

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 2005 Actual	FY 2006 Actual	FY 2007 Revised	FY 2008 Recommended
Expenditures by Program				
General Assembly	4,647,712	4,919,150	5,271,407	5,316,151
Fiscal Advisory Staff To House Finance	1,265,522	1,302,246	1,531,736	1,645,494
Legislative Council	3,364,395	3,729,514	4,023,476	4,420,569
Joint Committee on Legislative Affairs	14,932,808	16,476,936	19,336,689	19,216,096
Office of the Auditor General	3,806,040	4,266,608	4,695,753	5,078,084
Special Legislative Commissions	15,227	12,311	22,688	22,688
Total Expenditures	\$28,031,704	\$30,706,765	\$34,881,749	\$35,699,082
Expenditures By Object				
Personnel	23,244,402	26,329,458	28,777,263	30,798,502
Operating Supplies and Expenses	2,029,000	2,340,576	2,495,816	2,352,780
Aid To Local Units Of Government	-	-	-	-
Assistance, Grants and Benefits	2,518,769	1,958,432	3,389,070	-
Subtotal: Operating Expenditures	\$27,792,171	\$30,628,466	\$34,662,149	\$33,151,282
Capital Purchases and Equipment	224,005	78,299	219,600	247,800
Debt Service	15,528	-	-	-
Operating Transfers	-	-	-	-
Total Expenditures	\$28,031,704	\$30,706,765	\$34,881,749	\$33,399,082
Expenditures By Funds				
General Revenue	26,933,113	29,355,262	33,472,897	34,175,361
Restricted Receipts	1,098,591	1,351,503	1,408,852	1,523,721
Total Expenditures	\$28,031,704	\$30,706,765	\$34,881,749	\$35,699,082
FTE Authorization	280.0	289.0	294.0	298.2
Agency Measures				
Minorities as a Percentage of the Workforce	NS	NS	NS	NS
Females as a Percentage of the Workforce	NS	NS	NS	NS
Persons with Disabilities as a Percentage of the Workforce	NS	NS	NS	NS

The Program

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.

The Budget

Legislature General Assembly

	FY 2005 Actual	FY 2006 Actual	FY 2007 Revised	FY 2008 Recommended
Expenditures By Object				
Personnel	3,421,609	3,559,001	3,880,381	4,009,125
Operating Supplies and Expenses	1,142,355	1,340,163	1,342,326	1,274,326
Aid To Local Units Of Government	-	-	-	-
Assistance, Grants and Benefits	-	-	-	-
Subtotal: Operating Expenditures	\$4,563,964	\$4,899,164	\$5,222,707	\$5,283,451
Capital Purchases and Equipment	68,220	19,986	48,700	32,700
Debt Service	15,528	-	-	-
Operating Transfers	-	-	-	-
Total Expenditures	\$4,647,712	\$4,919,150	\$5,271,407	\$5,316,151
Expenditures By Funds				
General Revenue	4,647,712	4,919,150	5,271,407	5,316,151
Total Expenditures	\$4,647,712	\$4,919,150	\$5,271,407	\$5,316,151
Program Measures	NA	NA	NA	NA

The Program

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.

The Budget

Legislature

Fiscal Advisory Staff to House Finance Committee

	FY 2005 Actual	FY 2006 Actual	FY 2007 Revised	FY 2008 Recommended
Expenditures By Object				
Personnel	1,159,216	1,197,143	1,432,888	1,543,946
Operating Supplies and Expenses	89,042	103,703	97,648	99,148
Aid To Local Units Of Government	-	-	-	-
Assistance, Grants and Benefits	-	-	-	-
Subtotal: Operating Expenditures	\$1,248,258	\$1,300,846	\$1,530,536	\$1,643,094
Capital Purchases and Equipment	17,264	1,400	1,200	2,400
Debt Service	-	-	-	-
Operating Transfers	-	-	-	-
Total Expenditures	\$1,265,522	\$1,302,246	\$1,531,736	\$1,645,494
Expenditures By Funds				
General Revenue	1,265,522	1,302,246	1,531,736	1,645,494
Total Expenditures	\$1,265,522	\$1,302,246	\$1,531,736	\$1,645,494
	NA	NA	NA	NA
Program Measures				

The Program

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 2005 Actual	FY 2006 Actual	FY 2007 Revised	FY 2008 Recommended
Expenditures By Object				
Personnel	3,305,645	3,675,021	3,950,300	4,355,493
Operating Supplies and Expenses	52,110	50,381	71,676	63,576
Aid To Local Units Of Government	-	-	-	-
Assistance, Grants and Benefits	-	-	-	-
Subtotal: Operating Expenditures	\$3,357,755	\$3,725,402	\$4,021,976	\$4,419,069
Capital Purchases and Equipment	6,640	4,112	1,500	1,500
Debt Service	-	-	-	-
Operating Transfers	-	-	-	-
Total Expenditures	\$3,364,395	\$3,729,514	\$4,023,476	\$4,420,569
Expenditures By Funds	3,364,395	3,729,514	4,023,476	4,420,569
General Revenue	\$3,364,395	\$3,729,514	\$4,023,476	\$4,420,569
Total Expenditures				
	NA	NA	NA	NA
Program Measures				

The Program

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.

The Budget

Legislature Joint Committee on Legislative Affairs

	FY 2005 Actual	FY 2006 Actual	FY 2007 Revised	FY 2008 Recommended
Expenditures By Object				
Personnel	11,909,142	14,039,276	15,373,157	16,378,484
Operating Supplies and Expenses	427,761	460,418	481,262	416,412
Aid To Local Units Of Government	-	-	-	-
Assistance, Grants and Benefits	2,518,769	1,958,432	3,389,070	2,300,000
Subtotal: Operating Expenditures	\$14,855,672	\$16,458,126	\$19,243,489	\$19,094,896
Capital Purchases and Equipment	77,136	18,810	93,200	121,200
Debt Service	-	-	-	-
Operating Transfers	-	-	-	-
Total Expenditures	\$14,932,808	\$16,476,936	\$19,336,689	\$19,216,096
Expenditures By Funds	14,932,808	16,476,936	19,336,689	19,216,096
General Revenue	\$14,932,808	16,476,936	\$19,336,689	\$19,216,096
Total Expenditures				
Program Measures	NA	NA	NA	NA

The Program

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.

The Budget

Legislature Office of the Auditor General

	FY 2005 Actual	FY 2006 Actual	FY 2007 Revised	FY 2008 Recommended
Expenditures By Object				
Personnel	3,448,790	3,859,017	4,140,537	4,511,454
Operating Supplies and Expenses	302,505	373,600	480,216	476,630
Aid To Local Units Of Government	-	-	-	-
Assistance, Grants and Benefits	-	-	-	-
Subtotal: Operating Expenditures	\$3,751,295	\$4,232,617	\$4,620,753	\$4,988,084
Capital Purchases and Equipment	54,745	33,991	75,000	90,000
Debt Service	-	-	-	-
Operating Transfers	-	-	-	-
Total Expenditures	\$3,806,040	\$4,266,608	\$4,695,753	\$5,078,084
Expenditures By Funds	2,707,449	2,915,105	3,286,901	3,554,363
General Revenue	1,098,591	1,351,503	1,408,852	1,523,721
Restricted Receipts	\$3,806,040	\$4,266,608	\$4,695,753	\$5,078,084
Total Expenditures				
Program Measures	NA	NA	NA	NA

The Program

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.

The Budget

Legislature Special Legislative Commissions

	FY 2005 Actual	FY 2006 Actual	FY 2007 Revised	FY 2008 Recommended
Expenditures By Object				
Personnel	-	-	-	-
Operating Supplies and Expenses	15,227	12,311	22,688	22,688
Aid To Local Units Of Government	-	-	-	-
Assistance, Grants and Benefits	-	-	-	-
Subtotal: Operating Expenditures	\$15,227	\$12,311	\$22,688	\$22,688
Capital Purchases and Equipment	-	-	-	-
Debt Service	-	-	-	-
Operating Transfers	-	-	-	-
Total Expenditures	\$15,227	\$12,311	\$22,688	\$22,688
Expenditures By Funds				
General Revenue	15,227	12,311	22,688	22,688
Total Expenditures	\$15,227	\$12,311	\$22,688	\$22,688
Program Measures	NA	NA	NA	NA