In December 2004, the Secretary of State’s Office formed the HAVA Section 301 Task Force to assist with the implementation of the aspects of the Help America Vote Act (HAVA) Title III requirements. The HAVA Section 301 Task Force is comprised of 21 County Elections Officials, 9 Community Representatives and staff of the Secretary of State’s Office. One of the initial undertakings of this Task Force is to propose funding principles to achieve compliance the Section 301 of HAVA.

At the February 11, 2005, meeting of the HAVA Section 301 Task Force, the Task Force decided to use the Proposition 41 allocation formula as the basis for funding and recommended that the funding allocation be $195 million. The HAVA Section 301 Task Force proposed the following principles to assist in funding compliance with HAVA Section 301:

- The Proposition 41 formula would be followed to determine county allocations based on the proposed HAVA funding of $195 million.

- The Proposition 41 basic procedure model would also be used, with counties submitting applications and documentation to install either Direct Recording Electronic (DRE) Accessible/AVVPAT voting units or precinct-based scanning voting units (with a component that meets the HAVA requirement of one accessible unit per polling place) by the June 6, 2006, Statewide Primary Election.

- A detailed proposal containing a signed contract with a vendor to purchase the equipment would be required to be submitted to the Secretary of State’s Office.

- The funding availability would be conditioned on obtaining spending authority under the Budget Acts of 2004 and/or 2005.