

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 fulfills this responsibility by reviewing and streamlining regulations, expediting permit approvals for new and expanding businesses, and facilitating communication between regulators and affected parties. Since 1995, the Office has substantively reviewed and/or eliminated more than 3,000 rules which, together with other regulatory, statutory and permitting reforms, have saved State businesses and localities more than \$3 billion in operating and other expenses. In 2006, an estimated 40,000 applications for new and expanding businesses were submitted online through the Online Permit and Licensing System (OPAL).

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 2007-08.

FISCAL BACKGROUND AND BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS

The Executive Budget recommends \$3.8 million in State tax dollars to support the Office. Recommended funding will support maintenance, development, and enhancements for the Online Permit and Licensing (OPAL) system, which allows businesses to apply for permits and licenses in one consolidated transaction.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

REGULATORY REVIEW

The Office reviews the need for proposed new and revised regulations and their economic impact. 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.

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. This program has provided assistance to over 650,000 individuals

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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.

ALL FUNDS APPROPRIATIONS (dollars)

Category	Available 2006-07	Appropriations Recommended 2007-08	Change	Reappropriations Recommended 2007-08
State Operations	3,744,000	3,751,000	7,000	0
Aid To Localities	0	0	0	0
Capital Projects	0	0	0	0
Total	3,744,000	3,751,000	7,000	0

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

Full-Time Equivalent Positions (FTE)

Program	2006-07 Estimated FTEs 03/31/07	2007-08 Estimated FTEs 03/31/08	FTE Change
Administration			
General Fund	36	36	0
Total	36	36	0

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

Fund Type	Available 2006-07	Recommended 2007-08	Change
General Fund	3,744,000	3,751,000	7,000
Total	3,744,000	3,751,000	7,000

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

Program	Available 2006-07	Recommended 2007-08	Change
Administration			
General Fund	3,744,000	3,751,000	7,000
Total	3,744,000	3,751,000	7,000

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**STATE OPERATIONS - GENERAL FUND
SUMMARY OF PERSONAL SERVICE APPROPRIATIONS AND CHANGES
2007-08 RECOMMENDED
(dollars)**

Program	Total		Personal Service Regular (Annual Salaried)	
	Amount	Change	Amount	Change
Administration	2,899,000	53,000	2,894,000	53,000
Total	<u>2,899,000</u>	<u>53,000</u>	<u>2,894,000</u>	<u>53,000</u>

Program	Temporary Service (Nonannual Salaried)	
	Amount	Change
Administration	5,000	0
Total	<u>5,000</u>	<u>0</u>

**STATE OPERATIONS - GENERAL FUND
SUMMARY OF NONPERSONAL SERVICE AND MAINTENANCE UNDISTRIBUTED
APPROPRIATIONS AND CHANGES
2007-08 RECOMMENDED
(dollars)**

Program	Total		Supplies and Materials	
	Amount	Change	Amount	Change
Administration	852,000	(46,000)	20,000	(30,000)
Total	<u>852,000</u>	<u>(46,000)</u>	<u>20,000</u>	<u>(30,000)</u>

Program	Travel		Contractual Services	
	Amount	Change	Amount	Change
Administration	7,000	0	800,000	100,000
Total	<u>7,000</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>800,000</u>	<u>100,000</u>

Program	Equipment	
	Amount	Change
Administration	25,000	(116,000)
Total	<u>25,000</u>	<u>(116,000)</u>