November 19, 2021

The Honorable John B. Scott  
Secretary of State  
State Capitol Room 1E.8  
Austin, Texas 78701

Dear Mr. Secretary:

Pursuant to Chapter 317 of the Texas Government Code, the Legislative Budget Board sent the attached letter to the Governor on Friday, November 19, 2021, stating an emergency exists under Sec. 317.002 of the code due to an insufficiency of funds. In response and on the same date, the Governor issued the attached letter under his signature ratifying the proposal made by the Legislative Budget Board.

Therefore, pursuant to Sec. 317.004 of the Texas Government Code, I am forwarding the proposal from the Legislative Budget Board and the order signed ratifying the proposal from the Governor to the secretary of state to be duly filed for publication in the Texas Register.

Respectfully submitted,

[Signature]

Gregory S. Davidson  
Executive Clerk to the Governor

Attachments
Dear Governor Abbott,

Pursuant to Texas Government Code, Section 317.002, this budget execution order is proposed for the following action affecting items of appropriation made by Senate Bill No. 1, General Appropriations Act, Acts of the 87th Legislature, Regular Session, 2021.

There are not sufficient funds appropriated to the Secretary of State to ensure election integrity for the 2022-2023 state fiscal biennium and this insufficiency of funds creates an emergency. We therefore propose that:

From appropriations made to the Texas Department of Criminal Justice by Senate Bill No. 1, General Appropriations Act, Acts of the 87th Legislature, Regular Session, 2021, the amount of $4,000,000 in General Revenue appropriated for fiscal year 2023 in Strategy C.1.1. Correctional Security Operations, shall be transferred to the Secretary of State for use during the 2022-2023 state fiscal biennium, for the purpose of ensuring election integrity.

Respectfully,

Dade Phelan
Speaker of the House
Joint Chair, Legislative Budget Board

Greg Bonnen
Chair, House Appropriations Committee

Dan Patrick
Lieutenant Governor
Joint Chair, Legislative Budget Board

Jane Nelson
Chair, Senate Finance Committee

FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE
2 PM O’CLOCK

November 19, 2021

SECRETARY OF STATE

EXECUTIVE CLERK
November 19, 2021

Budget Execution Order

I am in receipt of your proposal dated November 19, 2021. In the proposal, you state there is an emergency pursuant to Section 317.002 of the Government Code and recommend the transfer of funding between agencies as shown below.

Pursuant to Section 317.005(b) of the Government Code, I am ratifying the proposal. It is paramount to our democracy that the citizens of Texas have faith and confidence in the election process. The Legislature demonstrated a strong commitment to election integrity when it passed Senate Bill 1 during the Second Called Session of the 87th Legislature, which I signed into law. The transfer of funds is necessary to ensure that the Secretary of State has budget authority to adequately accomplish the goals sought by the Legislature.

Therefore, it is ordered that:

From appropriations made to the Texas Department of Criminal Justice by Senate Bill No. 1, General Appropriations Act, Acts of the 87th Legislature, Regular Session, 2021, the amount of $4,000,000 in General Revenue appropriated for fiscal year 2023 in Strategy C.1.1., Correctional Security Operations, shall be transferred to the Secretary of State for use during the 2022-2023 state fiscal biennium, for the purpose of ensuring election integrity.

I hereby certify that this proposal has been reviewed by legal counsel and found to be within my authority.

Issued in Austin, Texas on November 19, 2021, 2:00 p.m.

Greg Abbott
Governor

cc: The Honorable Glenn Hegar, Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts
The Honorable John B. Scott, Texas Secretary of State
Bryan Collier, Executive Director, Texas Department of Criminal Justice
Jerry McGinty, Executive Director, Legislative Budget Board