



Senate Finance Committee

HEARING

AGENCY OVERVIEW & BUDGET

April 28, 2025



OPLC Agency Overview & Core Functions

- Oversee the administration of over fifty (50) occupational licensing boards, councils, and commissions within the State of New Hampshire.
 - Seven (7) boards are advisory boards, as opposed to independent regulatory boards.
- Staff largely assist the boards, councils, and commissions with two major functions: (1) licensing individuals who wish to practice in New Hampshire; and (2) ensuring compliance with laws through investigations or inspections.
 - Over 200,000 occupational licenses in New Hampshire are active under OPLC or its boards.
 - OPLC averages 100 complaints per month.
 - OPLC conducts over 2000 inspections annually.

- OPLC's dedicated fund, established with the passage of HB409 (2023), allows the agency to operate more efficiently and effectively among all Boards, Councils, and Commissions
- OPLC proposed a 10% increase across all license fees to be voted on by JLCAR before the start of FY 26
- OPLC's expected revenue for the 26-27 biennium with the fee increase is \$27,166,172
- OPLC's expected expenses for the 26-27 biennium is \$28,750,202
- OPLC will continue to use current rollover money to cover the shortfall in revenue
 - OPLC is currently operating at loss, the rollover of \$4,598,405 is being used to cover current expenses
 - Remaining balance of rollover is at \$3,367,859, at the end of March
 - OPLC is at a net loss of \$1,230,546 for FY25

- Transfer 5 Mechanical and 4 Electrical Inspectors positions to Safety - FMO
 - Reduction of OPLC personnel and benefit costs of \$2,283,701
 - Inspector positions are being transferred to DOS – FMO to align with critical function of Safety underneath RSA 153:4-a(I)
- Cosmetology changes in HB2 represent an option to reduce costs associated with licensing while promoting still maintaining a high standard for health and safety standards for the public
 - Governor’s proposed budget gave shop owners the choice between a one time safety and sanitation certification after initial inspection or annual inspections by OPLC staff
 - House version maintains the option of one-time safety and sanitation certification after initial inspection, and changes the inspections to every other year to line up with shop license renewal



OPLC- Position Changes

- In addition to defunding of (6) positions in the 26-27 proposed budget, the below positions are currently frozen pending adequate revenue:
 - Board Administrator
 - Administrative Coordinator
 - Boxing & Wrestling Administrator
 - 2 Licensing Services Representatives
 - Quality Assurance Specialist
 - Licensing Supervisor
 - Administrative Prosecutor
 - Accountant I
 - Administrator of Compliance

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