

# **FY 2016-2017 Budget Testimony**

Before the Ohio State Senate  
Finance Committee  
Subcommittee on Workforce



**Presented by**  
**Stephanie K. Youst, Executive Secretary**  
**May 12, 2015**

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**Testimony of Stephanie K. Youst**  
**Executive Secretary**  
**State Board of Sanitarian Registration**  
*Senate Finance Committee, Subcommittee on Workforce*  
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Chairman Beagle and members of the Committee, I am Stephanie Youst, Executive Secretary for the State Board of Sanitarian Registration. Thank you for the opportunity to testify regarding the Board's fiscal year 2016-2017 Executive Budget recommendation of \$158,300 for fiscal year 2016 and \$153,700 for fiscal year 2017 and to answer any questions the committee may have about the continuing operations and the funding requirements of the Sanitarian Registration Board for the upcoming biennium.

**Introduction and Board Overview**

The State Board of Sanitarian Registration's mission is to protect public health by ensuring that registered sanitarians, who are professionals engaged in the practice, possess and maintain specialized knowledge and skills in the field of environmental health. The Board meets its mission by the examination of registrants, ensuring that continuing education requirements are met, and the investigation of complaints. As of February 1, 2015, the Board registers approximately 1,400 sanitarians and sanitarians in training.

Registered sanitarians conduct inspections and provide consultation and instruction in environmental health programs such as food protection, dairy sanitation, drinking water quality, private wastewater management, solid waste, and institutional health and safety.

The Sanitarian Registration Board employs 1.3 FTE to accomplish its mission, including a full-time Executive Secretary and an Intermittent Clerk at 1,000 hours per fiscal year. The Board consists of seven members, which include the Director's representative from the Ohio Department of Health, the Director's representative from the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency, and five members appointed by the Governor representing general health districts, city health districts, universities, and private industries. Board members do not receive per diem and are only reimbursed for necessary travel expenses incurred while attending one-day Board meetings in Columbus.

At the requested funding levels, the Board will be able to fulfill their statutory mission by employing one program administrator 2 (Executive Secretary) and one intermittent clerical support person. The Board will also be able to continue reviewing and investigating all complaints filed with the Board, reviewing applications, reviewing continuing education requests, administering the examination to candidates seeking registration, and ensuring continuing education compliance through the annual renewal and audit.

The Executive Budget recommendations will allow the Board to continue to provide the same level of service in the upcoming biennium. The additional funding levels requested

in FY 2016 will allow the Board to pay approximately \$9,000 for a biennial audit conducted by the Auditor of State's office, pay for credit card processing fees, purchase new computers and pay for increased rent costs. In FY 2017, the additional funding requested will be used to pay for credit card processing fees and increased rent costs. Credit card processing fees are new for the Board as we just began accepting them in November 2014. The Board is in the process of implementing a new licensing system, of which credit cards will be an integral part. The hope is that the new system will allow registrants to have the ability to complete online renewals, online applications and other self-service features related to registration and licensure. The Board is anticipating system implementation during the FY16-17 biennium.

**Revenues / Expenditures**

The State Board of Sanitarian Registration is a non-GRF funded agency. Fees generated by the Board are deposited into Fund 4K90, the joint professional regulatory board fund. Appropriated funds not spent in a given fiscal year remain in the balance of that fund.

The table below shows the Board's appropriations, revenues, expenditures, and contribution to the 4K90 fund since Fiscal Year 2011.

*Historical Revenues/Expenditures*

	<b>FY 2011</b>	<b>FY 2012</b>	<b>FY 2013</b>	<b>FY 2014</b>	<b>FY 2015 Projected</b>	<b>FY2016 Projected*</b>	<b>FY2017 Projected*</b>
<b>Budget Appropriation</b>	\$130,000	\$141,839	\$144,678	\$146,650	\$146,650	\$158,300	\$153,700
<b>Revenue</b>	\$126,500	\$121,616	\$128,492	\$131,280	\$135,218	\$151,247	\$155,452
<b>Expenditure</b>	\$114,866	\$124,675	\$132,596	\$144,678	\$145,650	\$158,250	\$153,650
<b>4K90 Contribution</b>	\$11,634	(\$3,059)	(\$4,104)	(\$13,398)	(\$10,435)	(\$7,003)	\$1,802

\*The projected revenue for FY2016-2017 is based on the fee increases contained in House Bill 64.

Revenue has been consistent and predictable for the Board. Each biennium the Board evaluates its operating expenses and if needed, proposes fee increases to cover operating expenses. The current budget bill contains language to increase the renewal fee 11.25%, from \$80 to \$90. If approved, this increase will ensure that the Board's revenues exceed expenditures beginning in FY2017 as it is expected to generate an additional \$12,000 annually from renewal fees, which is reflected in the table above. This is the Board's first fee increase since a 9% increase was put into effect in FY 2012. The budget bill also contains language to increase the late renewal fee from \$50 to \$75. This fee is not expected to generate any significant revenue for the Board and is meant to be a deterrent to renewing late.

In conclusion, the Board's primary objective during the budget process is to continue the existing level of staffing, operation, service, and maintain its commitment to operating within its financial resources. By approving the Board's fiscal year 2016 and 2017 budget request, the Board will be able to continue its mission of public health protection and meet its objectives during the coming biennium. The State Board of Sanitarian

Registration will continue developing initiatives that enhance the ethical and fiscal accountability of the Board; and utilize existing technology to ensure more individuals are able to readily apply for registration as a sanitarian and enter the workforce to contribute to Ohio's economy.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony regarding the Board's budget recommendation. I would be happy to address any questions you may have regarding my testimony.