

Legislative Fiscal Office

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Budget Information Brief / 2006-3

How to Find Budget-Related Information

The Legislative Fiscal Office (LFO) is committed to providing timely, accurate, and complete budget-related information to legislators, agency representatives, the media, and the general public. To fulfill this commitment, LFO maintains an Internet website, produces various publications, and provides responses to specific budget-related inquiries through its permanent, non-partisan analytical staff. This brief describes the informational tools that are available to meet various information needs, as well as tips on how to access them easily.

LFO Website

The Legislative Fiscal Office website address is www.leg.state.or.us/comm/lfo/home.htm. This site provides the following types of information:

- **Publications** written and distributed by LFO. The documents include Budget Highlights, Analysis of the Legislatively Adopted Budget, Analysis of the Governor's Budget, Budget Information Briefs and Reports, Liquidated and Delinquent Accounts Receivable Reports, and Budget Guidelines.
- **Staff Assignment** information that identifies the names and phone numbers of LFO staff with expertise in various program areas and particular agencies.
- **Joint Committee on Ways and Means** membership and subcommittee assignments.
- **Emergency Board** membership, meeting schedule, agenda, staff analysis, and meeting minutes.
- **Joint Legislative Audit Committee** membership, meeting schedule, agenda, and reports.
- **Joint Legislative Committee on Information Management and Technology** membership, meeting schedule, agenda, and staff analysis.

LFO Publications

Budget Highlights. LFO produces a summary of each legislatively adopted budget. This report is intended to provide an overview of major budget actions taken by the Legislative Assembly. It summarizes statewide General Fund, Lottery, Other Funds, and Federal Funds spending. It also provides program area highlights for Education, Human Services, Public Safety/Judicial Branch, Economic Development and Consumer Services, Natural Resources, Transportation, Administration, Legislative Branch, and the Emergency Fund. Additional summaries are provided after special sessions or other significant activities affecting the legislatively adopted budget.

Budget Analyses. LFO produces two detailed analyses each biennium. The first publication is issued immediately prior to each regular legislative session and presents an analysis of the Governor's Recommended Budget by program and agency. This document is used to guide legislative budgetary debate and decision-making. The second publication, issued after each regular legislative session, presents the Legislatively Adopted Budget by program and agency. The analysis of the adopted budget is used both as a reference document for legislators and as a source of general information for the public on the budgetary and policy decisions made by the Legislature.

Budget Information Briefs and Reports. These are produced to provide policymakers with timely and concise information on specific budgetary topics. The reports are usually the result of numerous inquiries from legislators and/or the general public. Briefs are issued to efficiently and effectively answer common questions and share relevant facts.

Liquidated and Delinquent Accounts Receivable Reports. Pursuant to the provisions of ORS 293.229, LFO compiles information submitted by state agencies to produce an annual report on the status of liquidated and delinquent accounts, as well as agency efforts to collect on such accounts.

Budget Guidelines. In preparation for agency presentations to the Joint Committee on Ways and Means, guidelines for presentations and instructions for completion of any necessary reporting forms (e.g., budget priority lists) are produced. The guidelines are used to ensure consistent focus and delivery of agency information with respect to budget requests.

Emergency Board Analysis and Minutes. Every eight to 10 weeks during the interim between legislative sessions, the Emergency Board meets to consider budget adjustments requested by state agencies. For each Emergency Board agenda item, LFO produces a written analysis that discusses applicable legislative history, describes the elements of the request, discusses relevant issues and alternatives, and presents recommendations and supporting rationale. Once the Emergency Board has concluded its work, LFO produces minutes of the committee discussion, rationale, vote, and action.

Joint Legislative Audit Committee Reports. These program- and topic-specific audits and reports are completed by LFO staff based on budget reports, bills passed, and legislative requests. Recommendations adopted by the Audit Committee are summarized in final reports that are presented to the entire Legislative Assembly.

Joint Legislative Committee on Information Management and Technology. LFO also produces staff analysis of requests and reports submitted by state agencies to the Joint Legislative Committee on Information Management and Technology. These committee meetings are generally coordinated with the Emergency Board meetings to provide technical review of requests related to information management.

LFO Staff

The Legislative Fiscal Office is a non-partisan, professional staff established to provide objective fiscal policy information and options for the Legislature. The staff serves all members, with priority given to fiscal committees, including the Joint Committee on Ways and Means during sessions and the Emergency Board during the interim. The following is a list of current LFO staff, phone numbers, and assignments:

Budget Analysts		Major Program Areas
Sheila Baker	503-986-1838	Human Services; Children’s Programs
Steve Bender	503-986-1836	Post-Secondary Education
John Britton	503-986-1816	Human Services; Oregon Health Plan
Michelle Deister	503-986-1817	Housing; Employment; Energy
Daron Hill	503-986-1832	K-12 Education; Secretary of State
Susie Jordan	503-986-1835	Transportation; Natural Resources
Robin LaMonte	503-986-1845	Economic Dev; Consumer Services; Judicial Branch
Deborah Manthe	503-986-1840	Health Licensing Agency and Boards
Theresa McHugh	503-986-1839	Deputy Fiscal Officer; Legislative Branch
Ken Rocco	503-986-1844	Fiscal Officer; Emergency Fund
Paul Siebert	503-986-1843	Natural Resources
Dallas Weyand	503-986-1834	Administration; Treasurer
Doug Wilson	503-986-1837	Public Safety
Legislative Analysts		
John Borden	503-986-1842	Human Services; Economic Dev; Consumer Services
Adrienne Sexton	503-986-1841	Administration; Education; Legislative Branch
Tim Walker	503-986-1827	Public Safety; Transportation; Judicial Branch
Administrative		
Joan Diaz	503-986-1828	Administrative Support
Gina Rumbaugh	503-986-1829	Office Manager

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