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July 17, 2020

County Clerk/Registrar of Voters (CC/ROV) Memorandum #20153

TO: All County Clerks/Registrars of Voters

FROM: /s/ Susan Lapsley
Deputy Secretary of State, HAVA Director and Counsel

RE: General Election: November 2020 Coronavirus Funding – July 2020

COVID-19 Funding

Assembly Bill 89 and Assembly Bill 100 were signed by Governor Newsom on June 29, 2020, to appropriate funding for the November 2020 election consistent with state requirements put in place to reduce the spread of COVID-19. These two budget bills did the following:

- Appropriated \$65 million in federal funds for state and county support;
- Appropriated \$35 million in state funds for state and county support for communication and outreach efforts;
- Removed the county match requirement for state voting system replacement contracts from July 1, 2020, to June 30, 2021; and
- Modified the allowable expenses for the state voting system replacement funds specified in Elections Code section 19402 to include “costs reasonably related to the administration of an election during the COVID-19 epidemic.”

Additionally, by the state appropriating the \$35 million in state funds, the 20% match requirement for the federal CARES Act funding is satisfied. Therefore, counties no longer need to establish the county 20% match requirement for the federal COVID-19 funds.

Monthly Cost Reporting

For those counties that have not yet submitted the monthly cost reporting for July, please do so on the attached July Report form by July 24. The form is the same format and substance as last month’s report. Please update any election-related coronavirus costs previously reported as appropriate.

As of today, several counties have not submitted reports for June or July. These reports are essential to establishing amounts for the county contracts and for the report

due to the Election Assistance Commission and Congress 20 days after the November 2020 election.

County Allocations and Contracts

In allocating the funding, the Legislature indicated that the Secretary of State shall compile the remaining amounts from the state's voting system funding provided in the Budget Act of 2018 and the Budget Act of 2019 by county, calculate the difference between the costs related to conducting the November 2020 election and remaining state voting system funding by county, and then reimburse counties for the difference in costs.

Based on those considerations and reports provided by counties, the allocation of COVID-19 state and federal funding that will be reflected in contracts will be issued for each county next week.

Please submit the monthly cost report to Kathryn Chaney (KC) at kchaney@sos.ca.gov. Additionally, please contact KC if you have any questions about the status of your contract, allocation or reimbursement claims.

Link:

[July 24 County Report](#) (XLSX)