

- Retention of 100% of fees in SOS's Business Services Division reduces SOS's reliance on GRF funds by approximately 61%.
- Ongoing technology upgrades throughout SOS facilitates e-business and reduces filing backlogs.
- The Office of the Notary Commission is transferred from the Governor's Office to the Secretary of State.

Secretary of State

Carol Robison, Budget Analyst

ROLE

The Secretary of State oversees Ohio elections and supervises the 88 county boards of elections in their duties related to conducting elections. As Ohio's chief election officer, SOS supervises the administration of election laws, approves ballot language, and reviews statewide initiative and referendum petitions.

The Secretary of State has two program areas: Elections Oversight and Administration (EOA) and Business Services, with Business Services employing 52 percent of the SOS's staff. In the past, the Business Services Division has been funded through a blend of GRF and rotary fund revenue.

Agency In Brief					
Number of Employees	Total Appropriations-All Funds		GRF Appropriations		Appropriation Bill(s)
	2002	2003	2002	2003	
162	\$16.2 million	\$16.4 million	\$3.6 million	\$3.8 million	Am. Sub. H. B. 94

OVERVIEW

The one significant change in funding comes with the provision in enacted Am. Sub. H.B. 94 that calls for the Secretary of State to retain 100 percent of the filing fees, received as revenue to the Business Services Division. This provision will enable the Business Services Division to become a completely cash operating system.

As part of Am. Sub. H.B. 94, the Office of the Notary Commission is transferred from the Governor's Office to the Secretary of State. The Notary Commission has appropriations of \$166,284 in FY 2002 and \$171,273 in FY 2003 in the General Services Fund Group.

BUDGET ISSUES

FILING FEES

The enactment of Am. Sub. H.B. 94 of the 124th General Assembly increases select filing fees and alters the percent of filing fees from 50 percent to 100 percent that are retained by the SOS's Business Services Division. The following sections prescribe fee changes for the Secretary of State's Business Services Division: 111.16, 111.23, 1309.40, 1309.402, 1309.42, 1309.01, 1329.06, 1329.07, 1329.42, 1329.45, 1329.56, 1329.58, 1329.60, 1329.601, 1701.07, 1701.81, 1702.06, 1702.43, 1702.59, 1703.15, 1703.17, 1703.27, 1703.31, 1705.05, 1705.06, 1705.38, 1746.04, 1746.06, 1746.15, 1747.03, 1747.04, 1747.10, 1775.63, 1782.433, and 1785.06. These fees will be deposited into the Corporate and Uniform Commercial Code Filing Fund, rather than into GRF. In the past, these fees were deposited into the GRF and later transferred back to the SOS's Business Services Division through the Controlling Board. 

FY 2002 - 2003 Final Appropriation Amounts

All Fund Groups

Line Item Detail by Agency

*FY 1999: FY 2000: FY 2001: **FY 2002** % Change **FY 2003** % Change*
Appropriations: 2001 to 2002: Appropriations: 2002 to 2003:

Report For: Main Operating Appropriations Bill

Version: Enacted

SOS Secretary of State

GRF	050-321	Operating Expenses	\$ 7,365,068	\$ 8,585,716	\$9,887,335	\$ 3,250,500	-67.12%	\$ 3,250,500	0.00%
GRF	050-403	Election Statistics	\$ 127,306	\$ 79,962	\$83,025	\$ 144,759	74.36%	\$ 152,559	5.39%
GRF	050-407	Poll workers Training	\$ 166,000	\$ 174,227	\$290,760	\$ 227,929	-21.61%	\$ 322,686	41.57%
GRF	050-409	Litigation Expenditures	\$ 39,222	\$ 26,750	\$7,531	\$ 25,817	242.83%	\$ 27,208	5.39%
General Revenue Fund Total			\$ 7,697,596	\$ 8,866,655	\$ 10,268,651	\$ 3,649,004	-64.46%	\$ 3,752,952	2.85%
413	050-601	Information Systems	\$ 130,850	\$ 157,356	\$167,396	\$ 153,300	-8.42%	\$ 157,133	2.50%
414	050-602	Citizen Education Fund	\$ 16,652	\$ 9,650	\$7,544	\$ 80,000	960.41%	\$ 70,000	-12.50%
5M3	050-604	Precinct Reimbursement Expense	----	----	\$472,101	\$ 0	-100.00%	\$ 0	N/A
412	050-607	Notary Commission	----	----		\$ 166,284	N/A	\$ 171,273	3.00%
4B9	050-608	Campaign Finance Disk Sales	\$ 0	\$ 0		\$ 0	N/A	\$ 0	N/A
4S8	050-610	Board of Voting Machine Examiners	\$ 1,196	\$ 3,822	\$3,131	\$ 7,200	129.96%	\$ 7,200	0.00%
General Services Fund Group Total			\$ 148,698	\$ 170,828	\$ 650,173	\$ 406,784	-37.43%	\$ 405,606	-0.29%
599	050-603	Business Services Operating Expense	\$ 2,154,738	\$ 4,292,768	\$3,254,240	\$ 11,880,000	265.06%	\$ 11,979,000	0.83%
State Special Revenue Fund Group Total			\$ 2,154,738	\$ 4,292,768	\$ 3,254,240	\$ 11,880,000	265.06%	\$ 11,979,000	0.83%
R01	050-605	Uniform Commercial Code Refunds	\$ 34,396	\$ 39,318	\$51,570	\$ 65,000	26.04%	\$ 65,000	0.00%
R02	050-606	Corporate/Business Filing Refunds	\$ 510,419	\$ 333,196	\$258,946	\$ 185,000	-28.56%	\$ 185,000	0.00%
Holding Account Redistribution Fund Group Total			\$ 544,815	\$ 372,514	\$ 310,516	\$ 250,000	-19.49%	\$ 250,000	0.00%
Secretary of State Total			\$ 10,545,847	\$ 13,702,765	\$ 14,483,580	\$ 16,185,788	11.75%	\$ 16,387,558	1.25%