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STATE PROCUREMENT OFFICE NOTICE OF AND REQUEST FOR EXEMPTION FROM CHAPTER 103D, HRS

1. TO: Chief Procurement Officer
2.FROM: DAGS/Office of Elections

Department/Division/Agency

Pursuant to §103D-102(b)(4), HRS, and Chapter 3-120, HAR, the Department requests a procurement exemption to purchase the following:

3. Description of goods, services or construction:

Server / client software; includes training, installation, and customization services for the Robis Election Decision Support System™ (also known as AskED).

See attached for additional description.

4. Name of Vendor: Robis Elections, Inc.
Address: 107 E. Front St
Wheaton, IL 60187

5. Price:
\$135,000

6. Term of Contract: From: 08/01/2006 To: 12/31/2006

7. Prior Exemption Ref. No.

8. Explanation describing how procurement by competitive means is either not practicable nor advantageous to the State:

See attached sheet.

9. Details of the process or procedures to be followed in selecting the vendor to ensure maximum fair and open competition as practicable:

The most practicable process available to the Office of Elections involves a detailed review of the State's Election Day – Control Center requirements by the Office of Elections AskEd Implementation Committee. This will be followed by an assessment of alternatives available to the Office of Elections and the review and approval of the Chief Election Officer. Subsequent approval by the State Comptroller will also be obtained as part of the final approval process.

10. A description of the agency's internal controls and approval requirements for the exempted procurement:

The Office of Elections internal controls for approval include the following:

Completion of a contract that itemizes all tasks and costs associated with the procurement. Subsequently, a comments and review form is completed that is reviewed and approved by the Office of Elections AskEd Implementation Committee and the Chief Election Officer.

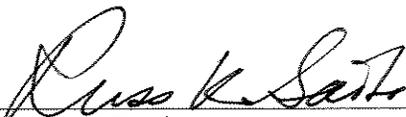
REQUEST FOR EXEMPTION FROM CHAPTER 103D, HRS (Cont.)

12. A list of agency personnel, by position, who will be involved in the approval process and administration of the contract:			
Name	Position	Involvement in Process	
Dwayne D. Yoshina	Chief Election Officer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Approval	<input type="checkbox"/> Administration
David J. Rosenbrock	DPSA VI	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Approval	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Administration
Rex M. Quidilla	Voter Services Coordinator	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Approval	<input type="checkbox"/> Administration
Lori Tomczyk	Ballot Operations Coordinator	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Approval	<input type="checkbox"/> Administration
Robynn Yokooji	Election Support Services Coordinator	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Approval	<input type="checkbox"/> Administration
Judy A. Gold	Precinct Operations Coordinator	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Approval	<input type="checkbox"/> Administration

13. Direct inquiries to:	Department: DAGS/Office of Elections Contact Name: David J. Rosenbrock Phone Number: 453.8683 Fax Number: 453.6006
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Agency shall ensure adherence to applicable administrative and statutory requirements

14. *I certify that the information provided above is, to the best of my knowledge, true and correct.*


 Department Head

6/6/06
 Date

Reserved for SPO Use Only

15. Date Notice Posted 6/08/06

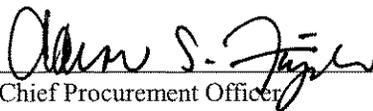
The Chief Procurement Officer is in the process of reviewing this request for exemption from Chapter 103D, HRS. Submit written objections to this notice to issue an exemption from Chapter 103D, HRS, within seven calendar days or as otherwise allowed from the above posted date to:

Chief Procurement Officer
 State Procurement Office
 P.O. Box 119
 Honolulu, Hawaii 96810-0119

Chief Procurement Officer's Comments:

This approval is for the solicitation process only, section 103D-310(c), HRS, and section 3-122-112, HAR, shall apply.

16. APPROVED DISAPPROVED


 Chief Procurement Officer 6/16/06
 Date

Attachment for Notice of and Request for Exemption from Chapter 103D, HRS for AskEd

3.

AskED allows for the entry, tracking and solving of problem related calls from Precinct Workers to phone operators at the Voting Control Center located at the State Capitol. The product empowers the phone operator at the Control Center to look up the resolution to problems often encountered by the pollworkers at precincts who are calling in for assistance with concerns on Election Day. Problem calls range from lack of supplies, voting machine malfunction, loss of electrical power, electioneering to close to the polling place and any number of voter registration questions such as "Why am I not in the poll book?" and "Can I cancel my absentee ballot and vote in the precinct?"

The AskED's decision support capabilities allow each Voting Control Center phone operator to walk through particular problems in a step by step manner on the computer monitor to the correct resolution of most concerns or problems that may arise on Election Day.

AskED's most unique feature is its decision support system that leads operators to the correct resolution for each voter eligibility issue. The decision support system is a decision tree with pre-programed questions and answers. By asking and answering a few questions, election-day Control Center operators can be certain to provide the correct course of action for each voter. Because the system guides the Control Center operator through the election logic, operators with limited or no election experience or knowledge can provide the needed Election Day services using this system. No other system currently utilized by the State, or available from any other vendor provides for the step by step question and answer problem solving process offered by AskED. All other available systems require the slow, cumbersome, inefficient use of at least three (3) other persons, besides the the original phone operator to obtain a correct resolution of any given concern.

AskED will assist the Office of Elections in fulfilling its obligations under the Federal Help America Vote Act of 2002 and other Federal and State laws to ensure that each voter has the opportunity to vote their correct ballot. The tracking of precinct support and voter registration problems and the escalation feature in AskED will allow the Office of Elections to resolve problems on Election Day that might otherwise delay or complicate the process of voting.

The decision support technology of AskED will ensure that each poll worker calling in to the Control Center will receive the correct resolution to their precinct problem, and provide uniform answers for voter registration questions across the entire State.

This software application will improve and enhance the Office of Elections' ability to provide a uniform application of voting statutes and rules statewide.

AskEd will be customized for the State of Hawaii, there are two types of "customization" for the system. The first is the creation of the specific logic for Hawaii to be used in the system. This is not the type of software being written, but instead is the application of the state's election laws into the data of the system. The vendor will assist the state with the creation of this data for the 2006 Elections while training us on how to do this in the future. The second type of customization is the addition of an escalation feature into the AskED software. This is an enhancement that we have requested of the vendor, which will allow our Election Day operations to run smoothly. It is a change to their software for our purposes and so it cannot be performed by another vendor.

8.

It is not advantageous for the State to solicit these services from any other provider because the time constraints dictated by the election cycle make it necessary to implement an existing software solution. The ability to deploy this software was an unexpected opportunity. We were made aware of the availability of this product after the first of the year 2006. The vendor asked OE if he could demonstrate the product. The vendor demonstrated a hand-held version of the product which is available for use in the polling place by the Precinct Chairperson. After the demonstration we told the vendor we managed our precinct trouble calls through a call center operation. The vendor stated they had a client/server version of the product which would be suitable for a call center environment. He did not have the product with him and he asked if he could return and demonstrate the client/server version. He returned the first week of May 2006 with the client/server version of the product and he demonstrated the product at the Office of Elections. He then followed up with a presentation to all of the statewide election administrators. It was after these presentations we determined the product would be a valuable asset for election administration.

Additionally, the software license for AskEd is owned by Robis Elections, Inc. and will be transferred to the Office of Elections. Thereafter, there will be no annual license payments. The training, software installation, and customization services will be provided by the software publisher, Robis Elections, Inc. No other company is authorized or franchised by Robis Elections, Inc., the intellectual property rights owner, to provide services and training for the AskEd software.