

Rhode Island Ethics Commission

FY 2019 Revised
FY 2020 Recommended
Staff Presentation
March 19, 2019

Background

- Prescription and publication of rules and regulations associated with state Code of Ethics
- Jurisdiction over three branches of state government and municipal and local government bodies
- Maintains all required filings made by elected and appointed officials
 - Including Financial Disclosure Statements

Summary by Category

General Revenue	Salaries/ Benefits	Contract. Services	Operations	Total
FY 2019 Enacted	\$1,532,767	\$57,001	\$222,469	\$1,812,237
FY 2019 Gov. Rev.	1,471,281	47,275	229,483	1,748,039
Change to Enacted	(61,486)	(9,726)	7,014	(64,198)
FY 2020 Gov. Rec.	\$1,572,002	\$47,275	\$226,021	\$1,845,298
Change to Enacted	\$39,235	(\$9,726)	\$3,552	\$33,061

Target Issues

- Budget Office provided a general revenue target of \$1.8 million
 - Current service adjustments of \$61,403
 - 5.0% target reduction of \$0.1 million
 - Excludes rental costs
- Constrained request is \$6,325 less than the target
 - Achieved through staff reductions
 - Governor recommends \$57,929 more than target

Centralized Services

- 2017 Assembly authorized establishment of internal service funds for centralized services
 - Information technology, capital asset management & maintenance, & human resources
- Costs previously budgeted in DOA
 - 2018 Assembly included costs in user agency budgets
 - Final FY 2018 & FY 2019 budget

Centralized Services

General Revenues	FY 2019 Enacted	FY 2019 Revised	Chg. to Enacted	FY 2020	Chg. to Enacted
IT	\$45,756	\$45,247	(\$509)	\$42,920	(\$2,836)

Statewide Savings Initiatives

- Governor distributes statewide general revenue savings enacted for FY 2019 in the Department of Administration
 - Prompt Payment - \$0.4 million
 - Vendors voluntarily offer a discount if payments are received within an agreed upon date
 - Contracts - \$3.0 million
 - Effort to reduce costs of certain commodities
 - Food, maintenance, office equipment, telecommunications
 - Insurance - \$0.5 million
 - Reductions in policies for property & crime

Statewide Savings Initiatives

Initiative	FY 2019 Revised	FY 2020
Prompt Payment	\$ (240)	\$ (240)
Contract	(4,254)	(4,389)
Insurance	(83)	(83)
Total	(\$4,577)	(\$4,712)

- Contract savings based on all operating costs
 - Includes rent and centralized services

Staffing

Full-Time Equivalent Positions

Full-Time Positions	FTEs	Chg. To Enacted
Enacted Authorized	12.0	-
FY 2019 Gov. Rev.	12.0	-
FY 2020 Request	12.0	-
FY 2020 Governor	12.0	-
FY 2020 Funded FTE	12.0	-
Filled as of March 16	12.0	-
FY 2018 Average Filled	11.5	(0.5)

Staffing

FY 2020 Governor Recommendation		
	Ethics	Statewide
Gross Salaries (in millions)	\$1.0	\$1,249.1
Turnover (in millions)	-	(42.9)
Turnover %	0.0%	3.4%
Turnover FTE	-	529.0
FY 2020 FTE recommended	12.0	15,413.1
Funded FTE	12.0	14,884.1
Filled as of March 16	12.0	14,123.6
Funded but not filled	-	760.5

Staffing

- FY 2019 Revised
 - \$61,486 less than enacted
 - Statewide benefit savings
 - Turnover
 - Other adjustments
- FY 2020 Recommended
 - \$ 1,572,002
 - \$39,235 more than enacted
 - Includes
 - Current service adjustments
 - Statewide benefit savings

Operations

- FY 2019 and FY 2020: \$0.2 million
 - Increased rental costs based share of property taxes in FY 2018

	Enacted	FY 2019	FY 2020	Change to Enacted
Rent	\$102,500	\$107,000	\$107,000	\$4,500
Contracted Services	57,001	47,275	47,275	(9,726)
Other	74,213	77,236	76,101	1,888
Total	\$233,714	\$231,511	\$230,376	(\$3,338)

Expenditure History

Total	FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017	FY 2018
Initial Request	\$1,590,919	\$1,548,122	\$1,680,779	\$1,672,836
Enacted	1,581,205	1,664,876	1,653,383	1,665,873
Revised Request	1,623,695	1,644,842	1,638,851	1,694,215
Final	1,618,883	1,611,119	1,631,610	1,707,819
Actual	\$1,579,038	\$1,546,331	\$1,604,235	\$1,637,930
Difference	\$(39,845)	\$(64,788)	\$(27,375)	\$(69,889)

Online Disclosure Filings

- Online financial disclosure filings began in 2012
 - Implemented for cost savings and greater efficiency

(Filings for prior year)	CY 2015	CY 2016	CY 2017	CY 2018
Online Filings	2,752	3,356	3,270	3,642
Total Filings	3,663	4,233	3,973	4,298
% Filed Online	75.1%	79.3%	82.3%	84.7%

Access to Public Records

- Public may request access to records
 - Financial statements, recusal forms, advisory opinions, request letters, and complaints

FY 2018 Timeliness	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Total
Requests	31	47	41	69	188
Responses within 24 hrs	30	46	38	66	180
% Responses within 24hrs	96.0%	97.0%	92.0%	95.0%	95.0%

Annual Reporting Requirements

- Commission is required to prepare & publish an annual report by April 1
 - Report summarizes activities, including:
 - Number of disclosure statements filed
 - Subjects of advisory opinions requested & issued
 - Number of complaints filed, investigated or adjudicated
 - Currently being published

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