Help America Vote Act (HAVA) Grant Board Proposals to the State Board of Elections

The Secretary of State, with the approval of the State Board of Elections, will establish a HAVA Grant Board, consisting of four County Auditors (two Democrats and two Republicans), the Senior Elections Coordinator in the office of the Secretary of State, one member from the disability community, and one member from the Department of Tribal Relations. All members, except for the Senior Elections Coordinator, will serve a four year term. The Senior Elections Coordinator will serve as the Chair of the HAVA Grant Board and the Secretary of State’s office will assist the HAVA Grant Board with anything necessary to meet the requirements set forth in this plan. This board is responsible for developing, reviewing, and making recommendations to the Secretary of State in matters pertaining to the local government grant program and will comply with the State’s open meeting laws.

Proposed HAVA Grant Board Members:
- County Auditors
  - Sheila Hagemann, Turner County (R)
  - Susan Kiepke, Davison County (R)
  - Bob Litz, Minnehaha County (R)
  - Jerry Schwarting, Mellette County (D)
  - Bobbi Janke, Lake County (D)
- Senior Elections Coordinator in the Secretary of State’s Office
  - Brandon Johnson, HAVA Coordinator
- Member of the disability community
  - Jill Furan, Sioux Falls
  - Denise DeJong, Yankton
  - Kendra Gottsleben, Sioux Falls
- Department of Tribal Affairs
  - David Reiss

Proposed HAVA Grant parameters:
This administration wants to ensure there is HAVA funding available for South Dakota’s 66 counties for future federal election expenses.
- This grant funding is only available for the county auditor’s to apply for
- This grant funding is not open to local elections (municipal, school, or special districts)
- This funding can only be used towards expenses that are covered under the HAVA requirements and cannot be used for the purchase of the following items (this does not prohibit the use of these funds for programming or other expenses associated with these items): Tabulating equipment, voter assist terminals, or electronic poll books.
- Maximum grant amount per year that will be open for the HAVA Grant - $300,000
  - Grant award up to $4,500 per county per year. *Extraordinary cases considered such as:
    - Satellite absentee voting locations as defined in the HAVA State Plan
  - County must spend down their county held HAVA fund balance prior to being awarded HAVA grant funds
  - These parameters do not prohibit the Secretary of State to grant additional HAVA funding to the 66 county auditors at any time.
- Applications can be submitted twice per year
  - June and December
- Award dates
  - July 31st and January 31st
- The HAVA Grant Board will meet twice per year to review applications. These meetings can be done over conference call or in-person meetings.