

GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF REGULATORY REFORM

MISSION

The Governor's Office of Regulatory Reform was created 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 permit approvals for new and expanding businesses, and encouraging better understanding between regulators and affected parties. Since 1995, the Office has substantively reviewed and/or eliminated more than 2,200 rules which, together with other regulatory, statutory and permitting reforms, has saved State businesses and localities more than \$3 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 36 positions for 2003-04.

FISCAL BACKGROUND AND BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS

The Office's operations are supported by State tax dollars from the General Fund. The Executive Budget recommends \$3.1 million in support for the Office. Recommended funding also supports the continued development of the Online Permit and Licensing System (OPAL) that allows businesses to apply for permits and licenses in one consolidated transaction and improve New York's business climate.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

REGULATORY REVIEW

The Office reviews the need for proposed new and revised regulations and their economic impact. Staff will continue efforts begun in 1995 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, and consults 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 1995, this program has provided assistance to almost 400,000 individuals or firms interested in starting or growing a business in New York. This effort was facilitated by the development of a master application form for complex business ventures, a comprehensive permit reform program and development of a web site, www.nys-permits.org, which provides businesses with permit information.

REGULATORY REFORM

ALL FUNDS APPROPRIATIONS (dollars)

Category	Available 2002-03	Appropriations Recommended 2003-04	Change	Reappropriations Recommended 2003-04
State Operations	3,702,000	3,115,000	(587,000)	0
Aid To Localities	0	0	0	0
Capital Projects	0	0	0	0
Total	3,702,000	3,115,000	(587,000)	0

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

Full-Time Equivalent Positions (FTE)

Program	2002-03 Estimated FTEs 03/31/03	2003-04 Estimated FTEs 03/31/04	FTE Change
Administration			
General Fund	37	36	(1)
Total	37	36	(1)

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

Fund Type	Available 2002-03	Recommended 2003-04	Change
General Fund	3,702,000	3,115,000	(587,000)
Total	3,702,000	3,115,000	(587,000)

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

Program	Available 2002-03	Recommended 2003-04	Change
Administration			
General Fund	3,702,000	3,115,000	(587,000)
Total	3,702,000	3,115,000	(587,000)

STATE OPERATIONS - GENERAL FUND SUMMARY OF PERSONAL SERVICE APPROPRIATIONS AND CHANGES 2003-04 RECOMMENDED (dollars)

Program	Total		Personal Service Regular (Annual Salaried)	
	Amount	Change	Amount	Change
Administration	2,353,000	(337,000)	2,348,000	(337,000)
Total	2,353,000	(337,000)	2,348,000	(337,000)

Program	Holiday/Overtime Pay (Annual Salaried)	
	Amount	Change
Administration	5,000	0
Total	5,000	0

REGULATORY REFORM

STATE OPERATIONS - GENERAL FUND
SUMMARY OF NONPERSONAL SERVICE AND MAINTENANCE UNDISTRIBUTED
APPROPRIATIONS AND CHANGES
2003-04 RECOMMENDED
(dollars)

Program	Total		Supplies and Materials	
	Amount	Change	Amount	Change
Administration	762,000	(250,000)	53,000	0
Total	762,000	(250,000)	53,000	0

Program	Travel		Contractual Services	
	Amount	Change	Amount	Change
Administration	52,000	0	470,000	(250,000)
Total	52,000	0	470,000	(250,000)

Program	Equipment	
	Amount	Change
Administration	187,000	0
Total	187,000	0