

SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

HB 5035 Secretary of State

To: Ways and Means Full Committee
From: General Government Subcommittee
Carrier: Representative Gomberg

HB 5035 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 \$111.7 million, including \$17.6 million General Fund, and includes 240 positions (239.50 FTE). This represents a 2.3% increase over the 2021-23 legislatively approved budget, and a 5.1% increase over the current service level.

Adjustments include adding \$1.1 million General Fund for elections improvements, including adding positions to address election complaints, improve security and monitor election threats. Added \$3.1 million Other Funds, and five positions for Information Technology expenditures related to security improvements, modernization of aging legacy systems, and improve management of agency IT assets. The budget also includes \$1.2 million Other Funds to continue work preserving recordings of legislative hearings and complete the conversion to compact shelving at the Archives Building.

The General Government Subcommittee recommends HB 5035 be amended by the –1 amendment and be reported out do pass, as amended.