



NORTH CAROLINA STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS

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July 15, 2020

To: County Directors of Elections

**From: Karen Brinson Bell, Executive Director
Amy Strange, Chief Operating Officer**

**Re: 2020 Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security ("CARES") Act Funds &
2020 Help America Vote Act (HAVA) Funds – Election Administration
Preparedness for 2020 Federal Elections**

This packet contains information on federal 2020 CARES Act funding and federal 2020 HAVA funding allocated to your county by the North Carolina General Assembly in Session Law 2020-17, sections 11.1, 11.2 and 11.3.

CARES Act Funds

In March 2020, Congress passed, and the President signed into law, the CARES Act to deliver an economic relief package to assist the country in coping with the public health and economic impacts of COVID-19. The CARES Act includes \$400 million in emergency funds made available to states to prevent, prepare for, and respond to the coronavirus for the 2020 federal election cycle. North Carolina's share of the federal funds is \$10,947,139. In June 2020, the North Carolina General Assembly passed, and the Governor signed into law, House Bill 1169, which appropriated required State matching funds of \$2,120,497. Each county board of elections will receive a portion of the State's CARES Act funding, which must be used in compliance with the requirements in S.L. 2020-17 and the federal 2020 CARES Act in connection with the November 3, 2020 General Election.

Each county has the option to either receive the county's CARES Act subgrant in an up-front, lump sum amount, or request that the State Board of Elections manage the county's CARES Act subgrant while following the county's spending directives. *A Grant Request Disbursal Package will be forthcoming to all counties by Friday, July 17, 2020.*

2020 HAVA Funds

In December 2019, Congress passed, and the President signed into law, the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2020. The Act includes \$425 million in new Help America Vote Act (HAVA) funds, made available to states to improve the administration of elections for Federal office, including to enhance technology and make election security improvements. North Carolina's share of the federal funds is \$11,677,441. In June 2020, the North Carolina General Assembly passed, and the Governor signed into law, House Bill 1169, which appropriated required State matching funds of \$2,335,488. Each county can receive reimbursements for eligible HAVA expenses, with a minimum reimbursement amount of \$10,000 per county. Counties can receive up to a maximum reimbursement of \$250,000, on a first-come, first-served basis until the total funds available are expended.