PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT RELATIONS BOARD

MISSION

The Public Employment Relations Board resolves labor disputes between public employers and employees. The Board provides mediation, fact-finding and arbitration in contract disputes for approximately 4,000 negotiating units in New York. In addition, the Board settles questions of union representation, conducts hearings on charges of improper practices, designates Management/Confidential positions, and acts as a clearinghouse for information on wages, benefits and employment practices.

ORGANIZATION AND STAFFING

The Board consists of a full-time Chair and two part-time members nominated by the Governor for six-year terms. The Board's jurisdiction includes State, county, and local governments, certain special service districts, school districts and public authorities. Central offices are in Albany, with additional staff in Buffalo and Brooklyn. The Board will have a workforce of 44 positions for 2001-02.

FISCAL BACKGROUND AND BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS

The Board receives 95 percent of its funding from the General Fund, which supports its mediation, fact-finding, and arbitration services and administrative costs.

The Executive Budget recommends \$3.8 million in General Fund support for the Board, and the Board's remaining expenses of \$203,000 are financed by fees paid by public employers and unions for filings and publications.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

The Board provides three principal services: conciliation, settlement of petitions involving representation, and rulings on charges of improper practices.

CONCILIATION

The Board provided assistance in approximately 372 of the 2,500 State and local contracts negotiated in 1999-2000. The Board has followed many of these cases through the full range of impasse resolution steps: mediation, followed by either fact-finding or arbitration and conciliation.

REPRESENTATION

Through its Office of Public Employment Practices and Representation, the Board reviews all petitions from public employee unions and employers requesting the creation of new negotiating units or the transfer of members between units. It also reviews requests to remove positions from negotiating units and may designate them management or confidential. In 1999-2000, the Board received 115 petitions raising questions about representation and conducted 14 elections for representation.

EMPLOYMENT PRACTICES

The Board conducts hearings and renders decisions on improper practice charges, and received petitions on 865 charges of improper employment and negotiating practices in the previous year. In 1999-2000, the agency wrote over 280 decisions and closed, either by decision or settlement, over 1,027 improper practice cases. Each case must be addressed in a pre-hearing conference attended by the affected parties. If a case cannot be resolved, a Board administrative law judge must rule on the charge after conducting a formal hearing.

ALL FUNDS APPROPRIATIONS (dollars)

Category	Available 2000-01	Appropriations Recommended 2001-02	Change	Reappropriations Recommended 2001-02
State Operations	4,058,000	4,014,000	(44,000)	0
Aid To Localities	0	0	0	0
Capital Projects	0	0_	0	0
Total	4,058,000	4,014,000	(44,000)	0

ALL FUND TYPES PROJECTED LEVELS OF EMPLOYMENT BY PROGRAM FILLED ANNUAL SALARIED POSITIONS

Full-Time Equivalent Positions (FTE)

Program	2000-01 Estimated FTEs 03/31/01	2001-02 Estimated FTEs 03/31/02	FTE Change
Administration			
General Fund	42	42	0
Special Revenue Funds - Other	2	2	0
Total	44	44	0

STATE OPERATIONS ALL FUNDS FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS BY FUND TYPE APPROPRIATIONS (dollars)

Fund Type	Available 2000-01	Recommended 2001-02	Change
General Fund	3,865,500	3,811,000	(54,500)
Special Revenue Funds - Other	192,500	203,000	10,500
Total	4,058,000	4,014,000	(44,000)
Adjustments: Transfer(s) From Special Pay Bill General Fund Appropriated 2000-01	(270.000) 3,788,000		

STATE OPERATIONS ALL FUNDS FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS BY PROGRAM APPROPRIATIONS (dollars)

Program	Available 2000-01	Recommended 2001-02	Change
Administration			
General Fund	3,865,500	3,811,000	(54,500)
Special Revenue Funds - Other	192,500	203,000	10,500
Total	4,058,000	4,014,000	(44,000)

STATE OPERATIONS - GENERAL FUND SUMMARY OF PERSONAL SERVICE APPROPRIATIONS AND CHANGES 2001-02 RECOMMENDED (dollars)

	Total Personal	Service	Personal Service (Annual Sala	
Program	Amount	Change	Amount	Change
Administration	3,309,000	(103,900)	2,992,000	(103,900)
Total	3,309,000	(103,900)	2,992,000	(103,900)
	Temporary Service (Nonannual Salaried)		Holiday/Overtime Pay (Annual Salaried)	
Program	Amount	Change	Amount	Change
Administration	314,000	100	3,000	(100)
Total	314,000	100	3,000	(100)

STATE OPERATIONS - GENERAL FUND SUMMARY OF NONPERSONAL SERVICE AND MAINTENANCE UNDISTRIBUTED APPROPRIATIONS AND CHANGES 2001-02 RECOMMENDED (dollars)

	Total Nonpersona	Supplies and Ma	Supplies and Materials	
Program	<u>Amount</u>	Change	Amount	Change
Administration	502,000	49,400	139,000	8,100
Total	502,000	49,400	139,000	8,100
	Travel		Contractual Se	rvices
Program	<u>Amount</u>	Change	Amount	Change
Administration	103,000	1,500	260,000	39,800
Total	103,000	1,500	260,000	39,800

STATE OPERATIONS - OTHER THAN GENERAL FUND SUMMARY OF APPROPRIATIONS AND CHANGES 2001-02 RECOMMENDED (dollars)

Total		Personal Serv	vice
Amount	Change	Amount	Change
203,000	10,500	55,000	5,000
203,000	10,500	55,000	5,000
Nonpersonal S	ervice		
Amount	Change		
148,000	5,500		
148,000	5,500		
	Amount	Amount Change	Amount Change Amount