

## **SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION**

### **SB 5538 Secretary of State**

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To: Ways and Means Full Committee  
From: General Government Subcommittee  
Carrier: Senator Anderson

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SB 5538 is the budget bill for the Secretary of State. The Secretary is the state's chief elections officer, auditor of public accounts, and manager of the state's records. The agency also registers business entities, commissions Notary Publics, and publishes administrative rules.

The approved budget totals \$97.5 million, including \$15.3 million General Fund, and includes 229 positions (228.25 FTE). This is an 8.6% increase over the 2019-21 legislatively approved budget and a 5.2% increase over the 2021-23 current service level.

The budget includes continuation of General Fund support for payments to counties to assist with costs incurred by the Motor Voter program which increased voter registrations. 2021-23 is the last biennium for these payments to counties. The budget includes information technology investments related to security, equipment and license updates, and migration of the agency's on-site data center. The budget also includes investments in the Administrative Services Division to improve support of the agency program divisions.

The General Government Subcommittee recommends SB 5538 be amended by the -1 amendment and be reported out do pass, as amended.