Additional Information for Decision Packages 739 and 1798

The State Election Commission's first priority in the 2014-15 budget request is for funding for security and technology enhancements in order to protect the integrity of the election process in South Carolina by securing the statewide voter registration system, statewide voting system and agency network. Deloitte and Touche recently conducted a Risk and Vulnerability Assessment of the statewide voter registration system and agency networks. Based on the findings in the assessment the SEC has identified several items that will be necessary in order to increase security for the agency, for county voter registration and election commission offices, and for the citizens of South Carolina whose Personally Identifiable Information (PII) such as name, date of birth and social security number is contained in the statewide voter registration system.

Decision Package 739
Recurring funds are being requested for:
- a full-time security officer who will manage the security needs of the agency and will also audit the voting system following elections. The total cost estimated for the full-time security officer is $100,000 in recurring funds for salary, benefits, travel and training.
- participation in the Election Registration Information Center (ERIC)
  - ERIC is a non-profit organization which is managed by participating states and allows the member states to securely compare voter data to identify voters who have moved to another state.
  - Member states share the cost of maintenance for ERIC. The estimated cost for South Carolina will be $100,000 per year.
  - We are required by federal and state law to notify voters who are matched in the ERIC process. Postage is estimated to be $130,000.
- software and hardware modifications to maintain the security of the statewide voter registration system, statewide voting system and agency networks are estimated to cost $50,000.

The total recurring request for the security and technology enhancements is $380,000.

Decision Package 1798
Non-recurring funds are being requested for:
- encryption software needed to improve the SEC's ability to encrypt and decrypt PII shared between agencies is estimated to cost $22,000.
- replacement of outdated equipment in order to increase network security. Hardware necessary includes an election database server, networking switch and updated computers to replace unsupported computers at an estimated cost of $15,000.
- security tokens. The SEC will require the use of security tokens to gain access to the statewide voter registration system. The Division of State Information Technology (DSIT) will provide the security tokens and hardware for state users. However, security tokens must be provided to each of the 400 county users. Security tokens and required hardware are estimated to cost approximately $38,000 on state contract.
- initial membership fee to participate in ERIC is $25,000.

The total non-recurring request for security and technology enhancements is $100,000.

The total recurring and non-recurring request for Decision Packages 739 and 1798 is $480,000.