



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

AUDITOR OF THE COMMONWEALTH

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A. JOSEPH De NUCCI
AUDITOR

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TO: City and Town Election Officials
FROM: A. JOSEPH DeNUCCI
Auditor of the Commonwealth
DATE: June 3, 2009

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading 'A. Joseph DeNucci'.

**RE: CHAPTER 503 OF THE ACTS OF 1983: STATE FUNDING FOR THE
2010 SEPTEMBER AND NOVEMBER STATE ELECTIONS**

My office is beginning the process of certifying year 2010 election expenses resulting from the Uniform Polling Hours Law. As you know, Chapter 503 of the Acts of 1983 requires that all polling places for state elections open no later than 7:00 a.m. and remain open until 8:00 p.m. Since state law prior to Chapter 503 allowed polls to open as late as 10:00 a.m. for state elections, three hours of mandated election expenses are eligible for state funding under the Local Mandate Law, G. L. c. 29, s. 27C

Section 3 of Chapter 503 requires the Division of Local Mandates (DLM) to determine the incremental local costs attributable to the Act for each city and town. In carrying out the provisions of this section, the Office of the State Auditor has certified \$18 million in state funding for distribution to cities and towns since 1984.

Please complete the attached cost claim form and return it as soon as possible so DLM can review and approve reasonable election expenses. **The information you provide will be the basis for state funding to support election expenses for the 2010 September and November state elections.** We will then inform the Secretary of State of the funding required to compensate each city and town.

As in past years, your municipal treasurer should receive by check or wire transfer six hours of precinct costs by August 2010 for the September and November elections. This funding may be expended without further local appropriation.

Please return the completed claim form before July 17, 2009 to **Division of Local Mandates, 1 Winter Street 9th Floor, Boston, MA 02108, or by fax, 617.727.0984.** For your convenience, we have enclosed a copy of your municipality's 2007 election claim form for the 2008 state elections.

If you have any questions, please call Mr. Anthony D'Aiello at (617) 727-0980, or toll free at 1-800-462-2678. Your cooperation will ensure timely funding for the 2010 state primary and general elections. Thank you.