

Good Afternoon:

This afternoon, the Senate passed a Continuing Resolution (CR) which will fund the federal government at **FY2010 levels through Friday, March 4th**. The measure passed the Senate by a vote of 79-16.

The CR now goes back to the House where it is expected to pass shortly as the current CR expires at midnight. We will send you an email update if that DOESN'T happen.

Language in the CR related to the Election Assistance Commission (EAC) and the Help America Vote Act is italicized below. To summarize, the EAC will be funded through March 4th at FY2010 levels. No funding for requirements payments was included in bill. The language also says that a state match can be compiled from interest earned in the state's election fund - however, only interest earned on amounts appropriated to the fund by the State may be used. See the attached EAC memo regarding this interest issue from earlier this year.

None of the language seen last week in the Senate Omnibus about permanently terminating the requirements payments, terminating the EAC or rescinding unobligated requirements payments is included in the CR. Remember that the CR is good until March 4, 2011 (upon approval of the House and signed by the President)

ELECTION ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses to carry out the Help America Vote Act of 2002 (Public Law 107-252), \$17,100,000, of which \$3,250,000 shall be transferred to the National Institute of Standards and Technology for election reform activities authorized under the Help America Vote Act of 2002: Provided, That \$750,000 shall be for the Help America Vote College Program as authorized by the Help America Vote Act of 2002: Provided further, That \$300,000 shall be for a competitive grant program to support community involvement in student and parent mock elections.

ELECTION REFORM PROGRAMS

For purposes of determining the eligibility of a State to receive a requirements payment under part 1 of subtitle 4 D of title II of the Help America Vote Act of 2002 (42 U.S.C. 15401 et seq.) for fiscal year 2011, any unobligated amount in the election fund of the State under section 254(b) of such Act which is attributable to interest earned on amounts appropriated to the fund by the State may, at the option of the State, be included under section 10253(b)(5) of such Act.