The Agency

Legislature

Agency Operations

The Rhode Island Legislature, the General Assembly, consists of two chambers. The Senate is composed of 38 members. The House of Representatives is composed of 75 members. The General Assembly meets annually and is responsible for enactment of laws, formation of state policy, and evaluation of programs through the appropriation process. The Joint Committee on Legislative Affairs, the Legislative Council, the Fiscal Advisory Staff, the Office of the Auditor General, and the Special Legislative Commissions assist the General Assembly in executing its constitutional role.

Statutory History

The Legislature is one of the three departments of government authorized in the Rhode Island Constitution. Article VI establishes the powers of the Legislature, and Articles VII and VIII define the composition of the House of Representatives and the Senate.

The Budget Legislature

	FY 2004 Actual	FY 2005 Actual	FY 2006 Revised	FY 2007 Recommended
Expenditures by Program				
General Assembly	4,970,352	4,647,712	4,995,859	5,179,596
Fiscal Advisory Staff To House Finance	1,219,371	1,265,522	1,365,046	1,390,638
Legislative Council	3,261,855	3,364,395	3,744,575	3,909,029
Joint Committee on Legislative Affairs	13,291,203	14,932,808	19,329,830	18,341,168
Office of the Auditor General	3,097,101	3,806,040	4,505,014	4,854,106
Special Legislative Commissions	11,259	15,227	22,700	22,688
Total Expenditures	\$25,851,141	\$28,031,704	\$33,963,024	\$33,697,225
Expenditures By Object				
Personnel	22,297,679	23,234,512	26,992,783	28,519,681
Other State Operations	1,915,910	2,268,533	2,801,524	2,830,994
Aid To Local Units Of Government	-	-	-	-
Assistance, Grants and Benefits	1,637,552	2,528,659	4,168,717	2,346,550
Subtotal: Operating Expenditures	\$25,851,141	\$28,031,704	\$33,963,024	\$33,697,225
Capital Improvements	-	-	-	-
Capital Debt Service	-	-	-	-
Total Expenditures	\$25,851,141	\$28,031,704	\$33,963,024	\$33,697,225
Expenditures By Funds				
General Revenue	24,362,256	26,933,113	32,611,520	32,240,992
Restricted Receipts	1,488,885	1,098,591	1,351,504	1,456,233
Total Expenditures	\$25,851,141	\$28,031,704	\$33,963,024	\$33,697,225
FTE Authorization	280.0	280.0	289.0	275.2
Agency Measures Minorities as a Percentage of the Workforce Females as a Percentage of the Workforce	NS NS	NS	NS NS	NS
Persons with Disabilities as a Percentage of		NS		NS
the Workforce	NS	NS	NS	NS

Legislature General Assembly

Program Operations

The General Assembly consists of two chambers. The Senate is composed of 38 members. The House of Representatives is composed of 75 members. The General Assembly meets annually and is responsible for the enactment of laws, the formation of basic state policy, and the evaluation of existing programs through the appropriation process.

Statutory History

The legislative power of the State is vested in the Legislature as set forth in Article VI of the State Constitution, and the composition of the General Assembly is established in Articles VII and VIII of the State Constitution.

Budget

Legislature General Assembly

	FY 2004 Actual	FY 2005 Actual	FY 2006 Revised	FY 2007 Recommended
Expenditures By Object				
Personnel	3,746,731	3,421,609	3,564,888	3,714,070
Other State Operations	1,223,621	1,226,103	1,430,971	1,465,526
Aid To Local Units Of Government	-	-	-	-
Assistance, Grants and Benefits	-	-	-	-
Subtotal: Operating Expenditures	\$4,970,352	\$4,647,712	\$4,995,859	\$5,179,596
Capital Improvements	-	-	-	-
Capital Debt Service	-	-	-	-
Total Expenditures	\$4,970,352	\$4,647,712	\$4,995,859	\$5,179,596
Expenditures By Funds				
General Revenue	4,970,352	4,647,712	4,995,859	5,179,596
Total Expenditures	\$4,970,352	\$4,647,712	\$4,995,859	\$5,179,596
Program Measures	NA	NA	NA	NA

Legislature Fiscal Advisory Staff to House Finance Committee

Program Operations

The Fiscal Advisory Staff to the House Finance Committee and to the Legislature operates under the supervision of the House Finance Committee. The major function of the unit is to perform fiscal research and analysis for the Legislature, its committees, and individual legislators. Duties include examination of revenues, review of appropriations and expenditures, and analysis of the State's indebtedness and Capital Improvement Program. The House Fiscal Advisor serves as one of three principals on the Revenue Consensus Forecasting and the Medical and Public Assistance Caseload Estimating Conferences.

Statutory History

The Fiscal Advisory Staff to the House Finance Committee was established as a separate agency in 1959. Statutory provisions for the Fiscal Advisory Staff to the House Finance Committee are contained in R.I.G.L. 22-6.

Budget

Legislature Fiscal Advisory Staff to House Finance Committee

	FY 2004 Actual	FY 2005 Actual	FY 2006 Revised	FY 2007 Recommended
Expenditures By Object				
Personnel	1,131,697	1,157,450	1,228,404	1,291,040
Other State Operations	85,988	106,306	135,292	98,248
Aid To Local Units Of Government	-	-	-	-
Assistance, Grants and Benefits	1,686	1,766	1,350	1,350
Subtotal: Operating Expenditures	\$1,219,371	\$1,265,522	\$1,365,046	\$1,390,638
Capital Improvements	-	-	-	-
Capital Debt Service	-	-	-	-
Total Expenditures	\$1,219,371	\$1,265,522	\$1,365,046	\$1,390,638
Expenditures By Funds				
General Revenue	1,219,371	1,265,522	1,365,046	1,390,638
Total Expenditures	\$1,219,371	\$1,265,522	\$1,365,046	\$1,390,638
Program Measures	NA	NA	NA	NA

Legislature Legislative Council

Program Operations

The Legislative Council collects factual information and advises the General Assembly on bill drafting by assisting legislators in the preparation of technically correct bills for introduction in the General Assembly; conducts research on specific topics at the request of legislators, committees, commissions, legislative staff, and informational requests originating in other states; and, maintains library and reference materials on model legislation and files on bills introduced and passed.

Statutory History

The Legislative Council was established as a separate agency in 1939. Statutory provisions for the Legislative Council are contained in R.I.G.L. 22-8.

The Budget

Legislature Legislative Council

	FY 2004 Actual	FY 2005 Actual	FY 2006 Revised	FY 2007 Recommended
Expenditures By Object				
Personnel	3,192,703	3,300,523	3,622,474	3,840,928
Other State Operations	64,278	58,750	117,601	63,601
Aid To Local Units Of Government	-	-	-	-
Assistance, Grants and Benefits	4,874	5,122	4,500	4,500
Subtotal: Operating Expenditures	\$3,261,855	\$3,364,395	\$3,744,575	\$3,909,029
Capital Improvements	-	-	-	-
Capital Debt Service	-	-	-	-
Total Expenditures	\$3,261,855	\$3,364,395	\$3,744,575	\$3,909,029
Expenditures By Funds				
General Revenue	3,261,885	3,364,395	3,744,575	3,909,029
Total Expenditures	\$3,261,885	\$3,364,395	\$3,744,575	\$3,909,029
Program Measures	NA	NA	NA	NA

Legislature Joint Committee on Legislative Affairs

Program Operations

The Joint Committee on Legislative Affairs is responsible for all administrative matters affecting the operations of the General Assembly. The Joint Committee prepares legislative payrolls and the annual operating budget for the General Assembly, manages the House and Senate appropriations to include all committees unless otherwise specified in law, procures all supplies, materials and technical services, and provides for all printing requirements. Also, the Joint Committee on Legislative Affairs coordinates the Legislative Data Services and the Telecommunications — Cable TV activities.

Statutory History

The Joint Committee on Legislative Affairs was established as a separate agency in 1960. Statutory provisions for the Joint Committee on Legislative Affairs are contained in R.I.G.L. 22-11.

Budget

Legislature Joint Committee on Legislative Affairs

	FY 2004 Actual	FY 2005 Actual	FY 2006 Revised	FY 2007 Recommended
Ermonditures Dr. Obiost				
Expenditures By Object Personnel	10,991,485	11 006 140	14 552 701	15 200 577
		11,906,140	14,553,701	15,390,577
Other State Operations	668,726	504,897	613,262	609,891
Aid To Local Units Of Government	-	-	-	-
Assistance, Grants and Benefits	1,630,992	2,521,771	4,162,867	2,340,700
Subtotal: Operating Expenditures	\$13,291,203	\$14,932,808	\$19,329,830	\$18,341,168
Capital Improvements	-	-	-	-
Capital Debt Service	-	-	-	-
Total Expenditures	\$13,291,203	\$14,932,808	\$19,329,830	\$18,341,168
Expenditures By Funds				
General Revenue	13,291,203	14,932,808	19,329,830	18,341,168
Total Expenditures	\$13,291,203	\$14,932,808	\$19,329,830	\$18,341,168
Program Measures	NA	NA	NA	NA

Legislature Office of the Auditor General

Program Operations

The Office of the Auditor General assists the General Assembly in reviewing compliance, efficiency, economy, and effectiveness of state programs. The Office of the Auditor General conducts financial and program audits, which encompass the investigation of all matters relating to a review of program costs and the evaluation of program performance; completes the annual post-audit of the receipts and expenditures of the State; and, in accordance with the Single Audit Act of 1984, circular number A-128, issued by the United States Office of Management and Budget, and Chapter 41 of the Rhode Island General Laws, conducts annual audits of federally-funded programs administered by the State.

Statutory History

The Office of the Auditor General was established as a separate agency in 1973. Statutory provisions for the Office of the Auditor General are contained in R.I.G.L. 22-13.

Budget

Legislature Office of the Auditor General

	FY 2004 Actual	FY 2005 Actual	FY 2006 Revised	FY 2007 Recommended
Expenditures By Object				
Personnel	3,235,063	3,448,790	4,023,316	4,283,066
Other State Operations	(137,962)	357,250	481,698	571,040
Aid To Local Units Of Government	-	-	-	-
Assistance, Grants and Benefits	-	-	-	-
Subtotal: Operating Expenditures	\$3,097,101	\$3,806,040	\$4,505,014	\$4,854,106
Capital Improvements	-	-	-	-
Capital Debt Service	-	-	-	-
Total Expenditures	\$3,097,101	\$3,806,040	\$4,505,014	\$4,854,106
Expenditures By Funds				
General Revenue	1,608,216	2,707,449	3,153,510	3,397,873
Restricted Receipts	1,488,885	1,098,591	1,351,504	1,456,233
Total Expenditures	\$3,097,101	\$3,806,040	\$4,505,014	\$4,854,106
Program Measures	NA	NA	NA	NA

Legislature Special Legislative Commissions

Program Operations

Special Legislative Commissions include boards and commissions established for the promotion of certain goals and objectives, and to address items of local, regional and national concern. Included in this category are: the Commission on Uniform State Laws, the Criminal Justice Commission, and the Martin Luther King Commission.

Statutory History

Special Legislative Commissions are generally established under the authority granted to the General Assembly in the Rhode Island State Constitution. Specific provisions for various commissions are also established within the Rhode Island General Laws.

Budget

Legislature Special Legislative Commissions

	FY 2004 Actual	FY 2005 Actual	FY 2006 Revised	FY 2007 Recommended
Expenditures By Object				
Personnel	-	-	-	-
Other State Operations	11,259	15,227	22,700	22,688
Aid To Local Units Of Government	-	-	-	-
Assistance, Grants and Benefits	-	-	-	-
Subtotal: Operating Expenditures	\$11,259	\$15,227	\$22,700	\$22,688
Capital Improvements	-	-	-	-
Capital Debt Service	-	-	-	-
Total Expenditures	\$11,259	\$15,227	\$22,700	\$22,688
Expenditures By Funds				
General Revenue	11,259	15,227	22,700	22,688
Total Expenditures	\$11,259	\$15,227	\$22,700	\$22,688
Program Measures	NA	NA	NA	NA