

Agency 408

Marine Employees' Commission

Recommendation Summary

Dollars in Thousands

	Annual FTEs	General Fund State	Other Funds	Total Funds
2007-09 Expenditure Authority	2.3		422	422
Supplemental Changes				
Conduct Salary Survey			50	50
Online Recruiting Service			1	1
PEBB Rate Reduction			(4)	(4)
Subtotal - Supplemental Changes			47	47
Total Proposed Budget	2.3		469	469
Difference			47	47
Percent Change	0.0%		11.1%	11.1%

SUPPLEMENTAL CHANGES

Conduct Salary Survey

The Marine Employees' Commission is required by statute to conduct a salary survey once each biennium. This survey is used by the Labor Relations Office and ferry unions when negotiating labor contracts. Department of Personnel (DOP) staff traditionally have conducted the survey. However, in April 2007, DOP contracted it out to a consultant, which has resulted in an additional cost to the Marine Employees' Commission. (Puget Sound Ferry Operations Account-State)

Online Recruiting Service

To support the state's online recruitment tool (E-Recruiting), additional funds are provided for a one-time charge from the Department of Personnel. This will improve the ability of agencies to manage their recruitment and hiring processes as required by the Personnel System Reform Act of 2002.

PEBB Rate Reduction

The state contributes 88 percent of the total weighted average of the employee health care premium and also pays for the cost of dental, life and long-term disability insurance. Total Public Employees Benefit Board (PEBB) expenditures for the 2007-09 Biennium are anticipated to be lower than budgeted because (1) health plan costs for calendar year 2008 are lower than expected, which will benefit both the state and its employees; (2) the Uniform Medical Plan continues to perform better than projected; and (3) funding was removed from the PEBB administrative cost allocation for an information technology system replacement due to the restrictive nature of federal funding. The state employer contribution rate will be reduced from \$732 per month to \$575 per month. This one-time reduction will leave an unrestricted fund balance of \$19.2 million at the end of Fiscal Year 2009. (General Fund-State, various other funds).