



# State of New Hampshire

## Department of Labor

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Commissioner

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February 26, 2021

Representative Lynne Ober, Chair  
And Representatives of House Finance Division I  
Legislative Office Building  
33 North State Street  
Concord, NH 03301

Honorable Representative Ober,

Please find below our answers to your preliminary questions concerning the Labor Department budget request for SFY 2022 & 2023:

**1. What new full-time staff has been added to your budget?**

No new full-time staff were requested for the Labor Department in the 2022-23 Biennium.

**a. Cost for each staff member added (salary, benefits, IT, telecom, desk, equipment, office space).**

None.

**b. Brief description of the need for each staff member added.**

None.

**2. What new part-time staff has been added to your budget?**

We have defunded five part-time positions in our class 050 estimates, but did add funding for one part-time Hearings Officer that has been established, but not filled.

**a. Cost for each staff member added (salary, benefits, IT, telecom, desk, equipment, office space).**

Salary for this new part-time position would be 25,411 in FY22 and 25,919 in FY23. Benefits at 7.65% are \$1,944 in FY22 and 1,983 in FY23. Other costs were not added, as we already possess, or can share, equipment or furniture among existing part-time staff.

**b. Brief description of the need for each staff member added**

Staffing the bureau with some part-time Hearings Officers has given us flexibility to be elastic in scheduling as demand rises and falls. We do not plan to fill the position unless volume demands it.

**3. What positions had to be eliminated in order to meet the governor's budget requirements?**

We eliminated funding for 18 of our 94 full-time authorized positions in order to meet the Governor's targets for FY22-23. Funding for one was added back in the Governor's budget. Please see attachment for details.

**a. Cost for each staff member reduced (salary, benefits, IT, telecom, desk, equipment, office space).**

All 18 positions were vacant during the agency phase, and so there were not reductions taken in other areas.

**b. Brief description of the need for each staff member reduced.**

While future demands or volume could create a need, these positions were vacant during agency phase.

**c. How will work done by this position be accomplished without the position?**

The positions were vacant and so were not performing any duties.

**4. Is your agency adequately staffed to complete all work assigned to your agency in state law?**

Yes.

**5. If the answer to Q. 4 is no, please describe.**

Not applicable.

**a. If we cannot add adequate staffing, should we consider suspending that law for the biennium?**

Not applicable.

**6. What things are you doing (found in state law) that could be eliminated and why?**

We have been in consultation with the Governor's Office and the Attorney General's Office regarding the Special Fund for Second Injuries (RSA 281-A:55). This non-appropriated revolving fund is nearly double the size of the Department's operating budget. We are uncertain that the program is achieving all the aims intended by the Legislature in creating it. Some 22 other states have discontinued their Second Injury Fund programs.

**7. What priorities did you have that were not funded? Cost? Description? Impact of not funding?**

The Governor's recommended budget has funded all our priority needs.

**8. Please be prepared to discuss any HB2 sections that apply to your agency.**

We did request some language for HB2.

Sincerely,



Ken Merrifield  
Commissioner  
NH Department of Labor



Positions Defunded in FY22-23 to meet Governor's Efficiency Targets

**AU 61000000 INSPECTION DIVISION**

POS	LG	ST	-----2022-----			-----2023-----		
			Salary	Benefits	Total	Salary	Benefits	Total
11004	22	1	44,830.50	29,752.27	74,582.77	48,411.00	31,622.32	80,033.32
18083	22	1	44,830.50	29,752.29	74,582.79	48,411.00	31,622.34	80,033.34
19875**	22	1	44,830.50	29,752.28	74,582.78	48,411.00	31,622.34	80,033.34
40036	22	9	63,780.00	36,775.78	100,555.78	66,210.00	38,548.79	104,758.79
41192**	22	1	44,830.50	29,752.26	74,582.76	48,411.00	31,622.33	80,033.33
41306**	26	1	53,176.50	31,603.45	84,779.95	57,509.25	33,640.32	91,149.57
43059	28	1	57,954.00	32,663.07	90,617.07	62,601.75	34,769.84	97,371.59
43354**	22	1	44,830.50	29,752.28	74,582.78	48,411.00	31,622.33	80,033.33
43611	22	1	44,830.50	29,752.28	74,582.78	48,411.00	31,622.32	80,033.32
43612**	22	1	44,830.50	29,752.28	74,582.78	48,411.00	31,622.33	80,033.33
			<b>488,724.00</b>	<b>309,308.24</b>	<b>798,032.24</b>	<b>525,198.00</b>	<b>328,315.26</b>	<b>853,513.26</b>

**AU 62000000 WORKER COMPENSATION DIVISION**

POS	LG	ST	-----2022-----			-----2023-----		
			Salary	Benefits	Total	Salary	Benefits	Total
10990	7	1	25,096.50	25,375.27	50,471.77	26,905.50	26,852.42	53,757.92
10992**	26	1	53,176.50	31,603.44	84,779.94	57,509.25	33,640.32	91,149.57
19279	26	1	53,176.50	31,603.42	84,779.92	57,509.25	33,640.32	91,149.57
19280	14	1	32,623.50	27,044.77	59,668.27	35,078.25	28,665.13	63,743.38
19282**	9	1	27,027.00	25,803.47	52,830.47	29,060.25	27,330.33	56,390.58
19284	10	1	28,060.50	26,032.70	54,093.20	30,189.75	27,580.86	57,770.61
19333**	23	1	46,761.00	30,180.48	76,941.48	50,490.75	32,083.64	82,574.39
40038	7	1	25,096.50	25,375.30	50,471.80	26,905.50	26,852.40	53,757.90
			<b>291,018.00</b>	<b>223,018.85</b>	<b>514,036.85</b>	<b>313,648.50</b>	<b>236,645.42</b>	<b>550,293.92</b>

\*\* Unfunded 20-21

#43059 restored in Governor's Recommended

<b>TOTAL AGENCY PHASE UNFUNDED</b>	<b>779,742.00</b>	<b>532,327.09</b>	<b>1,312,069.09</b>	<b>838,846.50</b>	<b>564,960.68</b>	<b>1,403,807.18</b>
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