



September 18, 2024

Honorable Scott D. Wiener, Chair
Joint Legislative Budget Committee
Senate Budget and Fiscal Review
Committee

Honorable Jesse Gabriel, Chair
Assembly Budget Committee

Honorable Anna M. Caballero, Chair
Senate Appropriations Committee

Honorable Buffy Wicks, Chair
Assembly Appropriations Committee

Secretary of State—Augmentation for Department of Justice Legal Services

Pursuant to Provision 5 of Item 0890-001-0001, 2023 Budget Act, the following report is respectfully submitted.

On June 17, 2024, the Department of Finance notified the Joint Legislative Budget Committee (JLBC) that the Secretary of State (SOS) requested to augment expenditure authority by \$110,000 General Fund in fiscal year 2023-24 to cover costs of legal services provided by the Department of Justice (DOJ). Subsequently, on July 19, 2024, SOS notified Finance that DOJ submitted an additional invoice for \$138,000 for legal services provided in 2023-24, resulting in the need to augment SOS' budget by a total of \$248,000 General Fund. Provision 5 of Item 0890-001-0001 authorizes Finance to augment this item by the amount necessary to cover costs for DOJ legal services no sooner than 30 days following the transmittal of the approval to the JLBC. In addition, the SOS requested a waiver of the 30-day review period.

Finance concurs with this request and will augment SOS' budget upon JLBC approval of the requested waiver of the 30-day review period. If you have any questions or need additional information regarding this matter, please call Emma Jungwirth, Assistant Program Budget Manager, at (916)445-8913.

JOE STEPHENSHAW

Director

By:

ERIKA LI

Chief Deputy Director

Attachment

cc: On following page

cc: Honorable Sharon Quirk-Silva, Chair, Assembly Budget Subcommittee No. 5
Honorable Steve Padilla, Chair, Senate Budget and Fiscal Review Subcommittee
No. 4
Honorable Roger W. Niello, Vice Chair, Senate Budget and Fiscal Review
Committee
Honorable Heath Flora, Vice Chair, Assembly Budget Committee
Gabriel Petek, Legislative Analyst (3)
Elisa Wynne, Staff Director, Senate Budget and Fiscal Review Committee
Kirk Feely, Fiscal Director, Senate Republican Fiscal Office
Christopher W. Woods, Senate President pro Tempore's Office (2)
Christian Griffith, Chief Consultant, Assembly Budget Committee
Joseph Shinstock, Fiscal Director, Assembly Republican Caucus, Office of Policy
and Budget
Paul Dress, Caucus Co-Chief of Staff, Assembly Republican Leader's Office
Katja Townsend, Capitol Director, Assembly Republican Leader's Office
Jason Sisney, Assembly Speaker's Office (2)
Mark McKenzie, Staff Director, Senate Appropriations Committee
Jay Dickenson, Chief Consultant, Assembly Appropriations Committee
Shirley Weber, California Secretary of State
Tamara Johnson, Chief Financial Officer, Secretary of State
Jana Lean, Chief, Elections Divisions, Secretary of State
Joanna Southard, Assistant Chief, Elections Division, Secretary of State
Kristin Dagsher, Budget Section Manager, Fiscal Affairs Office, Secretary of State



Shirley N. Weber, Ph.D.

California Secretary of State

1500 11th Street | Sacramento, CA 95814 | Tel 916.653.7244 | Fax 916.653.4620 | www.sos.ca.gov

July 19, 2024

Joe Stephenshaw, Director
Department of Finance
1021 O Street, Suite 3110
Sacramento CA 95814

Request for Augmentation for Department of Justice Legal Services

I am writing to formally request, pursuant to Provision 5, Item 0890-001-0001, Chapter 12, Statutes of 2023 (SB 101), an augmentation of \$247,833 General Fund for Department of Justice (DOJ) Legal Services for fiscal year 2023-24. In addition, due to the urgent timeline for payment, we kindly request a waiver of the 30-day review period.

In early April, we received an estimate from the DOJ that included legal services costs projected through June 2024. Based on that data, we determined the 2023-24 appropriation would be insufficient to cover the anticipated expenses. Consequently, we submitted a formal request for augmentation to the Department of Finance. On June 17, 2024, Finance transmitted the request to the Joint Legislative Budget Committee.

On June 20, 2024, the DOJ submitted invoicing for May 2024, which exceeded the sum of our remaining Secretary of State appropriation and the anticipated augmentation. In consultation with the DOJ, we have determined the outstanding amount to be invoiced for 2023-24. Regrettably, our current appropriation is insufficient to cover the entirety of the legal services cost.

We appreciate your attention to this matter and urgently seek your support in securing the necessary funds. If you have any questions or need additional information regarding this request, please contact me or my Chief Financial Officer, Tamara D. Johnson, at 916-695-1497.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Shirley N. Weber".

Shirley N. Weber, Ph.D.
California Secretary of State

Attachment

cc: On following page

Joe Stephenshaw

July 19, 2024

Page 2

cc: Amy Jarvis, Program Budget Manager, Department of Finance
Emma Jungwirth, Assistant Program Budget Manager, Department of Finance
Jessie Romine, Principal Program Budget Analyst, Department of Finance
Charles LaSalle, Finance Budget Analyst, Department of Finance
Lisa Martin, Chief Deputy Secretary of State
Reginald Fair, Deputy Secretary of State, Operations
Steve Reyes, Chief Counsel, Secretary of State
Tamara D. Johnson, Chief Financial Officer, Secretary of State
Kristin Dagsher, Budget Officer, Secretary of State
Anthony Montano, Budget Unit Manager, Secretary of State
Jessica Godina, Budget Unit Manager, Secretary of State
Meena Ganesan, Accounting Administrator, Secretary of State

Department of Justice Legal Services

2023-24 Invoiced Expenditures

Service Period	Invoice Number	Amount
May 2024	744326	\$ 7,920.00
May 2024	744324	133,525.00
May 2024	744557	649.25
June 2024	751292	2,035.00
June 2024	751293	116,105.00
June 2024	751507	268.02
Outstanding 2023-24 Invoices		5,000.00
Current Appropriation Balance		\$ (17,669.67)
Total Augmentation Needed		\$ 247,832.60