269,132          | \$4,705,700   | \$4,784,500    | \$4,788,100    | 25.75        | 25.75           | \$9,411,400                | \$9,572,600         | \$161,200         | 1.71%             |
|                        | S    | \$4,269,132          | \$4,705,700   | \$4,784,500    | \$4,788,100    | 25.75        | 25.75           | \$9,411,400                | \$9,572,600         | \$161,200         | 1.71%             |
| PR                     |      | \$462                | \$1,000       | \$150,200      | \$350,500      | 3.00         | 3.00            | \$2,000                    | \$500,700           | \$498,700         | 24935.00%         |
|                        | S    | \$462                | \$1,000       | \$150,200      | \$350,500      | 3.00         | 3.00            | \$2,000                    | \$500,700           | \$498,700         | 24935.00%         |
| SEG                    |      | \$0                  | \$100         | \$100          | \$100          | 0.00         | 0.00            | \$200                      | \$200               | \$0               | 0.00%             |
|                        | S    | \$0                  | \$100         | \$100          | \$100          | 0.00         | 0.00            | \$200                      | \$200               | \$0               | 0.00%             |
| Total - Non<br>Federal |      | \$4,269,594          | \$4,706,800   | \$4,934,800    | \$5,138,700    | 28.75        | 28.75           | \$9,413,600                | \$10,073,500        | \$659,900         | 7.01%             |
| reaciai                | S    | \$4,269,594          | \$4,706,800   | \$4,934,800    | \$5,138,700    | 28.75        | 28.75           | \$9,413,600                | \$10,073,500        | \$659,900         | 7.01%             |
| Federal                |      |                      |               |                |                |              |                 |                            |                     |                   |                   |
| SEG                    |      | \$4,043,586          | \$994,900     | \$1,043,000    | \$843,700      | 3.00         | 3.00            | \$1,989,800                | \$1,886,700         | (\$103,100)       | -5.18%            |
|                        | S    | \$4,043,586          | \$994,900     | \$1,043,000    | \$843,700      | 3.00         | 3.00            | \$1,989,800                | \$1,886,700         | (\$103,100)       | -5.18%            |
| Total - Feder          | ral  | \$4,043,586          | \$994,900     | \$1,043,000    | \$843,700      | 3.00         | 3.00            | \$1,989,800                | \$1,886,700         | (\$103,100)       | -5.18%            |
|                        | S    | \$4,043,586          | \$994,900     | \$1,043,000    | \$843,700      | 3.00         | 3.00            | \$1,989,800                | \$1,886,700         | (\$103,100)       | -5.18%            |
| PGM 01 Tota            | al   | \$8,313,180          | \$5,701,700   | \$5,977,800    | \$5,982,400    | 31.75        | 31.75           | \$11,403,400               | \$11,960,200        | \$556,800         | 4.88%             |
| GPR                    |      | \$4,269,132          | \$4,705,700   | \$4,784,500    | \$4,788,100    | 25.75        | 25.75           | \$9,411,400                | \$9,572,600         | \$161,200         | 1.71%             |
|                        | S    | \$4,269,132          | \$4,705,700   | \$4,784,500    | \$4,788,100    | 25.75        | 25.75           | \$9,411,400                | \$9,572,600         | \$161,200         | 1.71%             |
| PR                     |      | \$462                | \$1,000       | \$150,200      | \$350,500      | 3.00         | 3.00            | \$2,000                    | \$500,700           | \$498,700         | 24935.00%         |

|             | S  | \$462       | \$1,000     | \$150,200   | \$350,500   | 3.00  | 3.00  | \$2,000      | \$500,700    | \$498,700   | 24935.00% |
|-------------|----|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------|-------|--------------|--------------|-------------|-----------|
|             |    |             |             |             |             |       |       |              |              |             |           |
| SEG         |    | \$4,043,586 | \$995,000   | \$1,043,100 | \$843,800   | 3.00  | 3.00  | \$1,990,000  | \$1,886,900  | (\$103,100) | -5.18%    |
|             | S  | \$4,043,586 | \$995,000   | \$1,043,100 | \$843,800   | 3.00  | 3.00  | \$1,990,000  | \$1,886,900  | (\$103,100) | -5.18%    |
|             |    |             |             |             |             |       |       |              |              |             |           |
| TOTAL 01    |    | \$8,313,180 | \$5,701,700 | \$5,977,800 | \$5,982,400 | 31.75 | 31.75 | \$11,403,400 | \$11,960,200 | \$556,800   | 4.88%     |
|             | S  | \$8,313,180 | \$5,701,700 | \$5,977,800 | \$5,982,400 | 31.75 | 31.75 | \$11,403,400 | \$11,960,200 | \$556,800   | 4.88%     |
|             |    |             |             |             |             |       |       |              |              |             |           |
|             |    |             |             |             |             |       |       |              |              |             |           |
| Agency Tota | al | \$8,313,180 | \$5,701,700 | \$5,977,800 | \$5,982,400 | 31.75 | 31.75 | \$11,403,400 | \$11,960,200 | \$556,800   | 4.88%     |

| Decision Item   | 1st Year Total | 2nd Year Total | 1st Year<br>FTE | 2nd Year<br>FTE |
|---|----------------|----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| 2000 Adjusted Base Funding Level                                      | \$5,701,700    | \$5,701,700    | 31.75           | 31.75           |
| 3002 Removal of Noncontinuing Elements from the Base                  | (\$36,700)     | (\$440,400)    | (6.00)          | (6.00)          |
| 3003 Full Funding of Continuing Position Salaries and Fringe Benefits | \$90,600       | \$90,600       | 0.00            | 0.00            |
| 3005 Reclassifications and Semiautomatic Pay Progression              | \$54,300       | \$54,300       | 0.00            | 0.00            |
| 3010 Full Funding of Lease and Directed Moves Costs                   | \$200          | \$4,800        | 0.00            | 0.00            |
| 4001 Create a new Elections Security and Maintenance Appropriation    | \$131,000      | \$131,000      | 0.00            | 0.00            |
| 4002 Convert 6.0 Federal Project Positions to 6.0 Permanent Positions | \$36,700       | \$440,400      | 6.00            | 6.00            |
| TOTAL   | \$5,977,800    | \$5,982,400    | 31.75           | 31.75           |

# **Program Revenue**

|                       | CODES | TITLES                      |
|-----------------------|-------|-----------------------------|
| DEPARTMENT            | 510   | Elections Commission        |
| PROGRAM               | 01    | Administration of elections |
| SUBPROGRAM            |       |                             |
| NUMERIC APPROPRIATION | 20    | Recount fees                |

| Revenue and Expenditures | Prior Year Actuals | Base Year Estimate | 1st Year Estimate | 2nd Year Estimate |
|--------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Opening Balance          | \$0                | \$0                | \$0               | \$0               |
| Total Revenue            | \$0                | \$0                | \$0               | \$0               |
| Expenditures             | \$0                | \$0                | \$0               | \$0               |
| Total Expenditures       | \$0                | \$0                | \$0               | \$0               |
| Closing Balance          | \$0                | \$0                | \$0               | \$0               |

# **Program Revenue**

|                       | CODES | TITLES                      |
|-----------------------|-------|-----------------------------|
| DEPARTMENT            | 510   | Elections Commission        |
| PROGRAM               | 01    | Administration of elections |
| SUBPROGRAM            |       |                             |
| NUMERIC APPROPRIATION | 21    | Materials and services      |

| Revenue and Expenditures         | Prior Year Actuals | Base Year Estimate | 1st Year Estimate | 2nd Year Estimate |
|----------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Opening Balance                  | \$11,600           | \$14,200           | \$14,700          | \$15,200          |
| Program Revenue                  | \$3,100            | \$1,500            | \$1,500           | \$1,500           |
| Total Revenue                    | \$14,700           | \$15,700           | \$16,200          | \$16,700          |
| Expenditures                     | \$462              | \$1,000            | \$0               | \$0               |
| 2000 Adjusted Base Funding Level | \$0                | \$0                | \$1,000           | \$1,000           |
| Total Expenditures               | \$462              | \$1,000            | \$1,000           | \$1,000           |
| Closing Balance                  | \$14,238           | \$14,700           | \$15,200          | \$15,700          |

# **Program Revenue**

|                       | CODES | TITLES                      |
|-----------------------|-------|-----------------------------|
| DEPARTMENT            | 510   | Elections Commission        |
| PROGRAM               | 01    | Administration of elections |
| SUBPROGRAM            |       |                             |
| NUMERIC APPROPRIATION | 23    | Gifts and grants            |

| Revenue and Expenditures | Prior Year Actuals | Base Year Estimate | 1st Year Estimate | 2nd Year Estimate |
|--------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Opening Balance          | \$300              | \$300              | \$300             | \$300             |
| Total Revenue            | \$300              | \$300              | \$300             | \$300             |
| Expenditures             | \$0                | \$0                | \$0               | \$0               |
| Total Expenditures       | \$0                | \$0                | \$0               | \$0               |
| Closing Balance          | \$300              | \$300              | \$300             | \$300             |

# **Segregated Funds Revenue and Balances Statement**

DEPARTMENT
NUMERIC APPROPRIATION
PROGRAM
SUBPROGRAM
WISMART FUND

| CODES | TITLES                      |
|-------|-----------------------------|
| 510   | Elections Commission        |
| 82    | Elections Security          |
| 01    | Administration of elections |
|       |                             |
| 220   |                             |

| Revenue and Expenditures         | Prior Year Actuals | Base Year Estimate | 1st Year Estimate | 2nd Year Estimate |
|----------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Opening Balance                  | \$6,415,200        | \$17,622,000       | \$6,821,400       | \$5,836,500       |
| Elections Security Grant 2020    | \$7,818,600        | \$0                | \$0               | \$0               |
| CARES ACT Grant                  | \$7,332,500        | \$0                | \$0               | \$0               |
| Interest Earned                  | \$99,300           | \$16,700           | \$10,000          | \$7,000           |
| Total Revenue                    | \$21,665,600       | \$17,638,700       | \$6,831,400       | \$5,843,500       |
| Expenditures                     | \$4,043,586        | \$10,817,300       | \$0               | \$0               |
| 2000 Adjusted Base Funding Level | \$0                | \$0                | \$994,900         | \$994,900         |
| Total Expenditures               | \$4,043,586        | \$10,817,300       | \$994,900         | \$994,900         |
| Closing Balance                  | \$17,622,014       | \$6,821,400        | \$5,836,500       | \$4,848,600       |

### Decision Item (DIN) - 2000 Decision Item (DIN) Title - Adjusted Base Funding Level

### **NARRATIVE**

|               | CODES | TITLES                      |
|---------------|-------|-----------------------------|
| DEPARTMENT    | 510   | Elections Commission        |
|               | CODES | TITLES                      |
| DECISION ITEM | 2000  | Adjusted Base Funding Level |

|    | Expenditure items                 | 1st Year Cost | 2nd Year Cost |
|----|-----------------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| 01 | Permanent Position Salaries       | \$1,683,700   | \$1,683,700   |
| 02 | Turnover                          | \$0           | \$0           |
| 03 | Project Position Salaries         | \$321,300     | \$321,300     |
| 04 | LTE/Misc. Salaries                | \$2,400       | \$2,400       |
| 05 | Fringe Benefits                   | \$664,200     | \$664,200     |
| 06 | Supplies and Services             | \$3,025,300   | \$3,025,300   |
| 07 | Permanent Property                | \$4,800       | \$4,800       |
| 08 | Unalloted Reserve                 | \$0           | \$0           |
| 09 | Aids to Individuals Organizations | \$0           | \$0           |
| 10 | Local Assistance                  | \$0           | \$0           |
| 11 | One-time Financing                | \$0           | \$0           |
| 12 | Debt Service                      | \$0           | \$0           |
| 13 |                                   | \$0           | \$0           |
| 14 |                                   | \$0           | \$0           |
| 15 |                                   | \$0           | \$0           |
| 16 |                                   | \$0           | \$0           |
| 17 | Total Cost                        | \$5,701,700   | \$5,701,700   |
| 18 | Project Positions Authorized      | 6.00          | 6.00          |
| 19 | Classified Positions Authorized   | 23.75         | 23.75         |
| 20 | Unclassified Positions Authorized | 2.00          | 2.00          |

| Program | Decision Item/Numeric                   | 1st Year Total  | 2nd Year Total | 1st Year<br>FTE | 2nd Year<br>FTE |
|---------|---|-----------------|----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
|         | 2000                                    | Adjusted Base F | unding Level   |                 |                 |
| 01      | Administration of elections             |                 |                |                 |                 |
|         | 01 General program ops; GPR             | \$4,598,100     | \$4,598,100    | 25.75           | 25.75           |
|         | 05 Investigations                       | \$25,000        | \$25,000       | 0.00            | 0.00            |
|         | 09 Voter identification training        | \$82,600        | \$82,600       | 0.00            | 0.00            |
|         | 21 Materials and services               | \$1,000         | \$1,000        | 0.00            | 0.00            |
|         | 60 Election administration              | \$100           | \$100          | 0.00            | 0.00            |
|         | 82 Elections Security                   | \$994,900       | \$994,900      | 6.00            | 6.00            |
|         | Administration of elections SubTotal    | \$5,701,700     | \$5,701,700    | 31.75           | 31.75           |
|         | Adjusted Base Funding Level<br>SubTotal | \$5,701,700     | \$5,701,700    | 31.75           | 31.75           |
|         | Agency Total                            | \$5,701,700     | \$5,701,700    | 31.75           | 31.75           |

|                      | Source of F    | unds  | 1st Year Total   | 2nd Year Total | 1st Year<br>FTE | 2nd<br>Year<br>FTE |
|----------------------|----------------|-------|------------------|----------------|-----------------|--------------------|
| <b>Decision Item</b> | 2000           | Adjus | ted Base Funding | Level          |                 |                    |
|                      | GPR            | S     | \$4,705,700      | \$4,705,700    | 25.75           | 25.75              |
|                      | PR             | S     | \$1,000          | \$1,000        | 0.00            | 0.00               |
|                      | SEG            | S     | \$100            | \$100          | 0.00            | 0.00               |
|                      | SEG<br>Federal | S     | \$994,900        | \$994,900      | 6.00            | 6.00               |
|                      | Total          |       | \$5,701,700      | \$5,701,700    | 31.75           | 31.75              |
| Agency Total         |                |       | \$5,701,700      | \$5,701,700    | 31.75           | 31.75              |

### Decision Item (DIN) - 3002 Decision Item (DIN) Title - Removal of Noncontinuing Elements from the Base

### **NARRATIVE**

Standard Budget Adjustment - Removal of Noncontinuing Elements from the Base

|               | CODES | TITLES  |
|---------------|-------|---|
| DEPARTMENT    | 510   | Elections Commission                            |
|               | CODES | TITLES  |
| DECISION ITEM | 3002  | Removal of Noncontinuing Elements from the Base |

|    | Expenditure items                 | 1st Year Cost | 2nd Year Cost |
|----|-----------------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| 01 | Permanent Position Salaries       | \$0           | \$0           |
| 02 | Turnover                          | \$0           | \$0           |
| 03 | Project Position Salaries         | (\$26,800)    | (\$321,500)   |
| 04 | LTE/Misc. Salaries                | \$0           | \$0           |
| 05 | Fringe Benefits                   | (\$9,900)     | (\$118,900)   |
| 06 | Supplies and Services             | \$0           | \$0           |
| 07 | Permanent Property                | \$0           | \$0           |
| 80 | Unalloted Reserve                 | \$0           | \$0           |
| 09 | Aids to Individuals Organizations | \$0           | \$0           |
| 10 | Local Assistance                  | \$0           | \$0           |
| 11 | One-time Financing                | \$0           | \$0           |
| 12 | Debt Service                      | \$0           | \$0           |
| 13 |                                   | \$0           | \$0           |
| 14 |                                   | \$0           | \$0           |
| 15 |                                   | \$0           | \$0           |
| 16 |                                   | \$0           | \$0           |
| 17 | Total Cost                        | (\$36,700)    | (\$440,400)   |
| 18 | Project Positions Authorized      | -6.00         | -6.00         |
| 19 | Classified Positions Authorized   | 0.00          | 0.00          |
| 20 | Unclassified Positions Authorized | 0.00          | 0.00          |

| Program | Decision Item/Numeric                                    | 1st Year Total | 2nd Year Total  | 1st Year<br>FTE | 2nd Year<br>FTE |
|---------|--|----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
|         | 3002   | Removal of Non | continuing Elen | nents from      | the Base        |
| 01      | Administration of elections                              |                |                 |                 |                 |
|         | 82 Elections Security                                    | (\$36,700)     | (\$440,400)     | (6.00)          | (6.00)          |
|         | Administration of elections SubTotal                     | (\$36,700)     | (\$440,400)     | (6.00)          | (6.00)          |
|         | Removal of Noncontinuing Elements from the Base SubTotal | (\$36,700)     | (\$440,400)     | (6.00)          | (6.00)          |
|         |  |                |                 |                 |                 |
|         | Agency Total   | (\$36,700)     | (\$440,400)     | (6.00)          | (6.00)          |

|                      | Source of F    | unds | 1st Year Total     | 2nd Year Total      | 1st Year<br>FTE | 2nd<br>Year<br>FTE |
|----------------------|----------------|------|--------------------|---------------------|-----------------|--------------------|
| <b>Decision Item</b> | 3002           | Remo | val of Noncontinui | ng Elements from th | e Base          |                    |
|                      | SEG<br>Federal | S    | (\$36,700)         | (\$440,400)         | (6.00)          | (6.00)             |
|                      | Total          |      | (\$36,700)         | (\$440,400)         | (6.00)          | (6.00)             |
| Agency Total         |                |      | (\$36,700)         | (\$440,400)         | (6.00)          | (6.00)             |

Decision Item (DIN) - 3003

Decision Item (DIN) Title - Full Funding of Continuing Position Salaries and Fringe Benefits

#### **NARRATIVE**

Standard Budget Adjustment - Full Funding of Continuing Position Salaries and Fringe Benefits

|            | CODES | TITLES               |
|------------|-------|----------------------|
| DEPARTMENT | 510   | Elections Commission |
|            |       |                      |
|            | CODES | TITLES               |

|    | Expenditure items                 | 1st Year Cost | 2nd Year Cost |
|----|-----------------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| 01 | Permanent Position Salaries       | \$0           | \$0           |
| 02 | Turnover                          | \$0           | \$0           |
| 03 | Project Position Salaries         | \$9,300       | \$9,300       |
| 04 | LTE/Misc. Salaries                | \$0           | \$0           |
| 05 | Fringe Benefits                   | \$81,300      | \$81,300      |
| 06 | Supplies and Services             | \$0           | \$0           |
| 07 | Permanent Property                | \$0           | \$0           |
| 08 | Unalloted Reserve                 | \$0           | \$0           |
| 09 | Aids to Individuals Organizations | \$0           | \$0           |
| 10 | Local Assistance                  | \$0           | \$0           |
| 11 | One-time Financing                | \$0           | \$0           |
| 12 | Debt Service                      | \$0           | \$0           |
| 13 |                                   | \$0           | \$0           |
| 14 |                                   | \$0           | \$0           |
| 15 |                                   | \$0           | \$0           |
| 16 |                                   | \$0           | \$0           |
| 17 | Total Cost                        | \$90,600      | \$90,600      |
| 18 | Project Positions Authorized      | 0.00          | 0.00          |
| 19 | Classified Positions Authorized   | 0.00          | 0.00          |
| 20 | Unclassified Positions Authorized | 0.00          | 0.00          |

| Program | Decision Item/Numeric   | 1st Year Total                     | 2nd Year Total | 1st Year<br>FTE | 2nd Year<br>FTE |
|---------|---|------------------------------------|----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
|         | 3003  | Full Funding of<br>Fringe Benefits |                | ition Salar     | ies and         |
| 01      | Administration of elections   |                                    |                |                 |                 |
|         | 01 General program ops; GPR   | \$75,100                           | \$75,100       | 0.00            | 0.00            |
|         | 82 Elections Security   | \$15,500                           | \$15,500       | 0.00            | 0.00            |
|         | Administration of elections SubTotal                                      | \$90,600                           | \$90,600       | 0.00            | 0.00            |
|         | Full Funding of Continuing Position Salaries and Fringe Benefits SubTotal | \$90,600                           | \$90,600       | 0.00            | 0.00            |
|         |   |                                    |                |                 |                 |
|         | Agency Total  | \$90,600                           | \$90,600       | 0.00            | 0.00            |

|               | Source of F    | unds   | 1st Year Total    | 2nd Year Total        | 1st Year<br>FTE | 2nd<br>Year<br>FTE |
|---------------|----------------|--------|-------------------|-----------------------|-----------------|--------------------|
| Decision Item | 3003           | Full F | unding of Continu | ing Position Salaries | and Fringe      | Benefits           |
|               | GPR            | S      | \$75,100          | \$75,100              | 0.00            | 0.00               |
|               | SEG<br>Federal | S      | \$15,500          | \$15,500              | 0.00            | 0.00               |
|               | Total          |        | \$90,600          | \$90,600              | 0.00            | 0.00               |
| Agency Total  |                |        | \$90,600          | \$90,600              | 0.00            | 0.00               |

# Decision Item (DIN) - 3005 Decision Item (DIN) Title - Reclassifications and Semiautomatic Pay Progression

### **NARRATIVE**

Standard Budget Adjustment - Reclassifications and Semiautomatic Pay Progression

| CODES              |       | TITLES  |  |
|--------------------|-------|---|--|
| DEPARTMENT         | 510   | Elections Commission                                |  |
|                    | CODES | TITLES  |  |
| DECISION ITEM 3005 |       | Reclassifications and Semiautomatic Pay Progression |  |

|    | Expenditure items                 | 1st Year Cost | 2nd Year Cost |
|----|-----------------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| 01 | Permanent Position Salaries       | \$23,200      | \$23,200      |
| 02 | Turnover                          | \$0           | \$0           |
| 03 | Project Position Salaries         | \$23,900      | \$23,900      |
| 04 | LTE/Misc. Salaries                | \$0           | \$0           |
| 05 | Fringe Benefits                   | \$7,200       | \$7,200       |
| 06 | Supplies and Services             | \$0           | \$0           |
| 07 | Permanent Property                | \$0           | \$0           |
| 08 | Unalloted Reserve                 | \$0           | \$0           |
| 09 | Aids to Individuals Organizations | \$0           | \$0           |
| 10 | Local Assistance                  | \$0           | \$0           |
| 11 | One-time Financing                | \$0           | \$0           |
| 12 | Debt Service                      | \$0           | \$0           |
| 13 |                                   | \$0           | \$0           |
| 14 |                                   | \$0           | \$0           |
| 15 |                                   | \$0           | \$0           |
| 16 |                                   | \$0           | \$0           |
| 17 | Total Cost                        | \$54,300      | \$54,300      |
| 18 | Project Positions Authorized      | 0.00          | 0.00          |
| 19 | Classified Positions Authorized   | 0.00          | 0.00          |
| 20 | Unclassified Positions Authorized | 0.00          | 0.00          |

| Program | Decision Item/Numeric   | 1st Year Total                  | 2nd Year<br>Total | 1st Year<br>FTE | 2nd Year<br>FTE |
|---------|---|---------------------------------|-------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
|         | 3005  | Reclassification<br>Progression | s and Semiauto    | omatic Pay      | 1               |
| 01      | Administration of elections                                     |                                 |                   |                 |                 |
|         | 01 General program ops; GPR                                     | \$54,300                        | \$54,300          | 0.00            | 0.00            |
|         | Administration of elections SubTotal                            | \$54,300                        | \$54,300          | 0.00            | 0.00            |
|         | Reclassifications and Semiautomatic<br>Pay Progression SubTotal | \$54,300                        | \$54,300          | 0.00            | 0.00            |
|         | Agency Total  | \$54,300                        | \$54,300          | 0.00            | 0.00            |

|               | Source of F | unds  | 1st Year Total | 2nd Year Total | 1st Year<br>FTE | 2nd<br>Year<br>FTE |  |
|---------------|-------------|---|----------------|----------------|-----------------|--------------------|--|
| Decision Item | 3005        | Reclassifications and Semiautomatic Pay Progression |                |                |                 |                    |  |
|               | GPR         | S   | \$54,300       | \$54,300       | 0.00            | 0.00               |  |
|               | Total       |   | \$54,300       | \$54,300       | 0.00            | 0.00               |  |
| Agency Total  |             |   | \$54,300       | \$54,300       | 0.00            | 0.00               |  |

# Decision Item (DIN) - 3010 Decision Item (DIN) Title - Full Funding of Lease and Directed Moves Costs

### **NARRATIVE**

Standard Budget Adjustment - Full Funding of Lease and Directed Moves Costs

| CODES              |       | TITLES   |  |
|--------------------|-------|--|--|
| DEPARTMENT         | 510   | Elections Commission                           |  |
|                    | CODES | TITLES   |  |
| DECISION ITEM 3010 |       | Full Funding of Lease and Directed Moves Costs |  |

|    | Expenditure items                 | 1st Year Cost | 2nd Year Cost |
|----|-----------------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| 01 | Permanent Position Salaries       | \$0           | \$0           |
| 02 | Turnover                          | \$0           | \$0           |
| 03 | Project Position Salaries         | \$0           | \$0           |
| 04 | LTE/Misc. Salaries                | \$0           | \$0           |
| 05 | Fringe Benefits                   | \$0           | \$0           |
| 06 | Supplies and Services             | \$200         | \$4,800       |
| 07 | Permanent Property                | \$0           | \$0           |
| 08 | Unalloted Reserve                 | \$0           | \$0           |
| 09 | Aids to Individuals Organizations | \$0           | \$0           |
| 10 | Local Assistance                  | \$0           | \$0           |
| 11 | One-time Financing                | \$0           | \$0           |
| 12 | Debt Service                      | \$0           | \$0           |
| 13 |                                   | \$0           | \$0           |
| 14 |                                   | \$0           | \$0           |
| 15 |                                   | \$0           | \$0           |
| 16 |                                   | \$0           | \$0           |
| 17 | Total Cost                        | \$200         | \$4,800       |
| 18 | Project Positions Authorized      | 0.00          | 0.00          |
| 19 | Classified Positions Authorized   | 0.00          | 0.00          |
| 20 | Unclassified Positions Authorized | 0.00          | 0.00          |

| Program | Decision Item/Numeric                                   | 1st Year Total  | 2nd Year Total  | 1st Year<br>FTE | 2nd Year<br>FTE |
|---------|---|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
|         | 3010  | Full Funding of | Lease and Direc | ted Moves       | Costs           |
| 01      | Administration of elections                             |                 |                 |                 |                 |
|         | 01 General program ops; GPR                             | (\$50,600)      | (\$47,000)      | 0.00            | 0.00            |
|         | 82 Elections Security                                   | \$50,800        | \$51,800        | 0.00            | 0.00            |
|         | Administration of elections SubTotal                    | \$200           | \$4,800         | 0.00            | 0.00            |
|         | Full Funding of Lease and Directed Moves Costs SubTotal | \$200           | \$4,800         | 0.00            | 0.00            |
|         |   |                 |                 |                 |                 |
|         | Agency Total  | \$200           | \$4,800         | 0.00            | 0.00            |

|               | Source of F    | unds   | 1st Year Total | 2nd Year Total | 1st Year<br>FTE | 2nd<br>Year<br>FTE |  |
|---------------|----------------|--|----------------|----------------|-----------------|--------------------|--|
| Decision Item | 3010           | Full Funding of Lease and Directed Moves Costs |                |                |                 |                    |  |
|               | GPR            | S  | (\$50,600)     | (\$47,000)     | 0.00            | 0.00               |  |
|               | SEG<br>Federal | S  | \$50,800       | \$51,800       | 0.00            | 0.00               |  |
|               | Total          |  | \$200          | \$4,800        | 0.00            | 0.00               |  |
| Agency Total  |                |  | \$200          | \$4,800        | 0.00            | 0.00               |  |

# Decision Item (DIN) - 4001 Decision Item (DIN) Title - Create a new Elections Security and Maintenance Appropriation

### **NARRATIVE**

The Wisconsin Elections Commission requests the creation of a new continuing program revenue (PR) appropriation.

#### **DIN 4001**

#### Create a new Elections Security and Maintenance Appropriation

### Request

The Wisconsin Elections Commission requests a statutory language change to create a new continuing program revenue (PR) appropriation. It also requests funding of \$131,000 PR in FY22 and \$131,000 PR in FY23.

### Background

Currently, the revenue from the sale of voter lists is being deposited into the agency's s.20.510 (1)(x), federal aid, election administration fund appropriation (180) per 25.425 Wis. Stats. This statute requires the agency put all moneys received from the sale of copies of the official registration list into this appropriation. Per 6.36 (6) Wis. Stats., the agency is required to make the contents of the official registration list available for sale to requestors from the public. At the time this appropriation was created the revenue needed to be put in this appropriation until the HAVA federal grant was fully expended. The H251 grant was fully expended on April 9, 2019; however, the agency still receives revenue from the sale of voter lists but does not have the ability to expend the funds.

### Issue

Annually, the agency receives revenue from the sale of voter lists created in the agency's statewide voter registration system (WisVote) but does not currently have the ability to expend the funds, nor is the revenue in the correct appropriation. In order for the agency to access and expend the funds from the sale of the voter lists, the agency needs to request to create a new continuing program revenue (PR) appropriation, adjust the statutory language in 25.425 to allow future revenues to go directly into the new appropriation, request a non-statutory provision to allow previously-collected revenues to be transferred from the old appropriation to the newly created one and request spending authority.

#### Summary

The new appropriation will use the sale of the voter lists for funding Elections Security positions and the maintenance of our statewide voter registration system, which includes 3.0 FTE, servers, storage, and processing fees. The 3.0 FTE and budget the agency is requesting for these positions are in DIN 4002. The three positions are responsible for the technical oversight and development of our statewide voter registration system and the myvote.wi.gov website. They provide technical support and guidance to our 1,922 local elections officials who use our statewide voter registration system (WisVote) and other supporting technical applications used to run Wisconsin elections. These positions will allow us to continue to work with our state, local and federal elections security partners to monitor, report and respond to local elections security incidents. Without these positions our agency's elections security posture and cybersecurity needs will not be met and we will not be able to support elections security efforts on a local level.

The supplies and services budget of \$131,000 in FY22 and \$131,000 in FY23 will be used for voter list processing fees, some server and data storage fees and some IT developer time to maintain and upgrade the system.

### 2123 Biennial Budget

## **Decision Item by Line**

|            | CODES | TITLES               |
|------------|-------|----------------------|
| DEPARTMENT | 510   | Elections Commission |
|            |       |                      |
|            | CODES | TITLES               |

|    | Expenditure items                 | 1st Year Cost | 2nd Year Cost |
|----|-----------------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| 01 | Permanent Position Salaries       | \$0           | \$0           |
| 02 | Turnover                          | \$0           | \$0           |
| 03 | Project Position Salaries         | \$0           | \$0           |
| 04 | LTE/Misc. Salaries                | \$0           | \$0           |
| 05 | Fringe Benefits                   | \$0           | \$0           |
| 06 | Supplies and Services             | \$131,000     | \$131,000     |
| 07 | Permanent Property                | \$0           | \$0           |
| 80 | Unalloted Reserve                 | \$0           | \$0           |
| 09 | Aids to Individuals Organizations | \$0           | \$0           |
| 10 | Local Assistance                  | \$0           | \$0           |
| 11 | One-time Financing                | \$0           | \$0           |
| 12 | Debt Service                      | \$0           | \$0           |
| 13 |                                   | \$0           | \$0           |
| 14 |                                   | \$0           | \$0           |
| 15 |                                   | \$0           | \$0           |
| 16 |                                   | \$0           | \$0           |
| 17 | Total Cost                        | \$131,000     | \$131,000     |
| 18 | Project Positions Authorized      | 0.00          | 0.00          |
| 19 | Classified Positions Authorized   | 0.00          | 0.00          |
| 20 | Unclassified Positions Authorized | 0.00          | 0.00          |

| Program | Decision Item/Numeric  | 1st Year Total                | 2nd Year Total   | 1st Year<br>FTE | 2nd Year<br>FTE |
|---------|--|-------------------------------|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
|         | 4001   | Create a new El Appropriation | ections Security | and Main        | tenance         |
| 01      | Administration of elections  |                               |                  |                 |                 |
|         | 25 Election security and maint   | \$131,000                     | \$131,000        | 0.00            | 0.00            |
|         | Administration of elections SubTotal                                   | \$131,000                     | \$131,000        | 0.00            | 0.00            |
|         | Create a new Elections Security and Maintenance Appropriation SubTotal | \$131,000                     | \$131,000        | 0.00            | 0.00            |
|         |  |                               |                  |                 |                 |
|         | Agency Total   | \$131,000                     | \$131,000        | 0.00            | 0.00            |

|               | Source of F | unds  | 1st Year Total    | 2nd Year Total       | 1st Year<br>FTE | 2nd<br>Year<br>FTE |
|---------------|-------------|-------|-------------------|----------------------|-----------------|--------------------|
| Decision Item | 4001        | Creat | e a new Elections | Security and Mainten | ance Appro      | priation           |
|               | PR          | S     | \$131,000         | \$131,000            | 0.00            | 0.00               |
|               | Total       |       | \$131,000         | \$131,000            | 0.00            | 0.00               |
| Agency Total  |             |       | \$131,000         | \$131,000            | 0.00            | 0.00               |

### Decision Item (DIN) - 4002

# **Decision Item (DIN) Title - Convert 6.0 Federal Project Positions to 6.0 Permanent Positions**

### **NARRATIVE**

The Elections Commission requests to convert 6.0 federal project positions to 3.0 federal permanent positions and 3.0 program revenue permanent positions.

#### DIN 4002- Issue Paper

# Convert 6.0 Federal Project Positions to 3.0 Federal Permanent Positions and 3.0 Program Revenue Permanent Positions

### Request

The Wisconsin Elections Commission requests the conversion of 6.0 federal project positions to 3.0 federal permanent positions and 3.0 program revenue permanent positions be authorized in the 2021-23 biennial budget to continue supporting the Wisconsin Elections Commission's critical elections security infrastructure designation.

### **Background**

In March 2018, the Wisconsin Elections Commission received a \$6,798,318 grant award to improve the administration of elections for Federal office by enhancing technology through election security improvements to its systems, equipment, and processes. On May 8, 2018, the Commission submitted a 16.54 request to the Department of Administration requesting 6.0 FTE federal four-year project positions pursuant to s.16.54(8). These positions were requested to support the Commission's elections security and cybersecurity initiatives and to comply with the congressional intent of new federal Help America Vote Act Election Security grant funding. The positions were budgeted in the appropriation under s.20.510 (1)(x) and were authorized from June 1, 2018 – June 1, 2022. Upon the Commission's 2018 approval to create these positions and the associated expenditures, the Commission also acknowledged in their initial request that the need for these positions would extend beyond the 2019-2020 biennium as election security is an ongoing effort with everchanging threats and corresponding solutions that need to be maintained indefinitely.

### <u>Issue</u>

Despite their ongoing importance to our agency for the mission critical function of securing elections, the current 6.0 project positions sunset on June 1, 2022; the last month of the first year of the biennium. Project positions cannot be extended for an additional term beyond four years, they must be converted from project positions to permanent positions. In order to address the agency's continuing need for training and security enhancements the agency must remain fully staffed and have a robust elections security team. This team ensures the security of Wisconsin's statewide voter registration system and provides elections security support to Wisconsin's 1,922 local elections officials. For that reason, the WEC is requesting to convert the expiring project positions to permanent positions; three of which would be federally funded using remaining HAVA election security grant funds, and three of which would be funded by agency program revenue. These positions will continue to serve in the same capacity as their project positions, except they would attain permanent status.

Election security will continue to be a major priority and concern for elections. It is mission critical that we permanently plan for elections security support and other crises that may arise in the future. Elections security has become a keystone of our agency that supports each of WEC's statutory responsibilities. In 2018 Elections were designated by Homeland Security as a National Critical Infrastructure. These positions directly support this critical infrastructure designation by providing technical support for agency IT applications that are used to run Wisconsin elections and elections security training for Wisconsin's 1922 local elections officials. The positions also allow staff to continue to work with our state, local and federal elections security partners to monitor, report and respond to local elections security incidents. WEC is also proposing a sustainable funding model for these positions utilizing program revenue and federal funding without the need to ask for additional state funds during this difficult time. The positions are not new to the WEC, and without these positions, the critical functions that each position carries out would need to be lessened or discontinued. The six security positions, which are critical to the WEC's mission, are as follows:

**IT Project Manager.** This position is responsible for the oversight of IT development and maintenance of agency systems, including the in-house developed statewide voter registration system and myvote.wi.gov website. It is critical to have a staff member dedicated to coordinating technological implementation and testing efforts. These systems are required to be used by all election officials across the state to run elections and also support agency voter information websites that voters use to register to vote, to request absentee ballots,

find their polling place, view a sample ballot, and more. This position ensures the agency is able to meet all security objectives as well as general system maintenance and upgrades. For example, currently this position is leading efforts to conduct load testing on the statewide systems in order to ensure our systems operate effectively under the stress of a presidential election. In April 2020, this position was responsible for the management of emergency development to implement COVID related changes into the system and to reconfigure server structures in light of unprecedented voter activity. In the future, this individual will be responsible for coordinating projects such as the implementation of new district boundaries as part of the legislative redistricting process. This position also leads the IT contract development team by managing and prioritizing their time and efforts.

**Security Trainer.** It is also critical for WEC to maintain a position focused on elections security training and providing security specific support to local elections officials. It is imperative the WEC has a trainer who can focus primarily on implementing security training for municipal and county clerks. Over the past three years this position has implemented and maintained training on multifactor authentication for 3,000 local election officials developed a scenario-based tabletop exercise program (TTX) for local election officials. With this position WEC will continue this program in future years to keep pace with elections security threats at the local level. As new security needs arise, training Wisconsin's local election officials on how to conduct elections securely remains of utmost importance. This position is currently working on the development and implementation of a ransomware recovery and an online tutorial for local election officials in response to evolving threats at the local level. Security threats and needs change daily, and therefore, our training program for local election officials must keep pace with these changes into the future.

**Data Specialist.** It is equally important for the agency to have an adequate number of data specialists who are monitoring data quality and compliance in the statewide voter registration system. This position currently monitors the activity of the 3,000 local users of the statewide system and conducts follow up with non-compliant municipalities. This position regularly analyzes data entered by local election officials to monitor for errors or anomalies. A dedicated data specialist helps to ensure anomalies in the statewide voter registration system are detected, mitigated, and remedied. This position ensures that all data discrepancies are resolved by clerks and to analyze that the data communicates regarding the accuracy and security of election systems. The data quality responsibilities completed by this specialist ensure that Wisconsin's voter rolls remain as accurate and secure as possible and limit the possibility for potential fraudulent voter activity. The need for this data analysis is ongoing, with the growing pool of absentee ballot data, this position is currently monitoring intelligent mail barcode data to detect and remedy any mailing issues with absentee ballots. This position also manages the agency's voter data website that facilitates public records requests for voter and elections data. The accuracy and integrity of this data is imperative to providing transparency and public confidence in the elections process in Wisconsin.

Local Elections Official Assistance. The ongoing support of our 1,922 local elections officials is critical to the elections' security posture. This position assists local election officials with system questions and generates logon IDs and passwords for both the WisVote system and the agency's online learning center which provides interactive training resources, webinars and reference documents for the statewide voter registration system, Election Administration, Security Awareness and Badger Books. This position also provides program and administrative support to the WisVote and training staff. With 1,922 local election officials, WEC is currently managing and administering two federal elections security sub-grant programs to local election officials. The first sub-grant is a HAVA security grant to municipal clerks to ensure they have the IT hardware, IT support, and security training they need. The second sub-grant is for counties to improve their IT security posture by ensuring they maintain a baseline security level, such as using a secure protocol for their websites, and have the resources to invest in advanced cybersecurity protocols. These grants also require clerks to meet federal reporting requirements regarding funding usage and also meet baseline compliance standards, such as completing a contingency plan, both of which this position helps to monitor. This position also helps monitor the inventory for the hardware loaner program and coordinates agency in-person processes due to COVID-19 and physical security initiatives of the agency.

**Local Election Official Technical Support.** This position is also a critical position that is focused on implementing security best practices with agency technology. This position manages the implementation of election security and serves as a liaison between WEC and election security partners such as DET and Homeland Security. In addition, this position is currently the main point of contact for local election officials who experience a cyber security event. This includes monitoring the endpoint detection system required on all devices that access the statewide voter registration system and the hardware loaner program. The loaner program provides secure hardware that can be sent to an election jurisdiction experiencing an IT event so they can continue their election work securely while their infected device is analyzed and remediated.

Endpoint security system is required on all devices used to access the statewide voter registration system. Constant monitoring of the devices is needed to detect infected or out-of-date local devices to prevent them from accessing the statewide database until their device meets security standards.

Voting Equipment Specialist. The voting equipment elections specialist position is also critical to meeting the agency's ongoing election security needs. This position coordinates the implementation of voting equipment testing campaigns. This position is responsible for ensuring that statutory standards for voting equipment are met before vendors can make their equipment available for sale and before local election officials can purchase voting equipment. This is in addition to monitoring for compliance with the voting equipment certification and testing standards and facilitating the analysis of engineering change orders. These change orders provide previously approved systems with upgrades to ensure they meet security standards, relevant security patching and replace components that are no longer supported. This position also serves as the lead for the statutorily required, and recently expanded use of postelection voting equipment audits and postelection canvass audits. These audits verify the performance of voting equipment where they are used to record and tabulate votes and also serve to confirm the results generated by these voting equipment systems. This position also serves as the project lead for the agency's electronic pollbook program and is responsible for developing the protocol and standards for applying the election pollbook software developed by the agency to commercial off the shelf hardware used to support the system. This project requires the implementation and regular updates to security features of the system used to safeguard data collected on the system on election day, including voter participation and confidential voter data.

### Conclusion

The approval of these 6.0 permanent positions is critical to the Wisconsin Elections Commission's efforts to maintain the state's elections security infrastructure. They provide the resources necessary to enhance our elections security posture and cybersecurity needs. These positions also support our 1,922 local elections officials who have varying levels of resources and technological abilities with training and guidance to ensure they can affectively administer elections in a secure manner. Without these positions the state will not be able to maintain the current level of security against the everchanging election security landscape and implement proactive solutions. In even number years these positions are often utilized to address real time concerns and implement immediate solutions, during the administration of four statewide elections. In odd number years these positions lay important groundwork like development of training, implementation of multifactor authentication, and implementation of data backups and monitoring while supporting two statewide elections. These six positions are critically important for the sustained success of Wisconsin elections and the continued support of Wisconsin's local 1,922 local election officials who administer elections on the ground level.

### 2123 Biennial Budget

## **Decision Item by Line**

|            | CODES | TITLES               |
|------------|-------|----------------------|
| DEPARTMENT | 510   | Elections Commission |
|            |       |                      |
|            | CODES | TITLES               |

|    | Expenditure items                 | 1st Year Cost | 2nd Year Cost |
|----|-----------------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| 01 | Permanent Position Salaries       | \$26,800      | \$321,500     |
| 02 | Turnover                          | \$0           | \$0           |
| 03 | Project Position Salaries         | \$0           | \$0           |
| 04 | LTE/Misc. Salaries                | \$0           | \$0           |
| 05 | Fringe Benefits                   | \$9,900       | \$118,900     |
| 06 | Supplies and Services             | \$0           | \$0           |
| 07 | Permanent Property                | \$0           | \$0           |
| 08 | Unalloted Reserve                 | \$0           | \$0           |
| 09 | Aids to Individuals Organizations | \$0           | \$0           |
| 10 | Local Assistance                  | \$0           | \$0           |
| 11 | One-time Financing                | \$0           | \$0           |
| 12 | Debt Service                      | \$0           | \$0           |
| 13 |                                   | \$0           | \$0           |
| 14 |                                   | \$0           | \$0           |
| 15 |                                   | \$0           | \$0           |
| 16 |                                   | \$0           | \$0           |
| 17 | Total Cost                        | \$36,700      | \$440,400     |
| 18 | Project Positions Authorized      | 0.00          | 0.00          |
| 19 | Classified Positions Authorized   | 6.00          | 6.00          |
| 20 | Unclassified Positions Authorized | 0.00          | 0.00          |

| Program | Decision Item/Numeric   | 1st Year Total                   | 2nd Year Total              | 1st Year<br>FTE | 2nd Year<br>FTE |
|---------|---|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
|         | 4002  | Convert 6.0 Fed<br>Permanent Pos | leral Project Pos<br>itions | sitions to 6    | .0              |
| 01      | Administration of elections   |                                  |                             |                 |                 |
|         | 25 Election security and maint  | \$18,200                         | \$218,500                   | 3.00            | 3.00            |
|         | 82 Elections Security   | \$18,500                         | \$221,900                   | 3.00            | 3.00            |
|         | Administration of elections SubTotal                                      | \$36,700                         | \$440,400                   | 6.00            | 6.00            |
|         | Convert 6.0 Federal Project Positions to 6.0 Permanent Positions SubTotal | \$36,700                         | \$440,400                   | 6.00            | 6.00            |
|         |   |                                  |                             |                 |                 |
|         | Agency Total  | \$36,700                         | \$440,400                   | 6.00            | 6.00            |

|               | Source of F    | unds  | 1st Year Total       | 2nd Year Total         | 1st Year<br>FTE | 2nd<br>Year<br>FTE |
|---------------|----------------|-------|----------------------|------------------------|-----------------|--------------------|
| Decision Item | 4002           | Conve | ert 6.0 Federal Proj | ect Positions to 6.0 I | Permanent F     | Positions          |
|               | PR             | S     | \$18,200             | \$218,500              | 3.00            | 3.00               |
|               | SEG<br>Federal | S     | \$18,500             | \$221,900              | 3.00            | 3.00               |
|               | Total          |       | \$36,700             | \$440,400              | 6.00            | 6.00               |
| Agency Total  |                |       | \$36,700             | \$440,400              | 6.00            | 6.00               |