

From: [REDACTED]
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: CARES Act Election Fund Question in HFC
Date: Monday, October 05, 2020 12:53:01 PM

From: Kelly Cunningham <Kelly.Cunningham@akleg.gov>
Sent: Friday, October 2, 2020 4:46 PM
To: Rep. Jennifer Johnston <Rep.Jennifer.Johnston@akleg.gov>; Rep. Neal Foster <Rep.Neal.Foster@akleg.gov>
Cc: Rep. Andy Josephson <Rep.Andy.Josephson@akleg.gov>; Erin Shine <Erin.Shine@akleg.gov>; Robert Ervine <Robert.Ervine@akleg.gov>; Paul Labolle <Paul.Labolle@akleg.gov>; Alexei Painter <Alexei.Painter@akleg.gov>; Kelly O'Sullivan <Kelly.O'Sullivan@akleg.gov>; Michael Partlow <Michael.Partlow@akleg.gov>
Subject: CARES Act Election Fund Question in HFC

Co-Chairs Foster and Johnston,

During the House Finance meeting on October 2, 2020, Representative Josephson asked if the State had declined any CARES Act funding to support elections.

The answer is no.

Alaska received approximately \$3 million through the federal CARES Act (total distribution to states was \$400 million) for election security grants to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus during the 2020 federal election cycle. The federal government mandated that this funding, which requires ~20% match, be deposited into the Election Fund. Although the Division of Elections has some existing authority to spend Election Funds, CARES Act election funding will need to be addressed in a future appropriation bill.

Apart from this CARES Act funding, SLA 2020 appropriations to the Division of Elections include:

1. Supplemental/Capital Ch. 7, SLA 20 (HB 234)

\$3.7 million election fund (1185) Help America Vote Act

This appropriation is linked to the fund capitalization in section 16 of HB 234 which includes

- \$600.0 GF Match
- The amount of federal receipts received for federal election security grants

2. Operating Ch. 8, SLA 20 (HB 205)

\$4.4 million (\$3.7 million UGF, \$706.7 election fund)

FY21 base funding

3. Operating Ch. 8, SLA 20 (HB 205)

\$1.8 million UGF Multi-year (FY21-FY22)

Elections has received this rolling multi-year on an annual basis for the past few years.

Please distribute this response to committee members and let us know if we can be of any further

assistance.

Thank you.

Kelly Cunningham
Operating Budget Coordinator
Legislative Finance Division
(907) 209-3222 cell