

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 4,750 negotiating units in New York State. 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 88 percent of its funding from the General Fund, which supports its mediation, fact-finding and arbitration services and administrative costs.

The Executive Budget recommends \$3.7 million in General Fund support for the Board, and the Board's remaining expenses of \$482,000 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 385 of the 2,382 State and local contracts negotiated in 2004-2005. 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 2004-2005, the Board received 125 petitions raising questions about representation and conducted 6 elections for representation.

EMPLOYMENT PRACTICES

The Board conducts hearings and renders decisions on improper practice charges, and received petitions on 850 charges of improper employment and negotiating practices in the previous year. In 2004-2005, the agency wrote over 126 decisions and closed, either by

PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT RELATIONS

decision or settlement, over 820 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 2005-06	Appropriations Recommended 2006-07	Change	Reappropriations Recommended 2006-07
State Operations	3,951,000	4,147,000	196,000	0
Aid To Localities	0	0	0	0
Capital Projects	0	0	0	0
Total	3,951,000	4,147,000	196,000	0

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

Full-Time Equivalent Positions (FTE)

Program	2005-06 Estimated FTEs 03/31/06	2006-07 Estimated FTEs 03/31/07	FTE Change
Administration			
General Fund	37	37	0
Total	37	37	0

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

Fund Type	Available 2005-06	Recommended 2006-07	Change
General Fund	3,694,000	3,665,000	(29,000)
Special Revenue Funds - Other	257,000	482,000	225,000
Total	3,951,000	4,147,000	196,000

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

Program	Available 2005-06	Recommended 2006-07	Change
Administration			
General Fund	3,694,000	3,665,000	(29,000)
Special Revenue Funds - Other	257,000	482,000	225,000
Total	3,951,000	4,147,000	196,000

PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT RELATIONS

STATE OPERATIONS - GENERAL FUND SUMMARY OF PERSONAL SERVICE APPROPRIATIONS AND CHANGES 2006-07 RECOMMENDED (dollars)

Program	Total		Personal Service Regular (Annual Salaried)	
	Amount	Change	Amount	Change
Administration	3,183,000	(48,000)	2,876,000	(24,000)
Total	3,183,000	(48,000)	2,876,000	(24,000)

Program	Temporary Service (Nonannual Salaried)	
	Amount	Change
Administration	307,000	(24,000)
Total	307,000	(24,000)

STATE OPERATIONS - GENERAL FUND SUMMARY OF NONPERSONAL SERVICE AND MAINTENANCE UNDISTRIBUTED APPROPRIATIONS AND CHANGES 2006-07 RECOMMENDED (dollars)

Program	Total		Supplies and Materials	
	Amount	Change	Amount	Change
Administration	482,000	19,000	83,000	9,000
Total	482,000	19,000	83,000	9,000

Program	Travel		Contractual Services	
	Amount	Change	Amount	Change
Administration	72,000	0	318,000	10,000
Total	72,000	0	318,000	10,000

Program	Equipment	
	Amount	Change
Administration	9,000	0
Total	9,000	0

STATE OPERATIONS - OTHER THAN GENERAL FUND SUMMARY OF APPROPRIATIONS AND CHANGES 2006-07 RECOMMENDED (dollars)

Program	Total		Personal Service	
	Amount	Change	Amount	Change
Administration	482,000	225,000	140,000	0
Total	482,000	225,000	140,000	0

Program	Nonpersonal Service	
	Amount	Change
Administration	342,000	225,000
Total	342,000	225,000