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STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE



GOVERNOR'S OFFICE

for

EMERGENCY RELIEF AND RECOVERY

June 15, 2021

The Honorable Ken Weyler, Chairman
Fiscal Committee of the General Court
State House
Concord, New Hampshire 03301

His Excellency, Governor Christopher T. Sununu
and the Honorable Executive Council
State House
Concord, NH 03301

REQUESTED ACTION

Pursuant to RSA 14:30-a, VI, authorize the Governor's Office for Emergency Relief and Recovery (GOFERR) to accept and expend funds in the amount of \$7,707,237 from the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA), from the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund (CSFRF), to fund the administration of ARPA funds, upon Fiscal Committee and Governor and Executive Council approval, effective July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2023. 100% Federal Funds.

Funds requested for FY 22 and FY23 are to be budgeted in 01-02-002-0202-1911-Office of the Director as follows:

Class	Description	FY 21 Current Modified Budget	FY 22 Requested Action	FY 23 Requested Action
011-500126	PERSONAL SERVICES UNCLASSIFI	\$ 447,874	\$ -	\$ -
016-500141	PERSONAL SERVICES NONCLASSIFIED	\$ -	\$ 1,282,747	\$ 1,697,662
020-500200	CURRENT EXPENSES	\$ 82,208	\$ 50,000	\$ 50,000
022-500248	RENTS-LEASES OTHER THAN STAT	\$ 58,343	\$ 75,000	\$ 75,000
027-582703	TRANSFERS TO DOIT	\$ 66,763	\$ 75,000	\$ 75,000
030-500331	EQUIPMENT NEW REPLACEMENT	\$ 14,800	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000
037-500173	TECHNOLOGY-HARDWARE	\$ 22,848	\$ 17,500	\$ 17,500
038-509038	TECHNOLOGY-SOFTWARE	\$ 33,237	\$ 30,000	\$ 30,000
039-500189	TELECOMMUNICATIONS	\$ 4,532	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000
040-500800	INDIRECT COSTS	\$ 3,100,000	\$ 400,000	\$ 400,000
041-500801	AUDIT FUND SET ASIDE	\$ 1,250,000	\$ 7,500	\$ 7,500

Class	Description	FY 21 Current Modified Budget	FY 22 Requested Action	FY 23 Requested Action
042-500620	ADDITIONAL FRINGE BENEFITS	\$ 147,622	\$ 125,000	\$ 125,000
050-500109	PERSONAL SERVICE TEMP APPOIN	\$ 1,820,999	\$ 740,563	\$ 282,258
060-500601	BENEFITS	\$ 778,076	\$ 546,609	\$ 557,397
066-500556	EMPLOYEE TRAINING	\$ 5,000	\$ -	\$ -
070-500707	IN STATE TRAVEL REIMBURSEMEN	\$ 10,000	\$ -	\$ -
072-500575	GRANTS FEDERAL	\$ 404,287,831	\$ -	\$ -
080-500717	OUT OF STATE TRAVEL REIMB	\$ 5,000	\$ -	\$ -
085-588595	INTERAGCY XFR OUT OF FED FND	\$ 351,117,461	\$ -	\$ -
101-500729	MEDICAL PAYMENTS TO PROVIDER	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
102-500731	CONTRACTS FOR PROGRAM SERVIC	\$ 11,117,795	\$ -	\$ -
103-502664	CONTRACTS FOR OP SERVICES	\$ 9,991,109	\$ 500,000	\$ 500,000
Total Expenditures		\$ 784,361,497	\$ 3,869,919	\$ 3,837,317
000-400338	Federal Funds	\$ 784,361,497	\$ 3,869,919	\$ 3,837,317
Total Revenues		\$ 784,361,497	\$ 3,869,919	\$ 3,837,317

EXPLANATION

The GOFERR requests authorization to accept and expend the monies from ARPA in the amount of \$7,707,237 to assist with the mitigation of the fiscal effects stemming from the public health emergency with respect to COVID-19. This is an allowable use of ARP FRF funds as administrative work necessary due to the COVID 19 public health emergency and its negative economic impacts.

The American Rescue Plan Act (the Act) established the Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund (CSFRF) and Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Fund, which provided a combined \$350 billion in assistance to eligible state, local, territorial and Tribal governments to support COVID-19 response efforts and support immediate economic stabilization, and more. CSFRF provides substantial flexibility to meet local needs, including support for households, small businesses, impacted industries, essential workers, and the communities hardest hit by the crisis. These funds can also be used to, among other things, make necessary investments in water, sewer, and broadband infrastructure, as well as cover administrative expenses for work necessary due to the COVID-19 public health emergency and its negative economic impacts, such as disbursing funds and managing grant programs.

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New Hampshire anticipates receiving a total of \$994,555,877.60 through the State Fiscal Recovery Fund, of which the United States Treasury has allocated \$497,277,938.80, to the State of New Hampshire.

The use of those funds is allowed through December 31, 2024 for the purposes outlined in ARPA.

In addition to receiving these funds, the State anticipates that the U.S. Treasury will provide additional, comprehensive guidance on the permitted use of these funds, and as with CARES Act funding, require regular reporting on related expenditures.

However, given the allocation of New Hampshire's share of the State Fiscal Recovery Fund, immediate need for use of those funds, and the already known, permitted uses as defined by ARPA's statutory framework, GOFERR would like to accept and expend these funds received before the end of this Fiscal Year through Fiscal Year 2023. GOFERR would use these funds to exercise its role focused on creating and overseeing programs, facilitating transparency efforts, tracking federal funds, and engaging in required federal reporting on funds received and expended by the state.

Any budgets created and approved for expenditure of these funds are obligated to abide by federal standards and requirements.

Funds are budgeted as follows:

Class 016 – GOFERR staff salaries

Class 020 – Current Expenses – office supplies, paper and printer ink for staff

Class 022 – Rents – Leases – office space for staff

Class 027 – Transfers to DOIT – DOIT support for staff

Class 030 – Equipment – Office furniture for staff

Class 037 – Technology, Hardware – laptops, monitors and docking stations for staff

Class 038 – Technology, Software – standard software required for staff

Class 039 – Telecommunications – phones and phone lines for staff

Class 040 – Indirect Costs at 10%+

Class 041 – Audit Fund Set Aside – at a rate of .01%

Class 042 – Additional Fringe Benefits – post retirements expenses for staff

Class 050 – Temp Part Time – for the temporary part-time positions

Class 060 – Benefits – for GOFERR employee benefits

Class 103 – For anticipated Operational Services contracts with vendors

The following information is provided in accordance with the Comptroller's instructional memorandum dated September 21, 1981:

1) *List of Personnel involved:*

GOFERR was originally staffed by state employees borrowed by other agencies, with the understanding that most borrowed employees would remain with GOFERR for at least a year. As GOFERR's role continues and new employees are needed to replace previously borrowed employees and to address new needs, those new employees will be hired as non-classified state employees.

Because GOFERR is a division of the Governor's Office that was created by Executive Order, to the extent GOFERR staff are not borrowed from existing state agencies and paid under a reimbursement MOU, additional staff positions will be created under the Governor's authority under RSA 4:16-a.

2) *Nature, need and duration:*

The period of performance runs until December 31, 2024, but this request covers the next two fiscal years, ending June 30, 2023.

3) *Relationship to existing agency programs:*

GOFERR has been tasked with administration and oversight of federal COVID-19 relief funds, including facilitating programs, engaging in transparency efforts, tracking federal funds, and conducting required federal reporting on funds received and expended by the state.

4) *Has similar program been requested of the Legislature and denied?* No

5) *Why wasn't funding included in the agency's budget request?*

GOFERR is entirely federally funded, and this represents the agency's budget request.

6) *Can portions of the grant funds be utilized for other purposes?*

These funds can only be used for the purpose of the grant award.

7) *Estimate the funds required to continue these positions:*

The requested funds for the next two fiscal years represent the necessary funds to continue relevant positions, fulfill GOFERR's mandate, and set aside appropriate funds for shared costs and audit expenses.

8) *Geographic Area Served:*

Statewide

9) *Sources of Funds:*

Federal American Rescue Plan State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds

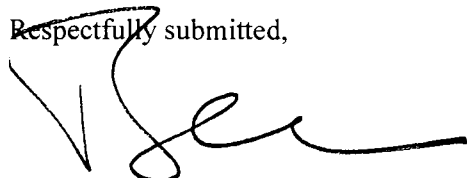
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In the event that Federal Funds become no longer available, General Funds will not be requested to support this program.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Taylor Caswell', written over a horizontal line.

Taylor Caswell,
Executive Director, GOFERR