

Agency 03 - Legislative Council

Statutory Authority:

Article II, Section 1, Article III, Sections 1-29 of the Constitution of the State of Nebraska.

Vision Statement:

Mission Statement:

The mission of the Nebraska Unicameral Legislature is to establish public policy by enacting legislation and to provide personnel, services and other resources necessary for conducting Legislative business according to the provisions of the Constitution and Statutes of the State of Nebraska.

Goals:

To provide the personnel, services, equipment, travel and other resources necessary for the conduct of the Legislature according to the provisions of the Constitution and Statutes of the State of Nebraska.

Financial Data:

	Actual FY04	Approp FY05	Request FY06	Recom FY06	Request FY07	Recom FY07
General Fund	13,687,621	14,230,041	17,272,717	14,648,464	17,663,282	15,100,679
Cash Fund	123,457	118,454	649,205	218,454	349,205	218,464
Federal Fund	0	39,270	39,270	39,270	39,270	39,270
Revolving Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Agency	13,811,078	14,387,765	17,961,192	14,906,188	18,051,757	15,358,403

Agency 03 - Legislative Council Program 001 - Legislators' Salaries

Program Objectives:

Provides funds to pay Legislators' salaries as authorized by Article III, Section 7, Constitution of Nebraska.

Financial Data:

	<u>Actual FY04</u>	<u>Approp FY05</u>	<u>Request FY06</u>	<u>Recom FY06</u>	<u>Request FY07</u>	<u>Recom FY07</u>
General Fund	629,628	632,982	632,982	632,982	632,982	632,982
Cash Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Federal Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Revolving Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	629,628	632,982	632,982	632,982	632,982	632,982

Performance Measures:

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Program 085 - Legislative Council Operations

Program Objectives:

- 1) Provides the Department of Administrative Services the ability to monitor the appropriations and expenditures for this program for FY 2005-06 and FY 2006-07 according to the following program classification: No. 122-Legislative Services; No. 123-Clerk of the Legislature; No. 126-Legislative Research Division; No. 127-Revisor of Statutes; No. 501-Intergovernmental Cooperation; No. 504-Office of Public Counsel; No. 638-Fiscal and Program Analysis Office.
- 2) Provides the Executive Board of the Legislative Council the authority to transfer appropriations and salary limits among the above-listed program classifications.

Financial Data:

	Actual FY04	Approp FY05	Request FY06	Recom FY06	Request FY07	Recom FY07
General Fund	0	0	0	14,015,482	0	14,467,697
Cash Fund	0	0	0	218,454	0	218,454
Federal Fund	0	0	0	39,270	0	39,270
Revolving Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	0	0	0	14,273,206	0	14,725,421

Performance Measures:

Governor's Recommendation Includes:

The Governor's recommendation includes funding within Program 85 for Programs 122, 123, 126, 127, 501, 504, and 638.

Agency 03 - Legislative Council Program 122 - Legislative Services

Program Objectives:

- 1) Provide staff assistance to the Executive Board that will allow for efficient administration of the agency.
- 2) Supply personal Legislative staff in accordance with the Executive Board policy
- 3) Provide for the physical relocation and start-up of Legislators' offices
- 4) Maintain and upgrade agency equipment
- 5) Pay sessional expenses to Senators
- 6) Retirement Systems Committee actuarial consulting
- 7) Accounting services rendered for legislative expense verification
- 8) Miscellaneous contractual services
- 9) Provide computerized access to legislative documents

Financial Data:

	Actual FY04	Approp FY05	Request FY06	Recom FY06	Request FY07	Recom FY07
General Fund	6,263,702	6,472,874	7,508,208	0	8,017,169	0
Cash Fund	108,689	70,000	490,000	0	190,000	0
Federal Fund	0	39,270	39,270	0	39,270	0
Revolving Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	6,372,391	6,582,144	8,037,478	0	8,246,439	0

Performance Measures:

Governor's Recommendation Includes:

The Governor's recommendation for Program 122 is included in Program 85.

Agency 03 - Legislative Council Program 123 - Clerk Of The Legislature

Program Objectives:

Subprogram 123-01 provides primary support for the year-round operation of the Legislature's chief administrative officer including funding for the preparation and compilation of legislative documents.

Subprogram 123-03 provides a large share of the administrative support for each regular session for the Legislature and Special Sessions as necessary.

Subprogram 123-04 is responsible for the registration of lobbyists and compilation of quarterly reports and expenditures by lobbyists and principal.

Subprogram 123-05 distributes information on the history of the Unicameral, the Legislative activity and lawmaking process to the public.

Subprogram 123-07 funds the Legislative Technology Center that exists to support senators and legislative personnel on issues relating to information technology.

Financial Data:

	Actual FY04	Approp FY05	Request FY06	Recom FY06	Request FY07	Recom FY07
General Fund	2,669,680	2,806,282	4,075,321	0	3,994,726	0
Cash Fund	14,768	48,454	59,205	0	59,205	0
Federal Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Revolving Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	2,584,348	2,854,736	4,134,526	0	4,053,931	0

Performance Measures:

Governor's Recommendation Includes:

The Governor's recommendation for Program 123 is included in Program 85.

Agency 03 - Legislative Council Program 126 - Legislative Research Division

Program Objectives:

The objectives of program 126-11 are:

- 1) to provide public policy and legal research to the members of the Legislature and legislative staff in support of the Legislature's policy-making role;
 - 2) to do program evaluations in conjunction with the work of the Legislative Program Evaluation Committee; and,
 - 3) to provide administrative support, including editing and desktop publishing, for the foregoing two functions.
- Based on performance measures, the primary goals of the Research Division are to maintain or increase usage by senatorial offices and equality to the distribution of usage of the office among all senators. The objective of Program 126-12 is to provide a full range of library services in the area of public policy in support of the activities of the Nebraska Legislature.

Financial Data:

	Actual FY04	Approp FY05	Request FY06	Recom FY06	Request FY07	Recom FY07
General Fund	942,365	910,814	1,187,167	0	1,181,038	0
Cash Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Federal Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Revolving Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	942,365	910,814	1,187,167	0	1,181,038	0

Performance Measures:

For program 126-11, the number of research requests received and completed by the office in FY 2002-03 and FY 2003-04 were 576 and 481 respectively.

During FY 2003-04, requests for research were received from 46 out of 49 senatorial offices (94 percent) and five of the divisions of the Legislative Council. Of the total number of requests received during the fiscal year, requests from senators accounted for 66 percent while requests from the divisions of the Legislative Council and "other sources" (primarily NCSL, the Council of State Governments and other states) accounted for 3 percent and 31 percent respectively. The 10 senatorial offices with the highest usage (20 percent of the total number of senators) accounted for 35 percent of the total requests for research received.

The performance measures for program 126-12 during FY 2002-04 are as follows:

- 1) Library services were provided to 47 senators' offices (96 percent of the total number of senators' offices) and all divisions of the Legislative Council.
- 2) The total number of requests for information/material averaged 710.5 per year.
- 3) Senators and their staffs accounted for 63 percent of library usage while divisions and "other" users accounted for 22 percent and 15 percent, respectively.
- 4) The top 10 senatorial users of library services (20 percent of senators) accounted for 53 percent of library usage by senators.
- 5) Eighty-one (81) individuals received regular routings of material (periodicals) from the library collection.
- 6) Of the 134 periodicals subscribed to or received free by the Library, 115 (86 percent) were routinely routed to Library patrons.

Governor's Recommendation Includes:

The Governor's recommendation for Program 126 is included in Program 85.

Agency 03 - Legislative Council Program 127 - Revisor Of Statutes

Program Objectives:

The Revisor of Statutes and Bill Drafting Division of the Legislative Council performs two primary functions:

- 1) Responsible for preparing and publishing supplements and reissued and replacement volumes to the statutes as directed by the Legislature. Pursuant to Chapter 49, article 7, and section 50-402, a contract is negotiated to edit, print, bind, and publish supplements and reissued volumes to the statutes.
- 2) Aids and assists members of the Legislature and the executive departments of the state in the preparation of bills, amendments, resolutions, and other related measures. As provided by section 50-402 and the Rules of the Nebraska Unicameral, all bills and major amendments are to be approved as to form and draftsmanship by this division prior to introduction.

Financial Data:

	Actual FY04	Approp FY05	Request FY06	Recom FY06	Request FY07	Recom FY07
General Fund	1,211,921	1,236,988	1,459,670	0	1,389,822	0
Cash Fund	0	0	100,000	0	100,000	0
Federal Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Revolving Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	1,211,921	1,236,988	1,559,670	0	1,489,822	0

Performance Measures:

- 1) Inputs - staff and computer resources
- 2) Outputs - Provide an updated set of statutes and provide bill requests, amendments, and resolutions in a timely manner
- 3) Efficiency
- 4) Outcomes
- 5) Quality

Governor's Recommendation Includes:

The Governor's recommendation for Program 127 is included in Program 85.

Agency 03 - Legislative Council Program 501 - Intergovernmental Cooperation

Program Objectives:

- 1) The adoption of uniform or reciprocal statutes, administrative rules and regulations, and informal cooperation of governmental offices is encouraged.
- 2) To better facilitate the utilization of staff resources and to encourage as well as to promote the development of expertise among various staff positions by funding staff members attendance at and participation in meetings, conferences, committee hearings, etc., on behalf of their senator/committee.

Financial Data:

	Actual FY04	Approp FY05	Request FY06	Recom FY06	Request FY07	Recom FY07
General Fund	289,624	323,530	467,315	0	500,887	0
Cash Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Federal Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Revolving Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	289,624	323,530	467,315	0	500,887	0

Performance Measures:

Governor's Recommendation Includes:

The Governor's recommendation for Program 501 is included in Program 85.

Agency 03 - Legislative Council Program 504 - Office Of Public Counsel

Program Objectives:

The Office of the Public Counsel (Ombudsman) operates pursuant to the Public Counsel Act, Neb. Rev. Stat. Sections 81-8,240 thru 81-8,254. The essential function of the Office pursuant to the Act is to receive, investigate and attempt to resolve citizens' miscellaneous complaints relating to administrative agencies of state government. The Ombudsman's Office also responds to citizen requests for general information relating to the operation of government and participates in interim studies in cooperation with other Legislative Divisions and Senators' staff. By the terms of the Nebraska State Government Effectiveness Act of 1993 (Sections 81-2701, et. seq.), the Public Counsel's Office has a central role in protecting whistleblowers who report wrongdoing or mismanagement in state government.

Financial Data:

	Actual FY04	Approp FY05	Request FY06	Recom FY06	Request FY07	Recom FY07
General Fund	643,738	647,757	754,286	0	756,663	0
Cash Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Federal Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Revolving Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	643,738	647,757	754,286	0	756,663	0

Performance Measures:

One way to measure the success of the Ombudsman's Office is by simply looking at the size and dynamism of its caseload. Continued growth in the caseload of the Ombudsman's Office is very important because a larger case load means that the Office will have an enhanced opportunity to achieve its fundamental objectives. Thus, the simple fact of growth in the caseload of the Ombudsman's Office can be considered as some measure of the success of the program.

Governor's Recommendation Includes:

The Governor's recommendation for Program 504 is included in Program 85.

Agency 03 - Legislative Council Program 638 - Fiscal And Program Analysis

Program Objectives:

Program 638 provides for the financing of the Legislative Fiscal Office, whose primary function is to provide staff assistance to the Legislature and, as provided in statute, to the Appropriations Committee during their deliberations in formulating a budget recommendation to the Legislature.

- 1) Provide objective, independent and professional financial and program analysis of past, current, and proposed state agency operations.
- 2) Review each legislative bill introduced as well as amendments to the legislation and make estimates of the anticipated change in state, county, or municipal expenditures or revenue as a direct result of the bill.
- 3) Develop revenue forecasts for the Legislature, the Revenue Comm. and the Appropriations Comm. for the purpose of supporting the Legislature.

Financial Data:

	Actual FY04	Approp FY05	Request FY06	Recom FY06	Request FY07	Recom FY07
General Fund	1,137,063	1,198,814	1,187,768	0	1,189,995	0
Cash Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Federal Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Revolving Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	1,137,063	1,198,814	1,187,768	0	1,189,995	0

Performance Measures:

Governor's Recommendation Includes:

The Governor's recommendation for Program 638 is included in Program 85.