

LSC Greenbook

Analysis of the Enacted Budget

State Employment Relations Board

Tom Wert, Budget Analyst
Legislative Service Commission

August 2015

TABLE OF CONTENTS

OVERVIEW 1
Agency Overview 1
Appropriation Overview 1
ANALYSIS OF ENACTED BUDGET 2
Operating Expenses (125321) 2
 SERB Operations 2
 SPBR Operations 2
Training and Publications (125603) 2

ATTACHMENT:

Budget Spreadsheet By Line Item

State Employment Relations Board

- Funding of approximately \$3.8 million in both FY 2016 and FY 2017
- Oversees more than 3,100 public employment contracts
- Assists 225 municipal service commissions

OVERVIEW

Agency Overview

The State Employment Relations Board (SERB) acts as a neutral party in carrying out Ohio's collective bargaining laws as they pertain to public employers and employees. Its responsibilities include overseeing representation elections, certifying exclusive bargaining representatives, monitoring and enforcing statutory dispute resolution procedures, mediating collective bargaining negotiations, adjudicating unfair labor practice charges, determining unauthorized strike claims, and providing information and training to parties in contract negotiations. The State Personnel Board of Review (SPBR) also operates within the administrative structure of SERB. SPBR is an appeals body that hears cases filed by classified exempt employees at the state and local levels but whose jurisdiction extends to other specific civil service matters. Although both agencies operate under the same administrative structure, SERB and SPBR retain their own boards. Each board has three appointed members. As of July 2015, the boards employed 21 full-time permanent employees and five others on a part-time basis, in addition to the six members who are appointed to a fixed term. Both boards are supported almost entirely by GRF funding.

Appropriation Overview

As the table below indicates, both boards are funded almost entirely (about 98.0%) by the GRF. The remainder of funding comes from conference registration fees and the sale of data collected by the boards that are deposited into the Training and Publications Fund (Fund 5720).

Appropriations by Fund Group, FY 2016-FY 2017					
Fund Group	FY 2015*	FY 2016	% change, FY 2015-FY 2016	FY 2017	% change, FY 2016-FY 2017
General Revenue	\$3,326,257	\$3,761,457	13.1%	\$3,761,457	0.0%
Dedicated Purpose	\$53,827	\$75,000	39.3%	\$75,000	0.0%
TOTAL	\$3,380,085	\$3,836,457	13.5%	\$3,836,457	0.0%

*FY 2015 figures represent actual expenditures.

ANALYSIS OF ENACTED BUDGET

Appropriations for SERB and SPBR				
Fund	ALI and Name		FY 2016	FY 2017
General Revenue Fund				
GRF	125321	Operating Expenses	\$3,761,457	\$3,761,457
General Revenue Fund Subtotal			\$3,761,457	\$3,761,457
Dedicated Purpose Fund Group				
5720	125603	Training and Publications	\$75,000	\$75,000
Dedicated Purpose Fund Group Subtotal			\$75,000	\$75,000
Total Funding: SERB and SPBR			\$3,836,457	\$3,836,457

Operating Expenses (125321)

This line item covers the combined operating expenses of SERB and SPBR. The appropriation is \$3.8 million in both years of the FY 2016-FY 2017 biennium. Below is a brief overview of the functions discharged by both SERB and SPBR.

SERB Operations

SERB is involved at every stage of the labor management relationship, administering the Ohio Public Employees' Collective Bargaining Act by mediating contract negotiations, investigating allegations of unfair labor practices, and resolving representation issues. The agency oversees 3,167 contracts covering 294,909 bargaining unit employees in the state of Ohio. Cases filed with SERB cover all areas of labor management in the public sector, including mediation, strike determinations, representation, unfair labor practices, and so forth.

SPBR Operations

SPBR hears appeals pertaining to suspensions, removals, fines, separations, reclassifications, abolishments, layoffs, and job classification status at the state and local government level. SPBR generally hears appeals from state, state university, county, and general health district employees whose positions are not covered by a collective bargaining agreement. Additionally, SPBR has jurisdiction over whistleblower cases, whether in the classified or unclassified civil service, as well as certain Occupational Safety and Health Administration matters. Another of SPBR's major responsibilities is to assist the 225 municipal civil service commissions and personnel boards in dealing with such personnel matters.

Training and Publications (125603)

The amount appropriated for this line item is \$75,000 in both FY 2016 and FY 2017. This line item is used to pay for research and training programs among the two boards. These activities are supported by the sale of various types of employee data

collected by SERB, receipts from training seminars, and other sources of revenue deposited into the Training and Publications Fund (Fund 5720). Receipts from these sources totaled \$74,573 in FY 2015.

SERB's data collection and training functions are mandated by statute. The goal is to provide both employers and employee organizations with the ability to assess labor-management conflicts and resolve problems before they escalate into serious labor disputes. SERB organizes several informational conferences each year to train employers and unions on using SERB services and to provide training for impartial fact finders. Admission fees for these conferences generally range from \$150 to \$275. In addition, SPBR produces a manual on civil service law and procedures for municipal civil service commissions.

ERB.docx/dp

FY 2016 - FY 2017 Final Appropriation Amounts

All Fund Groups

Line Item Detail by Agency

			FY 2014	FY 2015	Appropriation FY 2016	FY 2015 to FY 2016 % Change	Appropriation FY 2017	FY 2016 to FY 2017 % Change
Report For Main Operating Appropriations Bill			Version: As Enacted					
ERB State Employment Relations Board								
GRF	125321	Operating Expenses	\$ 3,394,842	\$ 3,326,257	\$ 3,761,457	13.08%	\$ 3,761,457	0.00%
General Revenue Fund Total			\$ 3,394,842	\$ 3,326,257	\$ 3,761,457	13.08%	\$ 3,761,457	0.00%
5720	125603	Training and Publications	\$ 29,020	\$ 53,827	\$ 75,000	39.33%	\$ 75,000	0.00%
Dedicated Purpose Fund Group Total			\$ 29,020	\$ 53,827	\$ 75,000	39.33%	\$ 75,000	0.00%
State Employment Relations Board Total			\$ 3,423,862	\$ 3,380,085	\$ 3,836,457	13.50%	\$ 3,836,457	0.00%