

# **GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF REGULATORY REFORM**

## **MISSION**

The Governor's Office of Regulatory Reform was restructured in 1995 and charged with the promotion of private sector job growth in New York through the review and reform of State regulations. The Office creates a positive climate for job growth by reviewing and streamlining regulations, expediting regulatory approval and improving attitudes of regulators toward affected parties. Since 1994-95, the Office has substantively reviewed and/or eliminated over 1,500 rules which, together with other regulatory, statutory and permitting reforms, has saved State businesses and localities \$2.9 billion in operating and other expenses.

## **ORGANIZATION AND STAFFING**

Led by a Director appointed by the Governor, the Office is located in Albany. Agency objectives are achieved through its Business Permits Assistance and Regulatory Review programs. The Office will have a workforce of 38 positions for 2000-01.

## **FISCAL BACKGROUND AND BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS**

The Office's operations are supported by State tax dollars from the General Fund. The Executive Budget recommends \$2.6 million in support for the Office to maintain current efforts to streamline the State's regulatory process. Recommended funding also supports a sophisticated database, including a web site, [www.nys-permits.org](http://www.nys-permits.org), which provides businesses with comprehensive information on the permits related to starting or expanding a business.

## **PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS**

### **REGULATORY REVIEW**

The Office reviews the need for proposed new and revised regulations and their economic impact. Staff continue efforts begun in 1994-95 to review all existing State agency regulations to identify those hampering the growth of business and jobs in New York State. The Office requires regulating agencies to analyze the costs and benefits of any proposed new or amended rule and to consider its effect on job creation and retention, public health, safety and welfare. Recommendations are also made to agencies to help them simplify their regulatory processes. The Office has also played a key role in the innovative SEMI-NY and BUILDNOW-NY programs to facilitate economic development.

### **BUSINESS PERMITS ASSISTANCE**

The Business Permits Assistance program provides comprehensive information about permits required to operate businesses in New York State, in addition to consulting with local governments to better coordinate local permit applications. Program staff also assist agencies in streamlining and simplifying permit procedures required for business and local government undertakings. Since 1994, this program has provided assistance to almost 250,000 individuals or firms interested in starting or growing a business in New

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York. This effort was facilitated by the development in 1995 of a master application form for complex business ventures and a comprehensive permit reform program in 1997 which is expected to generate over \$50 million in one-time savings.

### ALL FUNDS APPROPRIATIONS

Category	Available 1999-00	Appropriations Recommended 2000-01	Change	Reappropriations Recommended 2000-01
State Operations .....	\$2,468,800	\$2,609,300	+\$140,500	....
Aid To Localities .....	....	....	....	....
Capital Projects .....	....	....	....	....
Total .....	<u>\$2,468,800</u>	<u>\$2,609,300</u>	<u>+\$140,500</u>	<u>....</u>

### ALL FUND TYPES LEVELS OF EMPLOYMENT BY PROGRAM ANNUAL SALARIED POSITIONS

Program	Available 1999-00	2000-01 Recommended Average Fill Level		Total Recommended 2000-01	Change
		Personal Service (Regular)	Maintenance Undistributed		
Administration General Fund .....	38	38	....	38	....
Total .....	<u>38</u>	<u>38</u>	<u>....</u>	<u>38</u>	<u>....</u>

### STATE OPERATIONS ALL FUNDS FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS BY FUND TYPE APPROPRIATIONS

Fund Type	Available 1999-00	Recommended 2000-01	Change
General Fund .....	\$2,468,800	\$2,609,300	+\$140,500
Total .....	<u>\$2,468,800</u>	<u>\$2,609,300</u>	<u>+\$140,500</u>

### STATE OPERATIONS ALL FUNDS FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS BY PROGRAM APPROPRIATIONS

Program	Available 1999-00	Recommended 2000-01	Change
Administration General Fund .....	\$2,468,800	\$2,609,300	+\$140,500
Total .....	<u>\$2,468,800</u>	<u>\$2,609,300</u>	<u>+\$140,500</u>

## REGULATORY REFORM

### STATE OPERATIONS — GENERAL AND OFFSET FUNDS SUMMARY OF PERSONAL SERVICE APPROPRIATIONS AND CHANGES 2000-01 RECOMMENDED

Program	Total Personal Service		Personal Service Regular (Annual Salaried)		Holiday/Overtime Pay (Annual Salaried)	
	Amount	Change	Amount	Change	Amount	Change
Administration .....	\$2,091,100	+\$17,000	\$2,086,400	+\$17,000	\$4,700	.....
Total .....	\$2,091,100	+\$17,000	\$2,086,400	+\$17,000	\$4,700	.....

### STATE OPERATIONS — GENERAL FUND SUMMARY OF NONPERSONAL SERVICE AND MAINTENANCE UNDISTRIBUTED APPROPRIATIONS AND CHANGES 2000-01 RECOMMENDED

Program	Total		Supplies and Materials	
	Amount	Change	Amount	Change
Administration .....	\$518,200	+\$123,500	\$49,000	-\$2,500
Total .....	\$518,200	+\$123,500	\$49,000	-\$2,500

Program	Travel		Contractual Services	
	Amount	Change	Amount	Change
Administration .....	\$49,500	-\$2,000	\$255,550	+\$65,000
Total .....	\$49,500	-\$2,000	\$255,550	+\$65,000

Program	Equipment	
	Amount	Change
Administration .....	\$164,150	+\$63,000
Total .....	\$164,150	+\$63,000

