

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 2,900 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 2005, an estimated 26,000 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 2006-07.

FISCAL BACKGROUND AND BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS

The Executive Budget recommends nearly \$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 and improves 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 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, BUILDNOW-NY, and REBUILDNOW-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 over 600,000 individuals or firms interested in starting or growing a business in New York. This effort

REGULATORY REFORM

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 2005-06	Appropriations Recommended 2006-07	Change	Reappropriations Recommended 2006-07
State Operations	3,554,000	3,744,000	190,000	0
Aid To Localities	0	0	0	0
Capital Projects	0	0	0	0
Total	3,554,000	3,744,000	190,000	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	36	36	0
Total	36	36	0

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

Fund Type	Available 2005-06	Recommended 2006-07	Change
General Fund	3,554,000	3,744,000	190,000
Total	3,554,000	3,744,000	190,000

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

Program	Available 2005-06	Recommended 2006-07	Change
Administration			
General Fund	3,554,000	3,744,000	190,000
Total	3,554,000	3,744,000	190,000

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	2,846,000	172,000	2,841,000	172,000
Total	2,846,000	172,000	2,841,000	172,000

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
2006-07 RECOMMENDED
(dollars)

Program	Total		Supplies and Materials	
	Amount	Change	Amount	Change
Administration	898,000	18,000	50,000	0
Total	898,000	18,000	50,000	0

Program	Travel		Contractual Services	
	Amount	Change	Amount	Change
Administration	7,000	0	700,000	0
Total	7,000	0	700,000	0

Program	Equipment	
	Amount	Change
Administration	141,000	18,000
Total	141,000	18,000