

Analysis of Budget Request

Appropriation: 2KZ - Social Work Licensing

Funding Sources: SSW - Social Work Licensing Fund

The Social Work Licensing Law (A.C.A. §17-103-201 et seq.) requires individuals who practice social work or represent themselves to the public as social workers to be licensed.

"Social work practice" is defined as a professional service which effects change in social conditions, human behavior, and emotional responses of individuals, couples, families, groups and organizations. "Social work practice" can only be performed with specialized knowledge and skills related to human development, the potential for human growth, the availability of social resources, and the knowledge of social systems. The disciplined application of social work knowledge and skills includes, but is not restricted to, the following:

- Counseling with individuals, couples, families, and groups for purposes of assessment and enhancement of the problem-solving and coping capacities of people; and
- The application of social work knowledge and skills in social planning, administration and research.

The operations of the Social Work Licensing Board are funded from special revenues derived by the collection of application and license renewal fees authorized by A.C.A. §17-103-205.

Base Level salaries for classified positions reflect the recommendations of the Pay Plan Study and unclassified positions reflect similar adjustments in line item salaries. A 2.3% Cost of Living Allowance is reflected in the second year of the biennium. The Base Level request for Regular Salaries may include board member Stipend payments and Career Service payments for eligible employees. Personal Services Matching includes a \$75 increase in the monthly contribution for State employee's health insurance for a total State match per budgeted employee of \$425.

The Board's total Base Level request for the 2009-2011 Biennium is \$110,831 in FY2010 and \$111,805 in FY2011.

The Change Level requests of the Board total \$26,987 in FY2010 and \$28,364 in FY2011. The following delineates the agency request:

- \$9,180 each year of the biennium in Regular Salaries with related Personal Services Matching appropriation to allow Board members to receive stipend payments. To execute this, the Board is requesting an amendment to A.C.A. §17-103-201 to allow Arkansas Social Work Licensing Board members to receive stipends and an amendment to A.C.A. §25-16-904 to include Social Work Licensing Board members.
- \$2,000 in FY2010 and \$3,000 in FY2011 in Extra Help with related Personal Services Matching appropriation to assist in processing during the demanding times of the year when license renewals are due and end of year support is needed.
- \$5,050 in FY2010 and \$5,150 in FY2011 in Operating Expenses to cover increases in office supplies, rent of office equipment, the purchase of encryption software, and a potential increase in rent for needed additional office space.

- \$700 in FY2010 and \$900 in FY2011 in Conference and Travel Expenses for increases in travel expenses related to national meetings including meals and lodging, airfare, car rental, and parking fees.
- \$9,200 each year of the biennium in Professional Fees for a professional investigator needed due to the increasing complexity and number of complaints filed against Social Workers. This was previously done by Board Members who no longer have adequate resources to conduct the investigations. This request was also made to cover increases in court reporter fees for administrative hearings associated with the complaints.

The Executive Recommendation provides for the Agency Request.

The Legislative Recommendation concurs with the Executive Recommendation with an additional \$8,475 in FY2010 and \$14,900 in FY2011 for Professional Fees.

Appropriation Summary

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Commitment Item		2007-2008	2008-2009	2008-2009	2009-2010			2010-2011		
		Actual	Budget	Authorized	Agency	Executive	Legislative	Agency	Executive	Legislative
Regular Salaries	5010000	42,886	35,195	50,996	44,902	44,902	44,902	45,723	45,723	45,723
#Positions		1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Extra Help	5010001	6,323	10,000	10,000	12,000	12,000	12,000	13,000	13,000	13,000
#Extra Help		1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Personal Services Matching	5010003	12,306	12,235	14,142	13,416	13,416	13,416	13,646	13,646	13,646
Operating Expenses	5020002	26,071	37,050	37,050	42,100	42,100	42,100	42,200	42,200	42,200
Conference & Travel Expenses	5050009	1,303	2,300	2,300	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,200	3,200	3,200
Professional Fees	5060010	2,718	12,000	12,000	21,200	21,200	29,675	21,200	21,200	36,100
Data Processing	5090012	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Refunds/Reimbursements	5110014	395	1,200	1,200	1,200	1,200	1,200	1,200	1,200	1,200
Capital Outlay	5120011	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total		92,002	109,980	127,688	137,818	137,818	146,293	140,169	140,169	155,069
Funding Sources										
Fund Balance	4000005	280,764	312,955		332,975	332,975	332,975	324,157	324,157	324,157
Special Revenue	4000030	124,193	130,000		129,000	129,000	137,475	131,000	131,000	145,900
Total Funding		404,957	442,955		461,975	461,975	470,450	455,157	455,157	470,057
Excess Appropriation/(Funding)		(312,955)	(332,975)		(324,157)	(324,157)	(324,157)	(314,988)	(314,988)	(314,988)
Grand Total		92,002	109,980		137,818	137,818	146,293	140,169	140,169	155,069