Section 1

Office of Injured Employee Counsel Summary of Recommendations - Senate

Page VIII-14 Norman Darwin, Public Counsel

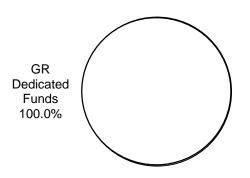
Eduardo Rodriguez, LBB Analyst

	2012-13	2014-15	Biennial	% Change	
Method of Financing	Base	Recommended	Change		
General Revenue Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.0%	
GR Dedicated Funds	\$15,539,341	\$15,539,084	(\$257)	(0.0%)	
Total GR-Related Funds	\$15,539,341	<i>\$15,539,084</i>	(\$257)	(0.0%)	
Federal Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.0%	
Other	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.0%	
All Funds	\$15,539,341	\$15,539,084	(\$257)	(0.0%)	

	FY 2013	FY 2015	Biennial	%
	Budgeted	Recommended	Change	Change
FTEs	165.0	165.0	0	.0 0.0%

The bill pattern for this agency (2014-15 Recommended) represents an estimated 100% of the agency's estimated total available funds for the 2014-15 biennium.

RECOMMENDED FUNDING BY METHOD OF FINANCING



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2014-2015 BIENNIUM

IN MILLIONS

2011

2012

2013

2014

2015

2011

2012

TOTAL= \$15.5 MILLION

ALL FUNDS GENERAL REVENUE-DEDICATED FUNDS **FULL-TIME-EQUIVALENT POSITIONS** REQUESTED \$8.5 REQUESTED \$8.5 REQUESTED \$8.5 REQUESTED \$8.5 APPROPRIATED 184.0 REQUESTED 185.0 REQUESTED 185.0 APPROPRIATED APPROPRIATED APPROPRIATED APPROPRIATED \$7.8 APPROPRIATED \$7.8 APPROPRIATED APPROPRIATED APPROPRIATED \$7.8 \$7.8 \$7.8 \$7.8 175.0 175.0 \$7.6 ESTIMATED \$7.9 BUDGETED \$8.0 \$7.8 \$7.8 \$8.0 \$7.6 \$7.9 \$7.8 \$7.8 155.2 ESTIMATED 158.5 165.0 165.0 165.0 EXPENDED RECOMMENDED RECOMMENDED ESTIMATED BUDGETED RECOMMENDED RECOMMENDED EXPENDED EXPENDED BUDGETED RECOMMENDED RECOMMENDED

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2013

2014

2015

2011

2012

2013

2014

2015

Section 2

Office of Injured Employee Counsel Summary of Recommendations - Senate, By Method of Finance -- ALL FUNDS

Strategy/Goal	2012-13 Base	2014-15 Recommended	Biennial Change	% Change	Comments
OMBUDSMAN PROGRAM A.1.1	\$8,754,499	\$8,835,266	\$80,767	0.9%	Increase in funding reflects the realignment of 1 Ombudsman program FTE that was previously paid for with funds from Strategy C.1.1.
Total, Goal A, OMBUDSMAN PROGRAM	\$8,754,499	\$8,835,266	\$80,767	0.9%	. ,,
RIGHTS RESPONSIBILITIES & REFERRAL B.1.1	\$3,110,584	\$3,410,056	\$299,472	9.6%	Increase in funding reflects the realignment of 3 Customer Service program FTEs that were previously paid for with funds from Strategy C.1.1.
Total, Goal B, EDUCATION AND REFERRAL	\$3,110,584	\$3,410,056	\$299,472	9.6%	, ,,
ADVOCATE FOR INJURED EMPLOYEES C.1.1	\$3,674,258	\$3,293,762	(\$380,496)	(10.4%)	The agency realigned funding and allocation of 4 FTEs that were previously paid from Strategy C.1.1. to increase transparency.
Total, Goal C, ADVOCATE FOR INJURED EMPLOYEES	\$3,674,258	\$3,293,762	(\$380,496)	(10.4%)	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •
Grand Total, All Strategies	\$15,539,341	\$15,539,084	(\$257)	(0.0%)	

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Office of Injured Employee Counsel Selected Fiscal and Policy Issues - Senate

- 1. **Self Leveling Funding.** The Texas Department of Insurance (TDI) is required by statute to adjust fees to generate revenue equivalent to its appropriations and the appropriations made to the Office of Injured Employee Counsel (OIEC).
- 2. **Administrative Attachment.** The OIEC is administratively attached to the TDI per statute. TDI provides administrative assistance to include budget planning and purchasing, personnel services, and computer equipment and support. (See Items not Included in Recommendations #1)

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Office of Injured Employee Counsel (OIEC) Performance Review and Policy Report Highlights

	Report	Savings/	Gain/	Fund	Included	
Reports & Recommendations	Page	(Cost)	(Loss)	Type	in Introduced Bill	Action Required During Session

NO RELATED RECOMMENDATIONS

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Office of Injured Employee Counsel Rider Highlights – Senate

- 2. **Unexpended Balance Authority.** Recommendations continue the unexpended balance authority rider to allow the agency to carry forward any unobligated and unexpended appropriation balance authority, not to exceed 5 percent for any item of appropriation, remaining at the end of the first year of the biennium into the second year.
- 3. **Sunset Contingency.** Recommendations delete this rider. The rider made fiscal year 2013 appropriations contingent on the continuation of the Office of Injured Employee Counsel (OIEC) by the Eighty-second Legislature. Senate Bill 1774, Eighty-second Legislature, 2011 continued OIEC for 6 years through September 1, 2017 to coincide with the next review of the Division of Workers' Compensation.

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Office of Injured Employee Counsel Items not Included in Recommendations - Senate

2014-15 Biennial Total

In Agency Priority Order	GR & GR- Dedicated			All Funds
 General Revenue funding and the Full-time Equivalent (FTE) cap increase for 20 FTEs each year for 15 Ombudsmen I (\$570,000 each year) and 5 Customer Service Representatives III (\$150,000 each year) to augment 7 field offices throughout the state. 	\$	1,440,000	\$	1,440,000
General Revenue funding for language line translation services through a Texas Department of Information Resources contract (\$50,000 each year).	\$	100,000	\$	100,000
 General Revenue funding and authority for a Public Counsel salary increase from \$115,500 to \$125,000 annually, Group 3 to Group 4 (\$9,500 each year). 	\$	19,000	\$	19,000
Total, Items Not Included in the Recommendations	\$	1,559,000	\$	1,559,000

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