
**Joint Committee on
Ways and Means**

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**Subcommittee on
General Government**

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Sen. Doug Whitsett
Rep. David Gomberg
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MEMORANDUM

To: *Joint Ways and Means General Government Subcommittee*

From: *Steve Bender, Legislative Fiscal Office*
(503) 986-1836

Date: March 18, 2013

Subject: *Secretary of State – SB 5539 – Budget Presentation*

Public hearings on the budget for the Secretary of State are scheduled to begin on Tuesday, March 19 and conclude on Thursday, March 21. Public testimony is also scheduled for March 21.

The Secretary of State is one of three constitutional offices established at statehood. The Secretary is auditor of public accounts, chief elections officer, and manager of the state's records, a role that includes preserving official acts of the Legislative Assembly and the Executive Branch. Under statute, the Secretary of State is exempt from Executive Department budget control. The Chief Financial Office will not, therefore, be presenting a Governor's budget review to the Subcommittee.

The Legislative Fiscal Office budget review document, and the Secretary of State's budget presentation and budget presentation appendices, are posted to OLIS for the March 19 date under SB 5539. An agenda is also posted to OLIS for that date.

Additional information on the agency budget is noted below.

2011-13 Biennium Budget Notes

There were no budget notes approved with the Secretary of State's budget bill (HB 5041, 2011 session). However, a budget note approved with the State Library's budget bill (SB 5521, 2011 session) instructed the following:

The Governor's Office, Secretary of State, and the Chief Justice are requested to convene a workgroup to develop options and make recommendations on the consolidation and improvement of library and archives services to the Joint Committee on Ways and Means and the

appropriate policy committee at the beginning of the February 2012 legislative session. The workgroup shall make specific recommendations on the following: a) consolidation of state archives services; b) increased utilization of digital resources; c) elimination of the duplicative state subscriptions and subscription services across state agencies; d) reduction of library facility costs; e) consolidation of services of the State Library, Higher Education libraries, and the State Law Library; f) development of public/private partnerships for library, law library, and archives services; g) development of a more cost-effective delivery of the Talking Books and Braille Services; and h) leveraging additional federal grant funding for libraries and library services. The State Library, Department of Administrative Services, the Oregon University System, Oregon Commission for the Blind and the Department of Education are instructed to be participating members in the workgroup. The Oregon State Bar Association should also be requested to participate in the workgroup.

2011-13 Biennium Emergency Board Actions

The Emergency Board allocated \$593,497 General Fund to the Secretary of State in May 2012 for costs associated with a Special Primary Election and a Special General Election held to fill a vacancy in the 1st Congressional District.

2011-13 Biennium Audit Reports

There were no audit reports issued for the Secretary of State in the current biennium. The Audits Division is a unit of the office of the Secretary of State and does not audit the agency's finances or operations.