

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 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 2003 Actual	FY 2004 Actual	FY 2005 Revised	FY 2006 Recommended
Expenditures by Program				
General Assembly	7,244,615	4,970,352	4,830,751	4,930,951
Fiscal Advisory Staff To House Finance	1,211,785	1,219,371	1,339,551	1,372,019
Legislative Council	3,212,920	3,261,855	3,440,547	3,606,673
Joint Committee on Legislative Affairs	13,071,374	13,291,208	16,573,209	15,048,990
Office of the Auditor General	3,930,328	3,605,470	4,025,410	4,242,409
Special Legislative Commissions	7,392	11,259	22,100	23,388
Total Expenditures	\$28,678,414	\$26,359,515	\$30,231,568	\$29,224,430
Expenditures By Object				
Personnel	22,434,514	22,297,681	23,432,377	24,537,568
Other State Operations	4,522,567	2,424,282	2,711,705	2,628,312
Aid To Local Units Of Government	-	-	-	-
Assistance, Grants and Benefits	1,721,333	1,637,552	4,087,486	2,058,550
Subtotal: Operating Expenditures	\$28,678,414	\$26,359,515	\$30,231,568	\$29,224,430
Capital Improvements	-	-	-	-
Capital Debt Service	-	-	-	-
Total Expenditures	\$28,678,414	\$26,359,515	\$30,231,568	\$29,224,430
Expenditures By Funds				
General Revenue	27,421,875	24,870,633	29,130,423	27,951,951
Restricted Receipts	1,256,539	1,488,882	1,101,145	1,272,479
Total Expenditures	\$28,678,414	26,359,515	30,231,568	29,224,430
FTE Authorization	280.0	280.0	280.0	280.0
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 2003 Actual	FY 2004 Actual	FY 2005 Revised	FY 2006 Recommended
Expenditures By Object				
Personnel	4,450,359	3,746,731	3,395,526	3,514,980
Other State Operations	2,794,256	1,223,621	1,435,225	1,415,971
Aid To Local Units Of Government	-	-	-	-
Assistance, Grants and Benefits	-	-	-	-
Subtotal: Operating Expenditures	\$7,244,615	\$4,970,352	\$4,830,751	\$4,930,951
Capital Improvements	-	-	-	-
Capital Debt Service	-	-	-	-
Total Expenditures	\$7,244,615	\$4,970,352	\$4,830,751	\$4,930,951
 Expenditures By Funds				
General Revenue	7,244,615	4,970,352	4,830,751	4,930,951
Total Expenditures	\$7,244,615	\$4,970,352	\$4,830,751	\$4,930,951
 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 2003 Actual	FY 2004 Actual	FY 2005 Revised	FY 2006 Recommended
Expenditures By Object				
Personnel	1,124,114	1,131,697	1,230,913	1,279,377
Other State Operations	86,368	85,988	107,288	91,292
Aid To Local Units Of Government	-	-	-	-
Assistance, Grants and Benefits	1,303	1,686	1,350	1,350
Subtotal: Operating Expenditures	\$1,211,785	\$1,219,371	\$1,339,551	\$1,372,019
Capital Improvements	-	-	-	-
Capital Debt Service	-	-	-	-
Total Expenditures	\$1,211,785	\$1,219,371	\$1,339,551	\$1,372,019
Expenditures By Funds				
General Revenue	1,211,785	1,219,371	1,339,551	1,372,019
Total Expenditures	\$1,211,785	\$1,219,371	\$1,339,551	\$1,372,019
Program Measures	NA	NA	NA	NA

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 2003 Actual	FY 2004 Actual	FY 2005 Revised	FY 2006 Recommended
Expenditures By Object				
Personnel	3,141,942	3,192,703	3,368,869	3,535,572
Other State Operations	66,442	64,278	67,178	66,601
Aid To Local Units Of Government	-	-	-	-
Assistance, Grants and Benefits	4,536	4,200	4,500	4,500
Subtotal: Operating Expenditures	\$3,212,920	\$3,261,181	\$3,440,547	\$3,606,673
Capital Improvements	-	-	-	-
Capital Debt Service	-	-	-	-
Total Expenditures	\$3,212,920	\$3,261,181	\$3,440,547	\$3,606,673
Expenditures By Funds				
General Revenue	3,212,920	3,261,885	3,440,547	3,606,673
Total Expenditures	\$3,212,920	\$3,261,885	\$3,440,547	\$3,606,673
Program Measures	NA	NA	NA	NA

The Program

Legislature **Joint Committee on Legislative Affairs**

Program Operations

The Joint Committee on Legislative Services 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 Services coordinates the Legislative Data Services and the Telecommunications — Cable TV activities.

Statutory History

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

The Budget

Legislature Joint Committee on Legislative Affairs

	FY 2003 Actual	FY 2004 Actual	FY 2005 Revised	FY 2006 Recommended
Expenditures By Object				
Personnel	10,635,194	10,991,490	11,832,299	12,388,428
Other State Operations	720,686	668,726	659,274	607,862
Aid To Local Units Of Government	-	-	-	-
Assistance, Grants and Benefits	1,715,494	1,630,992	4,081,636	2,052,700
Subtotal: Operating Expenditures	\$13,071,374	\$13,291,208	\$16,573,209	\$15,048,990
Capital Improvements	-	-	-	-
Capital Debt Service	-	-	-	-
Total Expenditures	\$13,071,374	\$13,291,208	\$16,573,209	\$15,048,990
 Expenditures By Funds				
General Revenue	13,071,374	13,291,208	16,573,209	15,048,990
Total Expenditures	\$13,071,374	\$13,291,208	\$16,573,209	\$15,048,990
 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 2003 Actual	FY 2004 Actual	FY 2005 Revised	FY 2006 Recommended
Expenditures By Object				
Personnel	3,082,905	3,235,060	3,604,770	3,819,211
Other State Operations	847,423	370,410	420,640	423,198
Aid To Local Units Of Government	-	-	-	-
Assistance, Grants and Benefits	-	-	-	-
Subtotal: Operating Expenditures	\$3,930,328	\$3,605,470	\$4,025,410	\$4,242,409
Capital Improvements	-	-	-	-
Capital Debt Service	-	-	-	-
Total Expenditures	\$3,930,328	\$3,605,470	\$4,025,410	\$4,242,409
Expenditures By Funds				
General Revenue	2,673,789	2,116,588	2,924,265	2,969,930
Restricted Receipts	1,256,539	1,488,882	1,101,145	1,272,479
Total Expenditures	\$3,930,328	\$3,605,470	\$4,025,410	\$4,242,409
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 2003 Actual	FY 2004 Actual	FY 2005 Revised	FY 2006 Recommended
Expenditures By Object				
Personnel	-	-	-	-
Other State Operations	7,392	11,259	22,100	23,388
Aid To Local Units Of Government	-	-	-	-
Assistance, Grants and Benefits	-	-	-	-
Subtotal: Operating Expenditures	\$7,392	\$11,259	\$22,100	\$23,388
Capital Improvements	-	-	-	-
Capital Debt Service	-	-	-	-
Total Expenditures	\$7,392	\$11,259	\$22,100	\$23,388
Expenditures By Funds				
General Revenue	7,392	11,259	22,100	23,388
Total Expenditures	\$7,392	\$11,259	\$22,100	\$23,388
Program Measures	NA	NA	NA	NA