

TEMPORARY STATE COMMISSION ON LOBBYING

MISSION

The Temporary State Commission on Lobbying is responsible for monitoring, maintaining and making public the identities, activities, and expenditures of lobbyists, clients and public corporations attempting to influence the legislative, regulatory and rule- and rate-making actions of elected State officials and agency decision makers. The Commission is also authorized to hold hearings and impose civil penalties. An additional responsibility of the Commission is to collect, maintain, and make public the records of appearances before regulatory State agencies.

In 1999, the Lobbying Act underwent its first major revision in over 20 years, resulting in an expanded role for the Commission in the following areas: increased reporting requirements and schedules; expansion of the Commission's jurisdiction over lobbying at the local government level; strengthened enforcement powers; and establishment of new and/or increased fees.

ORGANIZATION AND STAFFING

The Lobbying Act sets forth the administrative and enforcement responsibilities of the Commission. Under the guidance of a six-member bipartisan board appointed by the Governor, with advice from the legislative leaders, these responsibilities are carried out by a workforce of 16.

FISCAL BACKGROUND AND BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS

The Commission receives 79 percent of its support from State tax dollars from the General Fund. The remaining 21 percent of its operations is funded by civil penalty fines assessed on lobbyists for violations of the Lobbying Law.

The Executive Budget recommends \$1.1 million in General Fund support for the Commission which will allow the Commission to pursue its enhanced level of oversight and enforcement activity.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

In 2000, the Commission's oversight responsibilities included 2,580 registered lobbyists, 1,435 clients of lobbyists, and 49 public corporations which reported lobbying expenses. The Commission's monitoring responsibilities encompassed both registered and unregistered special interest groups. These groups were active on over 19,781 bills before the Legislature and 1,692 rules, regulations and rate applications involving State agencies.

In 2002-03, the Commission will undertake an Electronic Filing Pilot Program. This undertaking should simplify reporting for the majority of filers and contribute toward more rapid disclosure of lobbying activities to the public while reducing labor-intensive tasks of Commission staff members.

LOBBYING

ALL FUNDS APPROPRIATIONS (dollars)

Category	Available 2001-02	Appropriations Recommended 2002-03	Change	Reappropriations Recommended 2002-03
State Operations	1,230,000	1,430,000	200,000	0
Aid To Localities	0	0	0	0
Capital Projects	0	0	0	0
Total	1,230,000	1,430,000	200,000	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
Operations			
General Fund	16	16	0
Total	16	16	0

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

Fund Type	Available 2001-02	Recommended 2002-03	Change
General Fund	1,130,000	1,130,000	0
Special Revenue Funds - Other	100,000	300,000	200,000
Total	1,230,000	1,430,000	200,000

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

Program	Available 2001-02	Recommended 2002-03	Change
Operations			
General Fund	1,130,000	1,130,000	0
Special Revenue Funds - Other	100,000	300,000	200,000
Total	1,230,000	1,430,000	200,000

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
Operations	987,000	0	987,000	0
Total	987,000	0	987,000	0

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

Program	Total		Contractual Services	
	Amount	Change	Amount	Change
Operations	143,000	0	143,000	0
Total	143,000	0	143,000	0

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

Program	Total		Maintenance Undistributed	
	Amount	Change	Amount	Change
Operations	300,000	200,000	300,000	200,000
Total	300,000	200,000	300,000	200,000