

- Flat funding of \$3.3 million each year
- Services will continue at current levels

State Employment Relations Board

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ROLE

The State Employee Relations Board (SERB) acts as a neutral in carrying out Ohio’s public sector Collective Bargaining Law, overseeing representation elections and certifying exclusive bargaining representatives. Other important responsibilities include monitoring and enforcing statutory dispute resolution procedures, adjudicating unfair labor practice (ULP) charges, and determining unauthorized strike claims. There are five main divisions and an administrative section that is responsible for fiscal and administrative services: Hearings Unit, Labor Relations Section, Bureau of Mediation, Research and Training Section, and the Clerk’s Office.

According to data provided in the agency’s annual report for FY 2002, there were a total of 3,086 separate labor contracts governing 1,450 public workplaces statewide. These agreements covered 356,737 employees in state agencies, local governments, and school boards. Issues stemming from these collective bargaining agreements resulted in 2,379 cases that were filed over the FY 2002 period.

Agency In Brief					
Number of Employees*	Total Appropriations-All Funds		GRF Appropriations		Appropriation Bill(s)
	2004	2005	2004	2005	
32	\$3.3 million	\$3.3 million	\$3.3 million	\$3.3 million	Am. Sub. H.B. 95

*Employee head count obtained from the Department of Administrative Services (DAS) payroll reports as of June 28, 2003. Due to previous budget cuts, the number of employees has been reduced by three since January 2002.

OVERVIEW

The State Employee Relations Board’s funding for FY 2004 and FY 2005 is \$3,343,879 each year, which is 1.3% over FY 2003 spending of \$3,301,101. As the table above shows, almost all of the agency’s appropriation comes from the GRF. The other small portion of the agency’s total budget is derived from revenues from the sale of publications and training fees. These revenues are deposited in Fund 572 within the General Services Fund (GSF) group.

During economic downturns, SERB typically experiences significant increases in caseloads and strike activity. Thus, due to the current economic environment, it could be that SERB’s workload will increase during the FY 2004-2005 biennium. 

FY 2004 - 2005 Final Appropriation Amounts

All Fund Group

<i>Line Item Detail by Agency</i>	<i>FY 2001:</i>	<i>FY 2002:</i>	<i>FY 2003:</i>	<i>FY 2004 Appropriations:</i>	<i>% Change 2003 to 2004:</i>	<i>FY 2005 Appropriations:</i>	<i>% Change 2004 to 2005:</i>
Report For: Main Operating Appropriations Bill		Version: Enacted					
ERB Employment Relations Board, State							
GRF 125-321 Operating Expenses	\$ 3,499,301	\$ 3,291,722	\$3,149,366	\$ 3,268,338	3.78%	\$ 3,268,338	0.00%
General Revenue Fund Total	\$ 3,499,301	\$ 3,291,722	\$ 3,149,366	\$ 3,268,338	3.78%	\$ 3,268,338	0.00%
572 125-603 Training and Publications	\$ 49,025	\$ 55,440	\$151,735	\$ 75,541	-50.22%	\$ 75,541	0.00%
General Services Fund Group Total	\$ 49,025	\$ 55,440	\$ 151,735	\$ 75,541	-50.22%	\$ 75,541	0.00%
Employment Relations Board, State Total	\$ 3,548,326	\$ 3,347,162	\$ 3,301,101	\$ 3,343,879	1.30%	\$ 3,343,879	0.00%