

**Elections Reform Under the Federal Help America Vote Act (HAVA) FY2004 Request: \$5,000,000
Reference No: 38524**

AP/AL: Appropriation **Project Type:** Transitional
Category: General Government
Location: Statewide **Contact:** Laura Glaiser
House District: Statewide (HD 1-40) **Contact Phone:** (907)465-2644
Estimated Project Dates: 07/01/2003 - 07/01/2006

Brief Summary and Statement of Need:

Improve the administration of elections in accordance with the Help America Vote Act (HAVA).

Funding:	FY2004	FY2005	FY2006	FY2007	FY2008	FY2009	Total
Fed Rcpts	\$5,000,000						\$5,000,000
Total:	\$5,000,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$5,000,000

<input type="checkbox"/> State Match Required	<input type="checkbox"/> One-Time Project	<input type="checkbox"/> Phased - new	<input type="checkbox"/> Phased - underway	<input type="checkbox"/> On-Going
0% = Minimum State Match % Required		<input type="checkbox"/> Amendment	<input type="checkbox"/> Mental Health Bill	

Operating & Maintenance Costs:

	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Staff</u>
Project Development:	0	0
Ongoing Operating:	0	0
One-Time Startup:	0	
Totals:	0	0

Additional Information / Prior Funding History:

There has been no prior funding for this project.

Project Description/Justification:

In October of 2002, Congress passed the Help America Vote Act of 2002. After much deliberation, agreements were reached to determine what the appropriation amounts will be for funding requirements of the new election reform bill. There will be two types of funding sources available through appropriations to assist the State in meeting these federal mandates.

It is still difficult to predict when the first source of money will be available. The minimum payment available to a state under Title I is \$5 million. Alaska qualifies for this minimum payment due to its relatively small voting age population in comparison to other states.

The State must notify the Federal Administration by April 29, 2003 that it intends to receive Title I money for the purposes of improving the administration of elections.

The use of funds under Title I will be for one or more of the following activities:

- (A) Complying with the requirements of Title III.
- (B) Improving the administration of elections for Federal Office
- (C) Educating voters concerning voting procedures, voting rights, and voting technology
- (D) Training election officials, poll workers, and election volunteers

- (E) Improving, acquiring, leasing, modifying, or replacing voting systems and technology and methods for casting and counting votes.
- (F) Improving the accessibility and quantity of polling places, including providing physical access for individuals with disabilities, providing non-visual access for individuals with visual impairments, and providing assistance to Native Americans, Alaska Native citizens, and to individuals with limited proficiency in the English language.
- (G) Establishing toll-free telephone hotlines that voters may use to report possible voting fraud and voting rights violations, to obtain general election information on their own voter registration status, specific polling place locations, and other relevant information.

The Election Commission will make required payments each year in an amount determined under section 252 to each State that meets the conditions described in section 253 for the year. Funds will be available to states under this bill through federal fiscal year 2005.