

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 4,300 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.

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 \$218,000 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 335 of the 2,400 State and local contracts negotiated in 2000-2001. 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 2000-2001, the Board received 114 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 925 charges of improper employment and negotiating practices in the previous year. In 2000-2001, the agency wrote over 271 decisions and closed, either by

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decision or settlement, over 979 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 2001-02 | Appropriations Recommended 2002-03 | Change | Reappropriations Recommended 2002-03 |
|-------------------|------------------------------|---|---------------|---|
| State Operations | 3,960,900 | 3,995,000 | 34,100 | 0 |
| Aid To Localities | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Capital Projects | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Total | 3,960,900 | 3,995,000 | 34,100 | 0 |

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

Full-Time Equivalent Positions (FTE)

| Program | 2001-02 Estimated FTEs 03/31/02 | 2002-03 Estimated FTEs 03/31/03 | FTE Change |
|-------------------------------|--|--|-------------------|
| Administration | | | |
| General Fund | 42 | 39 | (3) |
| Special Revenue Funds - Other | 2 | 2 | 0 |
| Total | 44 | 41 | (3) |

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

| Fund Type | Available 2001-02 | Recommended 2002-03 | Change |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------|
| General Fund | 3,761,600 | 3,777,000 | 15,400 |
| Special Revenue Funds - Other | 199,300 | 218,000 | 18,700 |
| Total | 3,960,900 | 3,995,000 | 34,100 |

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

| Program | Available 2001-02 | Recommended 2002-03 | Change |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------|
| Administration | | | |
| General Fund | 3,761,600 | 3,777,000 | 15,400 |
| Special Revenue Funds - Other | 199,300 | 218,000 | 18,700 |
| Total | 3,960,900 | 3,995,000 | 34,100 |

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STATE OPERATIONS - GENERAL FUND SUMMARY OF PERSONAL SERVICE APPROPRIATIONS AND CHANGES 2002-03 RECOMMENDED (dollars)

| Program | Total | | Personal Service Regular (Annual Salaried) | |
|----------------|-----------|----------|---|----------|
| | Amount | Change | Amount | Change |
| Administration | 3,286,000 | (23,000) | 2,972,000 | (20,000) |
| Total | 3,286,000 | (23,000) | 2,972,000 | (20,000) |

| Program | Temporary Service (Nonannual Salaried) | | Holiday/Overtime Pay (Annual Salaried) | |
|----------------|---|--------|---|---------|
| | Amount | Change | Amount | Change |
| Administration | 314,000 | 0 | 0 | (3,000) |
| Total | 314,000 | 0 | 0 | (3,000) |

STATE OPERATIONS - GENERAL FUND SUMMARY OF NONPERSONAL SERVICE AND MAINTENANCE UNDISTRIBUTED APPROPRIATIONS AND CHANGES 2002-03 RECOMMENDED (dollars)

| Program | Total | | Supplies and Materials | |
|----------------|---------|--------|------------------------|--------|
| | Amount | Change | Amount | Change |
| Administration | 491,000 | 38,400 | 60,000 | 0 |
| Total | 491,000 | 38,400 | 60,000 | 0 |

| Program | Travel | | Contractual Services | |
|----------------|--------|---------|----------------------|--------|
| | Amount | Change | Amount | Change |
| Administration | 49,000 | (1,000) | 382,000 | 39,400 |
| Total | 49,000 | (1,000) | 382,000 | 39,400 |

STATE OPERATIONS - OTHER THAN GENERAL FUND SUMMARY OF APPROPRIATIONS AND CHANGES 2002-03 RECOMMENDED (dollars)

| Program | Total | | Personal Service | |
|----------------|---------|--------|------------------|----------|
| | Amount | Change | Amount | Change |
| Administration | 218,000 | 18,700 | 0 | (55,000) |
| Total | 218,000 | 18,700 | 0 | (55,000) |

| Program | Nonpersonal Service | | Maintenance Undistributed | |
|----------------|---------------------|-----------|---------------------------|---------|
| | Amount | Change | Amount | Change |
| Administration | 0 | (144,300) | 218,000 | 218,000 |
| Total | 0 | (144,300) | 218,000 | 218,000 |