

William F. Dwyer COMMISSIONER OF THE TREASURY

THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE STATE TREASURY

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May 8, 2014

Her Excellency, Governor Margaret Wood Hassan and the Honorable Council State House Concord, New Hampshire 03301

REQUESTED ACTION

Pursuant to RSA 94:6, authorization is requested to establish the entrance salary for the new Deputy State Treasurer, Monica Mezzapelle, at Unclassified Salary Grade GG, Step 4, \$87,423 annually, effective on May 30, 2014 and paid from account 01-38-38-380010-10500000-501098 (100% General Funds).

EXPLANATION

Treasury seeks to fill the Deputy State Treasurer position with a highly qualified candidate from the LBA Audit Division as a result of my resignation in order to serve as Commissioner of the Treasury, confirmed by the Executive Council on March 26, 2014. The new Deputy State Treasurer will occupy the position effective May 30, 2014. Monica Mezzapelle has worked in the LBA Audit Division for fourteen (14) years, demonstrating an increasing aptitude for internal controls, financial reporting, public administration, and State and federal compliance. At LBA Audit, Ms. Mezzapelle served for seven years as Financial Auditor and was promoted to Financial Audit Manager, where she performed successfully for an additional seven years leading financial audits and managing audit staff.

Ms. Mezzapelle has been a highly valued member of the LBA Audit team, not only for her wide array of skills, dedication, and professionalism, but for her willingness and ability to familiarize herself with the operations of numerous State agencies while effectively applying accounting and auditing principles in her work. She recently led the financial audit of the State Treasury and collaborated very well with Treasury staff and management while conducting a thorough and insightful review. Ms. Mezzapelle is also a Certified Public Accountant ("CPA"), and due to the resignation of former State Treasurer Catherine A. Provencher, will enable the State Treasury to maintain the accounting and auditing expertise critical in supporting all aspects of Treasury and Abandoned Property operations.

As appointed by the Commissioner of the Treasury, the Deputy State Treasurer position involves managerial responsibility for one Assistant Treasurer, the Director of Abandoned Property, and the State Treasury's Information Technology Manager. This position is also

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responsible for management and compliance in several areas including fraud risk assessment, business continuity planning, monitoring legislation with Treasury impacts, and support of the Commissioner of the Treasury on various statutory commissions. Established in RSA 6:21 with duties "as may be assigned by the treasurer" (Commissioner), this official serves as an essential contributor in the stable functioning, business operations, and tactical planning of the Treasury.

Ms. Mezzapelle is leaving her Audit Manager position, labor grade M, and in January was due for an increase to step 7 with an annual salary of \$80,418. As part of her transition to unclassified employee status, she will be required to relinquish such classified benefits as paid overtime, compensatory time, and potential payout of accumulated sick leave upon termination. The State Treasury continually faces business development challenges in the areas of monitoring and strengthening internal controls, ensuring that Treasury managers are provided with a qualified resource to address operational issues, and providing necessary support pursuant to the Commissioner's statutory committee obligations. With this in mind, it is highly unlikely that the State Treasury would be able to hire anyone of Monica's talent and combination of accounting/auditing capabilities, institutional knowledge, agency contacts, and professional skills at the minimum salary of \$69,255 in Grade GG.

Respectfully requested,

William F. Dwyer

Commissioner of the Treasury