Agency Name:	Election Commission		
Agency Code:	E280	Section:	102

Fiscal Year FY 2027-2028

Agency Budget Plan

FORM A - BUDGET PLAN SUMMARY

	For FY 2027-2028, my agency is (mark "X"):	
OPERATING REQUESTS *(FORM B1)*	X	Requesting General Fund Appropriations.
		Requesting Federal/Other Authorization.
		Not requesting any changes.

	For FY 2027-2028, my agency is (mark "X"):	
NON-RECURRING REQUESTS *(FORM B2)*	X	Requesting Non-Recurring Appropriations.
		Requesting Non-Recurring Federal/Other Authorization.
		Not requesting any changes.

	For FY 2027-2028, my agency is (mark "X"):	
CAPITAL REQUESTS *(FORM C)*		Requesting funding for Capital Projects.
	X	Not requesting any changes.

	For FY 2027-2028, my agency is (mark "X"):	
PROVISOS *(FORM D)*	X	Requesting a new proviso and/or substantive changes to existing provisos.
		Only requesting technical proviso changes (such as date references).
		Not requesting any proviso changes.

Please identify your agency's preferred contacts for this year's budget process.

	Name	*Phone*	*Email*
PRIMARY CONTACT:	LaToria Williams	(803) 734-9069	lwilliams@elections.sc.gov
SECONDARY CONTACT:	Jenny Wooten	(803) 734-4139	jwooten@elections.sc.gov

I have reviewed and approved the enclosed FY 2027-2028 Agency Budget Plan, which is complete and accurate to the extent of my knowledge.

	Agency Director	*Board or Commission Chair*
SIGN/DATE:	10/15/26	10/15/26
TYPE/PRINT NAME:	CONWAY BOLANGIA	ROBERT BOLCHOZ

This form must be signed by the agency head – not a delegate.

Agency Name:	Election Commission
Agency Code:	E280
Section:	102

BUDGET REQUESTS			FUNDING					FTES				
Priority	Request Type	Request Title	State	Federal	Earmarked	Restricted	Total	State	Federal	Earmarked	Restricted	Total
1	B2 - Non-Recurring	Statewide Voting System Scanner Replacement Final Loan Payoff	11,000,000	0	0	0	11,000,000	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2	B2 - Non-Recurring	2028 Presidential Preference Primaries Expenses and Reimbursements	4,250,000	0	0	0	4,250,000	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
3	B2 - Non-Recurring	Statewide Electronic Pollbook Upgrade and Replacement	25,000,000	0	0	0	25,000,000	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
4	B1 - Recurring	Increase to Annual Election Costs	2,780,000	0	0	0	2,780,000	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
5	B1 - Recurring	Statewide Voting System Ongoing Maintenance, Support, Warranty, Licensing, Firmware Fees	6,000,000	0	0	0	6,000,000	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
6	B2 - Non-Recurring	Help America Vote Act (HAVA) Grant 20% State Match	163,800	0	0	0	163,800	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
TOTALS			49,193,800	0	0	0	49,193,800	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Agency Name:	Election Commission		
Agency Code:	E280	Section:	102

FORM B1 – RECURRING OPERATING REQUEST

AGENCY PRIORITY	**4**

Provide the Agency Priority Ranking from the Executive Summary.

TITLE	**Increase to Annual Election Costs**

Provide a brief, descriptive title for this request.

AMOUNT	**General: $2,780,000** **Federal: $0** **Other: $0** **Total: $2,780,000**

What is the net change in requested appropriations for FY 2027-2028? This amount should correspond to the total for all funding sources on the Executive Summary.

NEW POSITIONS	**0.00**

Please provide the total number of new positions needed for this request.

FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH THE REQUEST

Mark "X" for all that apply:	
X	Change in cost of providing current services to existing program audience
	Change in case load/enrollment under existing program guidelines
	Non-mandated change in eligibility/enrollment for existing program
	Non-mandated program change in service levels or areas
	Proposed establishment of a new program or initiative
	Loss of federal or other external financial support for existing program
	Exhaustion of fund balances previously used to support program
X	IT Technology/Security related
X	HR/Personnel Related
	AI Related
	Related to a Non-Recurring request – If so, Priority #

STATEWIDE ENTERPRISE STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

Mark "X" for primary applicable Statewide Enterprise Strategic Objective:	
	Education, Training, and Human Development
	Healthy and Safe Families
	Maintaining Safety, Integrity, and Security
	Public Infrastructure and Economic Development
X	Government and Citizens

ACCOUNTABILITY OF FUNDS	Goal 4.2.1: Effectively oversee all agency programs and operations.Total reimbursement provided for county poll workers following statewide election (base figure calculated on 2016 SW primary reimbursements; target figure includes 2016 primaries, runoffs, and PPP reimbursements). Goal 4.2.2: Total reimbursement provided for county poll workers following statewide election (base figure calculated on 2016 SW primary reimbursements; target figure includes 2016 primaries, runoffs, and PPP reimbursements). Manage funds appropriated for aid to county supplements.

What specific strategy, as outlined in the most recent Strategic Planning and Performance Measurement template of agency's accountability report, does this funding request support? How would this request advance that strategy? How would the use of these funds be evaluated?

	The SEC would be the recipient of the funds and use the funds to address increased

RECIPIENTS OF FUNDS	costs associated with the ongoing administration of elections statewide.

What individuals or entities would receive these funds (contractors, vendors, grantees, individual beneficiaries, etc.)? How would these funds be allocated – using an existing formula, through a competitive process, based upon predetermined eligibility criteria?

JUSTIFICATION OF REQUEST	• The agency is requesting recurring funding to address increased costs associated with the ongoing administration of elections statewide. • Election-related operating costs have increased across multiple areas, including personnel, supplies, contractual services, postage, printing, technology, and other expenses necessary to support statewide elections. • The request includes funding for increased legal expenses associated with election administration, including litigation and other legal matters arising from the SEC's statutory responsibilities. • Funding is also needed to support post-election results verification audits, including the ongoing costs associated with conducting audits to verify the accuracy of reported election results. • The request accounts for uniform poll worker compensation, recognizing increased costs associated with recruiting and retaining the personnel necessary to staff polling locations and support election operations. • The requested funding would also provide limited contingency funding for unanticipated state-level or statewide special elections, allowing the SEC to respond to election-related costs that cannot reasonably be anticipated during the annual budget process. • Recurring funding will provide the SEC with a more sustainable funding source for ongoing election expenses, reducing reliance on one-time or nonrecurring appropriations for costs that occur regularly as part of administering elections.

Please thoroughly explain the request to include the justification for funds, potential offsets, matching funds, and method of calculation. Please include any explanation of impact if funds are not received. If new positions have been requested, explain why existing vacancies are not sufficient.

Agency Name:	Election Commission		
Agency Code:	E280	Section:	102

FORM B1 – RECURRING OPERATING REQUEST

AGENCY PRIORITY	**5**

Provide the Agency Priority Ranking from the Executive Summary.

TITLE	**Statewide Voting System Ongoing Maintenance, Support, Warranty, Licensing, Firmware Fees**

Provide a brief, descriptive title for this request.

AMOUNT	**General: $6,000,000** **Federal: $0** **Other: $0** **Total: $6,000,000**

What is the net change in requested appropriations for FY 2027-2028? This amount should correspond to the total for all funding sources on the Executive Summary.

NEW POSITIONS	**0.00**

Please provide the total number of new positions needed for this request.

FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH THE REQUEST

Mark "X" for all that apply:	
X	Change in cost of providing current services to existing program audience
	Change in case load/enrollment under existing program guidelines
	Non-mandated change in eligibility/enrollment for existing program
	Non-mandated program change in service levels or areas
	Proposed establishment of a new program or initiative
	Loss of federal or other external financial support for existing program
	Exhaustion of fund balances previously used to support program
X	IT Technology/Security related
	HR/Personnel Related
	AI Related
	Related to a Non-Recurring request – If so, Priority #

STATEWIDE ENTERPRISE STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

Mark "X" for primary applicable Statewide Enterprise Strategic Objective:	
	Education, Training, and Human Development
	Healthy and Safe Families
	Maintaining Safety, Integrity, and Security
	Public Infrastructure and Economic Development
X	Government and Citizens

ACCOUNTABILITY OF FUNDS	Goal 2.1.1: Certify and support a statewide voting system that meets state law, federal voting system standards and is accessible for all voters. Support the statewide voting system ensuring it is easy to use, accurate and secure. Goal 2.1.2: Number of election databases produced by SEC.

What specific strategy, as outlined in the most recent Strategic Planning and Performance Measurement template of agency's accountability report, does this funding request support? How would this request advance that strategy? How would the use of these funds be evaluated?

RECIPIENTS OF	The SEC would be the recipient of the funds and would provide payment to the vendors.

FUNDS	

What individuals or entities would receive these funds (contractors, vendors, grantees, individual beneficiaries, etc.)? How would these funds be allocated – using an existing formula, through a competitive process, based upon predetermined eligibility criteria?

JUSTIFICATION OF REQUEST	• Provides recurring funding for maintenance, technical support, warranty coverage, licensing, and firmware updates associated with the statewide voting system. • Supports the continued operation, reliability, and security of voting equipment deployed across all 46 counties. • Provides access to vendor technical support and equipment servicing to address issues before and during elections. • Protects the State's investment in voting equipment by ensuring continued maintenance, warranty coverage, licensing, and firmware support throughout the equipment's useful life. • These are ongoing costs associated with maintaining and supporting equipment already purchased and deployed statewide, not costs for additional voting equipment. • This will provide a uniform system of support that is consistent statewide.

Please thoroughly explain the request to include the justification for funds, potential offsets, matching funds, and method of calculation. Please include any explanation of impact if funds are not received. If new positions have been requested, explain why existing vacancies are not sufficient.

Agency Name:	Election Commission		
Agency Code:	E280	Section:	102

FORM B2 – NON-RECURRING OPERATING REQUEST

AGENCY PRIORITY	1

Provide the Agency Priority Ranking from the Executive Summary.

TITLE	Statewide Voting System Scanner Replacement Final Loan Payoff

Provide a brief, descriptive title for this request.

AMOUNT	$11,000,000

What is the net change in requested appropriations for FY 2027-2028? This amount should correspond to the total for all funding sources on the Executive Summary.

FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH THE REQUEST

Mark "X" for all that apply:	
	Change in cost of providing current services to existing program audience
	Change in case load/enrollment under existing program guidelines
	Non-mandated change in eligibility/enrollment for existing program
	Non-mandated program change in service levels or areas
	Proposed establishment of a new program or initiative
	Loss of federal or other external financial support for existing program
X	Exhaustion of fund balances previously used to support program
X	IT Technology/Security related
	AI Related
	HR/Personnel Related
X	Request for Non-Recurring Appropriations
	Request for Federal/Other Authorization to spend existing funding
	Related to a Recurring request – If so, Priority #

STATEWIDE ENTERPRISE STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

Mark "X" for primary applicable Statewide Enterprise Strategic Objective:	
	Education, Training, and Human Development
	Healthy and Safe Families
	Maintaining Safety, Integrity, and Security
	Public Infrastructure and Economic Development
X	Government and Citizens

ACCOUNTABILITY OF FUNDS

Goal 2.1.1: Certify and support a statewide voting system that meets state law, federal voting system standards and is accessible for all voters. Support the statewide voting system ensuring it is easy to use, accurate and secure.

Goal 2.1.2: Number of election databases produced by SEC.

What specific strategy, as outlined in the most recent Strategic Planning and Performance Measurement template of agency's accountability report, does this funding request support? How would this request advance that strategy? How would the use of these funds be evaluated?

RECIPIENTS OF FUNDS

The SEC would be the recipient of the funds and would use the funds to make the final loan payment.

What individuals or entities would receive these funds (contractors, vendors, grantees, individual beneficiaries, etc.)? How would these funds be allocated – using an existing formula, through a competitive process, based upon

predetermined eligibility criteria?

JUSTIFICATION OF REQUEST	• In 2024, approximately 3,000 DS300 polling-place scanners were purchased and deployed to all 46 counties for use by county voter registration and elections offices in conducting elections. o The purchase also included ExpressVote ballot-marking devices, DS950 high-speed scanners and tabulators, and electronic pollbook hardware. • The requested funds are necessary to satisfy the State Election Commission's existing contractual lease obligation to TD Bank through the State Master Lease Program facilitated by the State Treasurer's Office. • This request represents payment on equipment that has already been acquired and deployed statewide and is not a request to purchase additional voting equipment. • The requested funding will satisfy the final payment due under the lease obligation, allowing the agency to fulfill its contractual financial commitment for voting equipment currently supporting election administration across South Carolina.

Please thoroughly explain the request to include the justification for funds, potential offsets, matching funds, and method of calculation. Please include any explanation of impact if funds are not received. If new positions have been requested, explain why existing vacancies are not sufficient.

Agency Name:	Election Commission		
Agency Code:	E280	Section:	102

FORM B2 – NON-RECURRING OPERATING REQUEST

AGENCY PRIORITY	2

Provide the Agency Priority Ranking from the Executive Summary.

TITLE	2028 Presidential Preference Primaries Expenses and Reimbursements

Provide a brief, descriptive title for this request.

AMOUNT	$4,250,000

What is the net change in requested appropriations for FY 2027-2028? This amount should correspond to the total for all funding sources on the Executive Summary.

FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH THE REQUEST

Mark "X" for all that apply:	
X	Change in cost of providing current services to existing program audience
	Change in case load/enrollment under existing program guidelines
	Non-mandated change in eligibility/enrollment for existing program
	Non-mandated program change in service levels or areas
	Proposed establishment of a new program or initiative
	Loss of federal or other external financial support for existing program
	Exhaustion of fund balances previously used to support program
	IT Technology/Security related
	AI Related
X	HR/Personnel Related
X	Request for Non-Recurring Appropriations
	Request for Federal/Other Authorization to spend existing funding
	Related to a Recurring request – If so, Priority #

STATEWIDE ENTERPRISE STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

Mark "X" for primary applicable Statewide Enterprise Strategic Objective:	
	Education, Training, and Human Development
	Healthy and Safe Families
	Maintaining Safety, Integrity, and Security
	Public Infrastructure and Economic Development
X	Government and Citizens

ACCOUNTABILITY OF FUNDS

Goal 4.2.1: Effectively oversee all agency programs and operations.Total reimbursement provided for county poll workers following statewide election (base figure calculated on 2016 SW primary reimbursements; target figure includes 2016 primaries, runoffs, and PPP reimbursements).

Goal 4.2.2: Total reimbursement provided for county poll workers following statewide election (base figure calculated on 2016 SW primary reimbursements; target figure includes 2016 primaries, runoffs, and PPP reimbursements). Manage funds appropriated for aid to county supplements.

What specific strategy, as outlined in the most recent Strategic Planning and Performance Measurement template of agency's accountability report, does this funding request support? How would this request advance that strategy? How would the use of these funds be evaluated?

RECIPIENTS OF FUNDS

The SEC would be the recipient of the funds and would use the funds to provide reimbursements to counties for the Democratic and Republican Presidential Preference Primaries scheduled to take place in Q3 FYE 2027-2028

What individuals or entities would receive these funds (contractors, vendors, grantees, individual beneficiaries, etc.)?

How would these funds be allocated – using an existing formula, through a competitive process, based upon predetermined eligibility criteria?

JUSTIFICATION OF REQUEST

• The agency is requesting $4,250,000 to fund the costs associated with conducting the 2028 Democratic and Republican Presidential Preference Primaries (PPP).

o Democratic Party PPP – January 22, 2028

o Republican Party PPP – Date TBD 2028

• The requested funding will be used to reimburse counties for eligible expenses associated with conducting the 2028 Presidential Preference Primaries, including early voting workers, Election Day workers (uniform poll manager pay), required legal notices, postage, ballot stock, ballot activation cards, mileage and other printed election supplies.

• The SEC incurred $2,925,247 in actual election expenses for the 2024 Presidential Preference Primaries: $1,326,054 for the Republican PPP and $1,599,193 for the Democratic PPP.

• The $4.25 million request is based on actual 2024 expenditures of $2,925,247, plus approximately $900,000 (30%) for projected cost increases and $350,000 for a uniform increase in poll worker pay. The request accounts for rising costs associated with early voting and Election Day staffing, postage, printing, ballot materials, mileage, and other election expenses.

• Using actual expenditures from the most recent Presidential Preference Primaries as the baseline provides a documented and fiscally supportable basis for the request, while the 30% allowance recognizes that the same statewide election activities will occur four years later at higher anticipated costs.

• Presidential Preference Primaries require election operations in all 46 counties, making these costs a predictable statewide funding need. Providing funding in advance allows the SEC to budget for this known election obligation rather than attempting to absorb the costs within its existing operating budget.

• The request is intended to provide sufficient funding to meet anticipated 2028 expenses while limiting the appropriation to a level supported by the State's most recent actual PPP expenditures and reasonable projected cost increases.

Election Expenses	**Election Date**	**Election Type**
2024 Republican PPP $1,326,054	February 24, 2024	Presidential Preference Primary
2024 Democratic PPP $1,599,193	February 3, 2024	Presidential Preference Primary
Total $2,925,247		

Please thoroughly explain the request to include the justification for funds, potential offsets, matching funds, and method of calculation. Please include any explanation of impact if funds are not received. If new positions have been requested, explain why existing vacancies are not sufficient.

Agency Name:	Election Commission		
Agency Code:	E280	Section:	102

FORM B2 – NON-RECURRING OPERATING REQUEST

AGENCY PRIORITY	3

Provide the Agency Priority Ranking from the Executive Summary.

TITLE	Statewide Electronic Pollbook Upgrade and Replacement

Provide a brief, descriptive title for this request.

AMOUNT	$25,000,000

What is the net change in requested appropriations for FY 2027-2028? This amount should correspond to the total for all funding sources on the Executive Summary.

FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH THE REQUEST

Mark "X" for all that apply:	
	Change in cost of providing current services to existing program audience
	Change in case load/enrollment under existing program guidelines
	Non-mandated change in eligibility/enrollment for existing program
	Non-mandated program change in service levels or areas
	Proposed establishment of a new program or initiative
	Loss of federal or other external financial support for existing program
X	Exhaustion of fund balances previously used to support program
X	IT Technology/Security related
	AI Related
	HR/Personnel Related
X	Request for Non-Recurring Appropriations
	Request for Federal/Other Authorization to spend existing funding
	Related to a Recurring request – If so, Priority #

STATEWIDE ENTERPRISE STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

Mark "X" for primary applicable Statewide Enterprise Strategic Objective:	
	Education, Training, and Human Development
	Healthy and Safe Families
	Maintaining Safety, Integrity, and Security
	Public Infrastructure and Economic Development
X	Government and Citizens

ACCOUNTABILITY OF FUNDS

Goal 2.1.1: Certify and support a statewide voting system that meets state law, federal voting system standards and is accessible for all voters. Support the statewide voting system ensuring it is easy to use, accurate and secure.

Goal 2.1.2: Number of election databases produced by SEC.

What specific strategy, as outlined in the most recent Strategic Planning and Performance Measurement template of agency's accountability report, does this funding request support? How would this request advance that strategy? How would the use of these funds be evaluated?

RECIPIENTS OF FUNDS

The SEC would be the recipient of the funds and would provide payment to the vendors after a procurement process.

What individuals or entities would receive these funds (contractors, vendors, grantees, individual beneficiaries, etc.)? How would these funds be allocated – using an existing formula, through a competitive process, based upon

predetermined eligibility criteria?

JUSTIFICATION OF REQUEST	• The agency is requesting nonrecurring funding for a statewide electronic pollbook upgrade. The request is based on approximately 8,000 electronic pollbooks currently deployed statewide, plus additional units needed to accommodate population and voter registration growth. • The mobile Wi-Fi hotspot devices currently used to provide connectivity for electronic pollbooks are no longer supported by the manufacturer. • The current electronic pollbook equipment continues to be serviced and supported but is approaching the end of its useful life. Upgrading and replacing the system will reduce the operational and financial risks associated with aging technology. • Electronic pollbooks are used at early voting centers and Election Day polling locations to locate voters, verify voter information, and support an efficient voter check-in process. • A statewide procurement will provide all 46 counties with a long-term, standardized electronic pollbook solution, supported by centralized SEC training, technical assistance, and system administration.

Please thoroughly explain the request to include the justification for funds, potential offsets, matching funds, and method of calculation. Please include any explanation of impact if funds are not received. If new positions have been requested, explain why existing vacancies are not sufficient.

Agency Name:	Election Commission		
Agency Code:	E280	Section:	102

FORM B2 – NON-RECURRING OPERATING REQUEST

AGENCY PRIORITY	6

Provide the Agency Priority Ranking from the Executive Summary.

TITLE	Help America Vote Act (HAVA) Grant 20% State Match

Provide a brief, descriptive title for this request.

AMOUNT	$163,800

What is the net change in requested appropriations for FY 2027-2028? This amount should correspond to the total for all funding sources on the Executive Summary.

FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH THE REQUEST

Mark "X" for all that apply:	
	Change in cost of providing current services to existing program audience
	Change in case load/enrollment under existing program guidelines
	Non-mandated change in eligibility/enrollment for existing program
	Non-mandated program change in service levels or areas
	Proposed establishment of a new program or initiative
	Loss of federal or other external financial support for existing program
	Exhaustion of fund balances previously used to support program
X	IT Technology/Security related
	AI Related
	HR/Personnel Related
X	Request for Non-Recurring Appropriations
	Request for Federal/Other Authorization to spend existing funding
	Related to a Recurring request – If so, Priority #

STATEWIDE ENTERPRISE STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

Mark "X" for primary applicable Statewide Enterprise Strategic Objective:	
	Education, Training, and Human Development
	Healthy and Safe Families
	Maintaining Safety, Integrity, and Security
	Public Infrastructure and Economic Development
X	Government and Citizens

ACCOUNTABILITY OF FUNDS

Goal 1. 1 : Maintain a statewide voter registration system that is secure, convenient, accessible, and meets the needs of the counties and citizens of South Carolina. This request would advance the strategy above by reducing lines and creating other efficiencies at polling places, reducing the time and resources necessary to process voter participation data, and improving the security of election infrastructure.

Goal 2.1: Support the statewide voting system ensuring it is easy to use, accurate, and secure. This request would advance the strategy above by providing a program to conduit audits of paper ballots to verify the results of the election as tabulated by the ballot scanners.

What specific strategy, as outlined in the most recent Strategic Planning and Performance Measurement template of agency's accountability report, does this funding request support? How would this request advance that strategy? How would the use of these funds be evaluated?

RECIPIENTS OF FUNDS

The S.C. State Election Commission would be the recipient of the funds and would use the funds to meet the match requirement for the HAVA grant funds.

What individuals or entities would receive these funds (contractors, vendors, grantees, individual beneficiaries, etc.)? How would these funds be allocated – using an existing formula, through a competitive process, based upon

predetermined eligibility criteria?

JUSTIFICATION OF REQUEST	• The Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2022 provided funding to the U.S. Election Assistance Commission (EAC) for grants to states under Title I, Section 101 of the Help America Vote Act (HAVA) of 2002. • The funding is intended to improve the administration of federal elections, including enhancements to election technology and election security. • South Carolina received a total award of $819,000 and South Carolina's required state match is $163,800. • States are required to provide a 20% match for the federal funds awarded.

Please thoroughly explain the request to include the justification for funds, potential offsets, matching funds, and method of calculation. Please include any explanation of impact if funds are not received. If new positions have been requested, explain why existing vacancies are not sufficient.

Agency Name:	Election Commission		
Agency Code:	E280	Section:	102

FORM D – PROVISO REVISION REQUEST

NUMBER	102.2
	Cite the proviso according to the renumbered list (or mark "NEW").
TITLE	Elections Managers & Clerks Per Diem
	Provide the title from the renumbered list or suggest a short title for any new request.
BUDGET PROGRAM	Training
	Identify the associated budget program(s) by name and budget section.
RELATED BUDGET REQUEST	Increase to Annual Election Costs
	Is this request associated with a budget request you have submitted for FY 2027-2028? If so, cite it here.
REQUESTED ACTION	Amend
	Choose from: Add, Delete, Amend, or Codify.
OTHER AGENCIES AFFECTED	N/A
	Which other agencies would be affected by the recommended action? How?
SUMMARY & EXPLANATION	The proposed changes to Section 102.2 increase Election Day pay for election managers and clerks from $75 to $150, provide designated polling location clerks an additional $75 for their responsibilities, and raise absentee/fail-safe voting managers' pay from $75 to $100 per day. The changes also allow counties to use part-time managers for $60 per shift and establish a needs-based staffing process for early voting. Training and paperwork pay remains $60, while existing limits on paid days remain unchanged. Overall, the changes aim to improve compensation, provide greater staffing flexibility, and better support election operations, while increasing election-related costs.

Summarize the existing proviso. If requesting a new proviso, describe the current state of affairs without it. Explain the need for your requested action. For deletion requests due to recent codification, please identify SC Code section where language now appears.

FISCAL IMPACT

Fiscal impact to be determined.

Provide estimates of any fiscal impacts associated with this proviso, whether for state, federal, or other funds. Explain the method of calculation.

PROPOSED PROVISO TEXT

Managers and clerks of state and county elections shall receive a per diem of ~~$75.00~~ **$150.00** for ~~the day of work~~ **Election Day.** ~~of work and $60.00 for training and paperwork. Managers shall not be paid for more than two days for any election and clerks for not more than three days for any election.~~ **Clerks for designated polling locations shall receive an additional $75.00 for pickup and return of election materials, paperwork, and overall conduct of their assigned polling location. Counties may utilize poll workers for one half a day (6 am to 1 pm, or, from 1 pm until the polls are closed and all post-election duties are completed in the individual polling location). These certified part-time managers will receive per diem of $60.00. There shall be no more than one third of the assigned managers working in a part-time position in any single precinct. Each part-time manager will account for one-half of an allocated manager slot allowed for that specified precinct.** The commission may adjust the per diem of ~~$75.00~~ **$150.00** for the managers and clerks of the statewide election to a higher level only to the extent that the appropriation for the statewide election is sufficient to bear the added cost of increasing the per diem and the cost of the statewide election. Up to three additional managers per county may be appointed to assist county boards of voter registration and elections with the absentee/fail safe voting process prior to, on Election Day, and immediately following statewide elections. Managers assisting the county boards of voter registration and elections in the absentee/fail safe process may receive a per diem of ~~$75.00~~ **100.00** per day for not more than a total of fifteen days regardless of whether one, two, or three additional managers are used. **To accommodate Early Voting, the number of Managers and Clerks to be allotted based on the need of each site in each County based on number of sites and expected turnout per site, as determined by the Executive Director of the SEC in consultation with each County Election Director.**

Paste existing text above, then bold and underline insertions and strikethrough deletions. For new proviso requests, enter requested text above.

Agency Name:	Election Commission		
Agency Code:	E280	Section:	102

FORM D – PROVISO REVISION REQUEST

NUMBER	102.6
	Cite the proviso according to the renumbered list (or mark "NEW").
TITLE	Primary and General Election Carry Forward
	Provide the title from the renumbered list or suggest a short title for any new request.
BUDGET PROGRAM	Statewide/Special Primaries
	Identify the associated budget program(s) by name and budget section.
RELATED BUDGET REQUEST	Increase to Annual Election Costs
	Is this request associated with a budget request you have submitted for FY 2027-2028? If so, cite it here.
REQUESTED ACTION	Amend
	Choose from: Add, Delete, Amend, or Codify.
OTHER AGENCIES AFFECTED	N/A
	Which other agencies would be affected by the recommended action? How?
SUMMARY & EXPLANATION	The word "primary" was removed to conform the proviso to the language of Act 137, which broadens the provision's application to elections generally rather than limiting it to primary elections. The revision aligns the proviso with Act 137 while maintaining the State Election Commission's authority to retain and use candidate filing fees to conduct elections, carry forward unspent candidate filing fee revenues and balances in the Primary and General Election Account into the next fiscal year, and use these funds to conduct Presidential Preference Primary elections.

Summarize the existing proviso. If requesting a new proviso, describe the current state of affairs without it. Explain the need for your requested action. For deletion requests due to recent codification, please identify SC Code section where language now appears.

FISCAL IMPACT

This request has no fiscal impact.

Provide estimates of any fiscal impacts associated with this proviso, whether for state, federal, or other funds. Explain the method of calculation.

PROPOSED PROVISO TEXT

Filing fees received from candidates filing to run in statewide or special primary elections may be retained and expended by the State Election Commission to pay for the conduct of ~~primary~~ elections. Any balance in the filing fee accounts on June thirtieth, of the prior fiscal year may be carried forward and expended for the same purposes during the current fiscal year. In addition, any balance in the Primary and General Election Accounts on June thirtieth, of the prior fiscal year may be carried forward and expended for the same purposes during the current fiscal year. In addition, the aforementioned funds may also be utilized to conduct the Presidential Preference Primary elections.

Paste existing text above, then bold and underline insertions and strikethrough deletions. For new proviso requests, enter requested text above.

Agency Name:	Election Commission		
Agency Code:	E280	Section:	102

FORM D – PROVISO REVISION REQUEST

NUMBER	102.7
	Cite the proviso according to the renumbered list (or mark "NEW").
TITLE	Training & Certification Program
	Provide the title from the renumbered list or suggest a short title for any new request.
BUDGET PROGRAM	Training
	Identify the associated budget program(s) by name and budget section.
RELATED BUDGET REQUEST	N/A
	Is this request associated with a budget request you have submitted for FY 2027-2028? If so, cite it here.
REQUESTED ACTION	Amend
	Choose from: Add, Delete, Amend, or Codify.
OTHER AGENCIES AFFECTED	N/A
	Which other agencies would be affected by the recommended action? How?
SUMMARY & EXPLANATION	This amendment revises the allowable use of unspent funds in the Training and Certification Account. Funds remaining at the end of the prior fiscal year may be carried forward and used for special primaries, runoffs, and elections. The current proviso requires any balance remaining in the Training and Certification Account at the end of the fiscal year to be carried forward and used for the same purpose during the following fiscal year. This amendment provides greater flexibility in the use of these funds by allowing accumulated balances to support the administration and conduct of special primaries, runoffs, and elections. The amendment recognizes that training funds may not be fully expended each year and allows those available resources to be redirected to election-related expenses when needed. This change would ensure that unspent funds remain available to support the State Election Commission's election administration responsibilities rather than being restricted solely to training activities.

Summarize the existing proviso. If requesting a new proviso, describe the current state of affairs without it. Explain the need for your requested action. For deletion requests due to recent codification, please identify SC Code section where language now appears.

FISCAL IMPACT

This request has no fiscal impact.

Provide estimates of any fiscal impacts associated with this proviso, whether for state, federal, or other funds. Explain the method of calculation.

PROPOSED PROVISO TEXT

(A) All members and staff of County Boards of Voter Registration and Elections will receive a common curriculum to include core courses on the duties and responsibilities of county boards of voter registration and elections and electives to promote quality service and professional development. The State Election Commission shall make these courses available in various locations, including but not be limited to, the upstate, coastal, and midlands areas of the state. Up to $35,000 of revenue generated by charging a fee to attend these courses may be retained and expended by the South Carolina Election Commission to help cover the cost of providing the training. Any balance in the training and certification account on June thirtieth, of the prior fiscal year may be carried forward and ~~expended for the same purpose during the current fiscal year.~~ **shall be utilized for special primaries, runoffs, and elections.**

(B) The State Election Commission is required to withhold the stipend of members who do not complete the training and certification program as required in Section 7-5-10 of the 1976 Code. Additionally, funds will also be withheld if a board member completes the training and certification program, but fails to complete at least one training course per year. The board member and members of that county's legislative delegation will be notified of the withholding of the stipend and the requirements needed to bring the member into compliance with the law. If a board member cannot complete the program or complete the required continuing education due to extenuating circumstances, the board member must submit a written request to the county legislative delegation for approval or funds will continue to be withheld as described in this proviso. If a board member does not become compliant with the law within eighteen months of initial notification of stipend withholding, the county's legislative delegation must replace that person on the board.

(C) If a stipend is being withheld on the effective date of this act for the failure of a member to attend a required training course, then the stipend must be paid if the member signed up for a course that was later cancelled.

Paste existing text above, then bold and underline insertions and strikethrough deletions. For new proviso requests, enter requested text above.

Agency Name:	Election Commission		
Agency Code:	E280	Section:	102

FORM E – AGENCY COST SAVINGS AND GENERAL FUND REDUCTION CONTINGENCY PLAN

TITLE	Agency Cost Savings And General Fund Reduction Contingency Plan
AMOUNT	$677,673 *What is the General Fund 3% reduction amount? This amount should correspond to the reduction spreadsheet prepared by EBO.*
ASSOCIATED FTE REDUCTIONS	No FTE's would be reduced. *How many FTEs would be reduced in association with this General Fund reduction?*
PROGRAM / ACTIVITY IMPACT	Public Information & Training *What programs or activities are supported by the General Funds identified?*
SUMMARY	The South Carolina State Election Commission's general fund appropriation totals $22,589,094. Of this amount, $8,570,000 is exempt from mandated reductions in accordance with Proviso 102.5. The amount of $677,673 is reflected in the 3% General Fund Reduction Calculation for the Governor's Executive Budget. Proviso 102.5. (ELECT: Budget Reduction Exemption) Funds appropriated for recurring and nonrecurring general and primary election expenses are exempt from mandated across-the-board reductions. In addition, when calculating any across-the-board agency base reductions mandated by the Executive Budget Office or the General Assembly, the amount of funds appropriated for recurring and nonrecurring primary and general election expenses shall be excluded from the agency's base budget.

Please provide a detailed summary of service delivery impact caused by a reduction in General Fund Appropriations and provide the method of calculation for anticipated reductions. Agencies should prioritize reduction in expenditures that have the least significant impact on service delivery.

AGENCY COST SAVINGS PLANS

To accommodate a 3% reduction, the South Carolina State Election Commission would implement decreases in expenditures for supplies, training, and travel. The agency will also not fill any vacant positions.

What measures does the agency plan to implement to reduce its costs and operating expenses by more than $50,000? Provide a summary of the measures taken and the estimated amount of savings. How does the agency plan to repurpose the savings?