

Representative Jack McFarland
Chair



Representative Jerome Zeringue
Vice-Chair

Fiscal Year 2027 Executive Budget Review

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

House Committee on Appropriations
House Fiscal Division

March 10, 2026

Budget Analyst: Paige Philyaw

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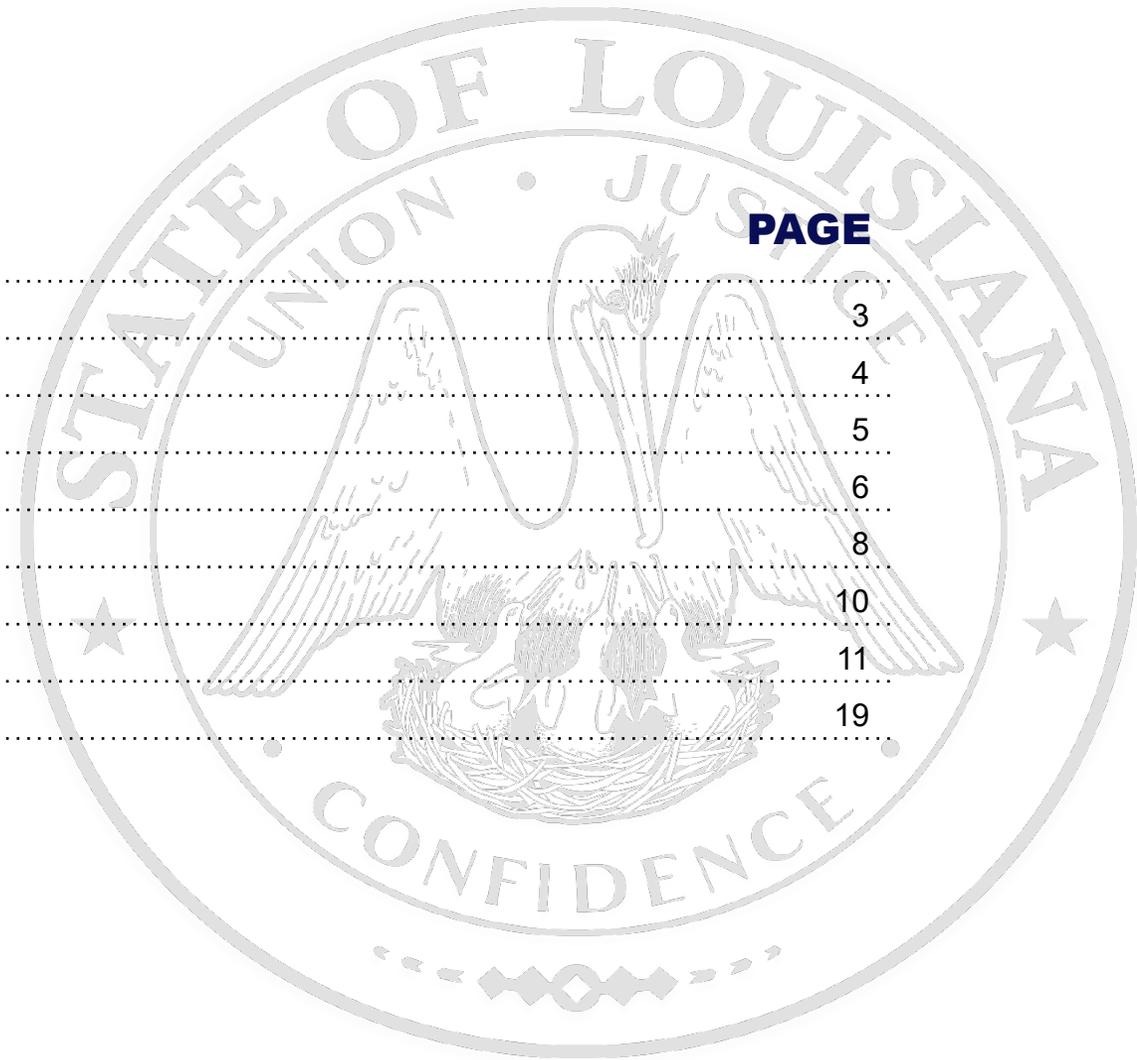
All data and figures were obtained from the governor's Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Executive Budget and Supporting Documents provided by the Office of Planning and Budget within the Division of Administration along with House Bill 1 of the 2026 Regular Session, unless otherwise noted.

<https://www.doa.la.gov/doa/opb/budget-documents/>

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FY 27 BUDGET RECOMMENDATION

Total Funding = \$157,382,289

Means of Finance		
State General Fund	\$	11,884,913
Interagency Transfers		10,000
Fees & Self-generated		114,300,637
Statutory Dedications		10,660,783
Federal Funds		20,525,956
Total	\$	157,382,289



Program Funding & Authorized Positions		
	<i>Amount</i>	<i>Positions</i>
Office of the Secretary	\$ 9,448,002	68
Office of Environmental Compliance	28,440,687	239
Office of Environmental Services	18,961,307	168
Office of Management and Finance	67,433,643	57
Office of Environmental Assessment	33,098,650	189
Total	\$ 157,382,289	721



SOURCES OF FUNDING

State General Fund \$11.9 M	Interagency Transfers \$10,000	Self-generated Revenue \$114.3 M	Statutory Dedications \$10.7 M	Federal Funds \$20.5 M
<p>The chief operating fund of the State recognized by the Revenue Estimating Conference from various taxes, licenses, fees, and other revenue sources except for those identified as other means of financing</p>	<p>Funding is derived from the following transfer:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$10,000 from the Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority for BP Oil Spill NRDA related work 	<p>Revenues derived from the following sources:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$78 M from the Environmental Trust Fund Account • \$21.2 M from the Motor Fuels Underground Tank Fund • \$14.9 M from the Waste Tire Management Fund • \$150,000 from the Lead Hazard Reduction Fund • \$24,790 from solid waste operator certifications & the sales of manifest forms and copies 	<p>Funding is derived from the following funds:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$6.9M from the Hazardous Waste Site Cleanup Fund • \$3.5 M from the Clean Water State Revolving Fund • \$226,974 from the Oil Spill Contingency Fund • \$50,000 from the Brownfields Cleanup Revolving Loan Fund 	<p>Federal funding derived from the following sources:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$14.6 M from the Environmental Protection Agency • \$5.7 M for indirect costs with various grants • \$96,000 from the U.S. Department of Energy • \$68,700 from the Department of Defense

FUNDING COMPARISON

Means of Finance	FY 25 Actual Expenditures	FY 26 Existing Operating Budget 12/1/25	FY 27 HB1 Budget	Change Existing Operating Budget to HB1		Change Actual Expenditures to HB1	
SGF	\$ 14,228,684	\$ 14,874,406	\$ 11,884,913	\$ (2,989,493)	(20.1%)	\$ (2,343,771)	(16.5%)
IAT	685,211	165,169	10,000	(155,169)	(93.9%)	(675,211)	(98.5%)
FSGR	87,679,535	113,305,271	114,300,637	995,366	0.9%	26,621,102	30.4%
Stat Ded	8,405,038	11,342,403	10,660,783	(681,620)	(6.0%)	2,255,745	26.8%
Federal	17,443,203	21,366,543	20,525,956	(840,587)	(3.9%)	3,082,753	17.7%
Total	\$ 128,441,671	\$ 161,053,792	\$ 157,382,289	\$ (3,671,503)	(2.3%)	\$ 28,940,618	22.5%

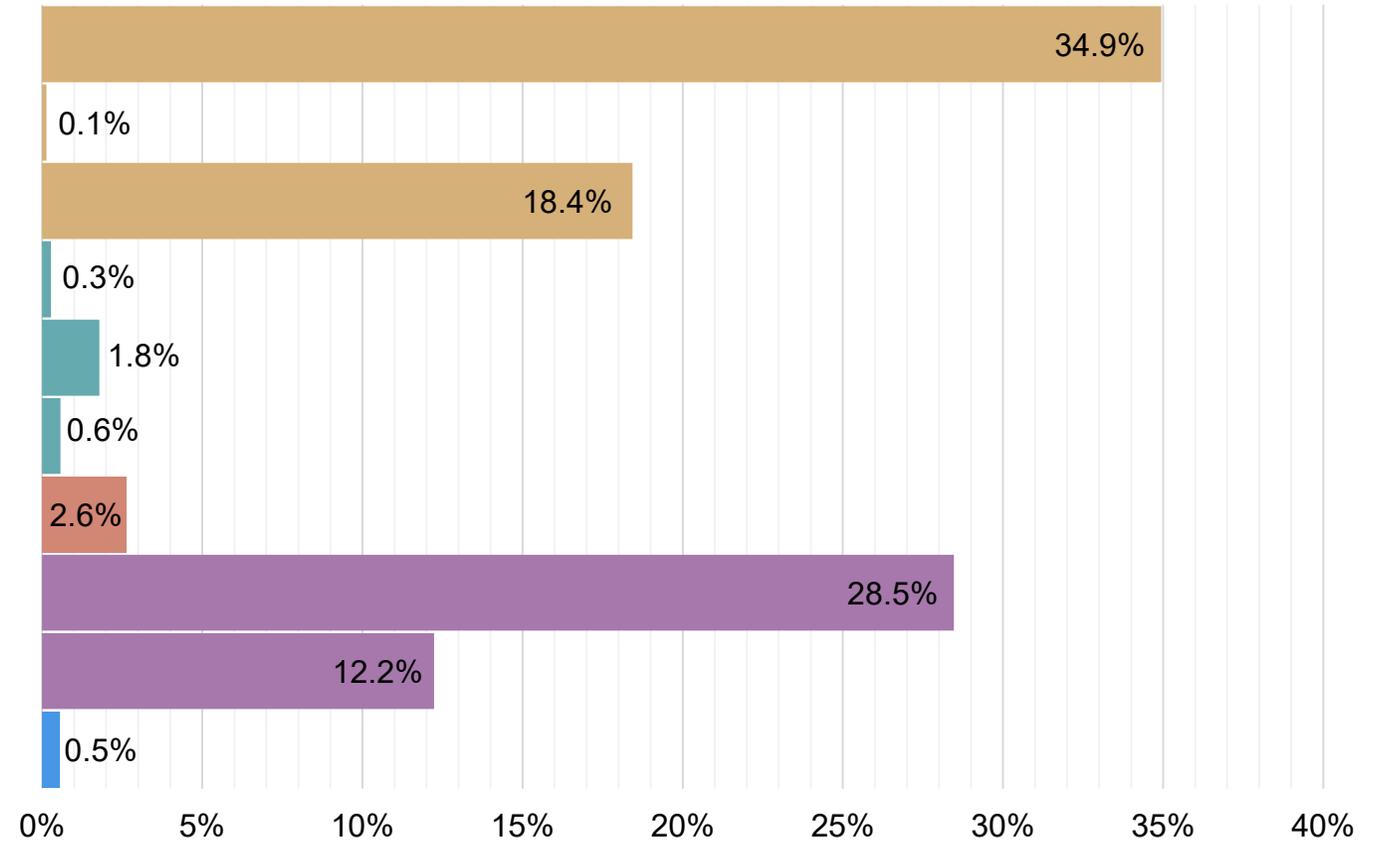
Significant funding changes compared to the FY 26 Existing Operating Budget

State General Fund	Fees & Self-generated	Statutory Dedications	Federal Funds
<p>(\$3 M) decrease primarily due to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • (\$1.8 M) for a means of finance substitution out of State General Fund • (\$1 M) for the removal of funding carried into FY 26 that is no longer needed in FY 27 • (\$104,420) reduction out of the Office of Management and Finance 	<p>\$995,366 net increase due to various standard statewide adjustments and means of finance swaps in the Environmental Trust Dedicated Fund Account</p>	<p>(\$681,620) decrease due to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • (\$468,932) for the removal of funding carried into FY 26 that is no longer needed in FY 27 • (\$212,688) adjustment in the Hazardous Waste Site Cleanup Fund based on the most recent REC 	<p>(\$840,587) net decrease due to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • (\$940,587) decrease for the removal of funds that were carried into FY 26 that are no longer needed in FY 27 • \$100,000 increase for a means of finance swap with the Environmental Trust Dedicated Fund Account

FY 27 EXPENDITURE RECOMMENDATION

Total Budget = \$157,382,289

Expenditure Category		
Salaries	\$	54,985,206
Other Compensation		211,043
Related Benefits		29,014,032
Travel		430,443
Operating Services		2,814,401
Supplies		898,174
Professional Services		4,135,689
Other Charges		44,802,010
Interagency Transfers		19,257,291
Acquisitions/Repairs		834,000
Total	\$	157,382,289



OTHER CHARGES / INTERAGENCY TRANSFERS

Other Charges

Amount	Description
\$ 21,249,485	Motor Fuels Underground Storage Tank
13,912,785	Waste Tire Program
3,340,194	Hazardous Waste Site Cleanup
1,795,000	Brownfield Cleanup Program
1,012,000	NPS Grants Clean Water Act
826,890	Clean Diesel Grant
783,350	Gulf Hypoxia Grant
500,000	Volkswagen Settlement Disbursement
372,118	Underground Storage Tank Compliance Evaluation
320,400	Water Monitoring Initiatives
186,788	Underground Storage Tank (UST) Operator Training Program
175,000	Hurricane Harvey LUST Grant
100,000	Exchange Network Funds
73,000	Transuranic Waste Shipment Training
73,000	Air Monitoring Initiatives
50,000	Brownfield Revolving Loan
20,000	Multi-Purpose Grant for inspection activities
12,000	Risk Assessment
\$ 44,802,010	Total Other Charges

Interagency Transfers

Amount	Description
\$ 11,737,225	Office of Technology Services (OTS)
2,703,768	Division of Administration
1,824,431	Rent in State-owned Buildings
754,450	Office of Risk Management (ORM)
683,706	Department of Transportation and Development
371,893	Civil Service Fees
243,500	Department of Public Safety
230,255	Capitol Park Security Fees
169,234	Louisiana Technical College
115,330	Agriculture and Forestry
108,979	Legislative Auditor Fees
97,287	Maintenance in State-owned Buildings
47,400	Louisiana Property Assistance Agency
42,042	Office of State Procurement (OSP)
40,056	Uniform Payroll System (UPS)
38,573	Administrative Law Judges Fees
22,373	Capitol Police Fees
16,194	State Treasury Fees
6,250	LSU Radiation Safety Office for Calibration of Survey Meters
4,345	Secretary of State
\$ 19,257,291	Total Interagency Transfers

EXPENDITURE COMPARISON

Expenditure Category	FY 25 Actual Expenditures	FY 26 Existing Operating Budget 12/1/25	FY 27 HB1 Budget	Change Existing Operating Budget to HB1		Change Actual Expenditures to HB1	
Salaries	\$ 48,418,381	\$ 52,974,336	\$ 54,985,206	\$ 2,010,870	3.8%	\$ 6,566,825	13.6%
Other Compensation	721,456	211,043	211,043	0	0.0%	(510,413)	(70.7%)
Related Benefits	26,199,889	27,931,192	29,014,032	1,082,840	3.9%	2,814,143	10.7%
Travel	285,475	430,443	430,443	0	0.0%	144,968	50.8%
Operating Services	2,030,635	2,814,401	2,814,401	0	0.0%	783,766	38.6%
Supplies	749,047	912,811	898,174	(14,637)	(1.6%)	149,127	19.9%
Professional Services	4,581,756	4,835,129	4,135,689	(699,440)	(14.5%)	(446,067)	(9.7%)
Other Charges	31,760,412	48,684,667	44,802,010	(3,882,657)	(8.0%)	13,041,598	41.1%
Interagency Transfers	12,471,173	20,275,632	19,257,291	(1,018,341)	(5.0%)	6,786,118	54.4%
Acquisitions/Repairs	1,223,446	1,984,138	834,000	(1,150,138)	(58.0%)	(389,446)	(31.8%)
Total	\$ 128,441,670	\$ 161,053,792	\$ 157,382,289	\$ (3,671,503)	(2.3%)	\$ 28,940,619	22.5%

SIGNIFICANT EXPENDITURE CHANGES

Compared to the FY 26 Existing Operating Budget

Personnel Services	Other Charges/IAT	Acquisitions/Repairs
<p>\$3.1 M increase primarily due to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> \$2 M increase for various standard statewide adjustments to salaries including attrition, benefits, and retirement changes \$930,501 increase for the addition of nine (9) authorized T.O. positions in the Office of Environmental Services and the Office of Management and Finance 	<p>(\$4.9 M) net decrease due to items such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (\$6.6 M) decrease to remove funding carried into FY 26 for contractual obligations that crossed fiscal years \$2.8 M increase to transfer the department's Environmental Management & Protection Organizations application to a cloud based service (\$1.9 M) reduction due to Volkswagen Settlement Contracts nearing completion \$1 M increase in various statewide adjustments such as Legislative Auditor Fees, rent, building maintenance, and risk management (\$212,688) reduction out of the Hazardous Waste Site Cleanup Fund for completed contracts 	<p>(\$1.1 M) net decrease due to items such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (\$2 M) to remove funding for acquisition purchases and major repairs budgeted in FY 26 that are no longer needed in FY 27 \$834,000 for various replacement equipment purchases needed for FY 27 including vehicles and testing devices

DEPARTMENT CONTACTS



Courtney J. Burdette
Secretary

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Theresa C. Delafosse
Undersecretary

Theresa.Delafosse@la.gov



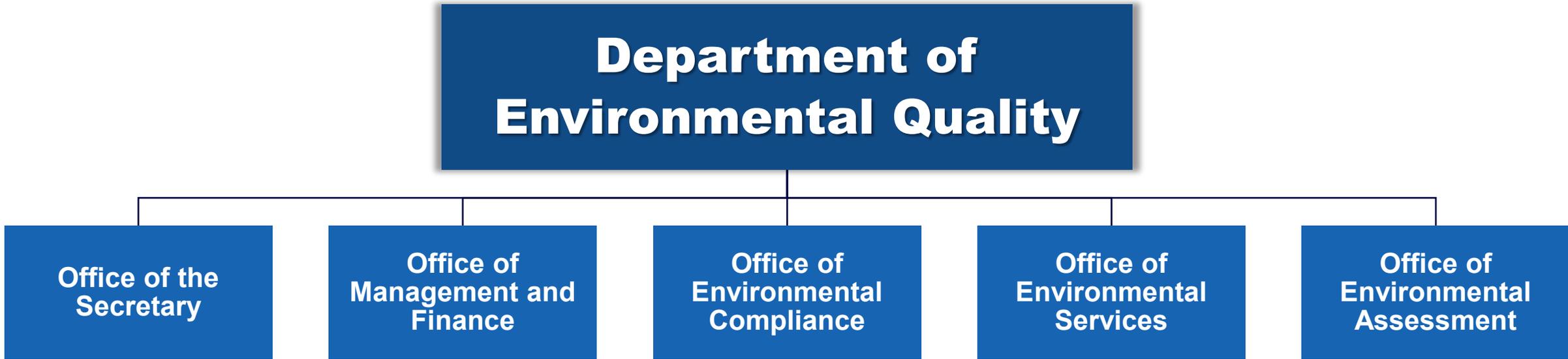
Nathan K. McBride
Deputy Secretary

Nathan.McBride@la.gov

The seal of the State of Louisiana is visible in the background, featuring a pelican feeding its young in a nest, surrounded by the text "STATE OF LOUISIANA", "UNION • JUSTICE", and "CONFIDENCE".

General Department Information

DEPARTMENT ORGANIZATION



Office of the Secretary

Executive Administration Division

- Provides oversight and leadership to the 5 agency functions of the department

Business & Community Outreach Division

- Provides regulatory and non-regulatory approaches to protect and improve the environment through technical assistance or outreach programs

Audit Services Division

- Performs audits on the department, as well as private entities that do not appear to be paying fees to the department on a self-reporting basis

Legal Affairs Division

- Provides legal advice, consultation, representation to all of the offices of the department and drafts and reviews contracts, agreements, and settlements

Criminal Investigations Division

- Determines if a criminal violation of the Louisiana Environmental Quality Act has occurred and assists the district attorney by providing information of the alleged violation for prosecution

Communications Division

- Handles all media functions, including media inquiries, press releases, and website and social media management

Office of Environmental Compliance

Surveillance Division

- Inspects facilities for permit compliance
- Responds to citizen complaints in regards to unauthorized releases of water or air pollution

Emergency Response & Radiological Division

- Responds to chemical and environmental emergencies
- Serves as the single point of contact for reporting spills the department
- Provides administrative services for radiation sources, such as administering the testing of radiographers and managing the licenses for radioactive sources in the state

Enforcement Division

- Enforces penalties for violations of state and federal laws



LDEQ headquarters in downtown
Baton Rouge

Office of Environmental Services



Shell Chemical Plant
Geismar, LA

Air Permits Division

- Authorizes air quality permits

Waste Permits Division

- Authorizes Solid Waste and Hazardous Waste Regulations permits
- Provides engineering and geological services throughout the state
- Responsible for the Waste Tire Program

Water Permits Division

- Authorizes permits administered under Louisiana Water Quality Regulations

Public Participation & Permit Support Division

- Provides support to permit divisions with administration, database management, certifications, accreditations and notifications
- Facilitates public participation through public hearings and informing the public through notices

Office of Management and Finance

Financial Services Division

- Performs accounting, financial and various other activities that help support the department
- Responsible for the Motor Fuel Underground Storage Tank Trust Fund reimbursement processing

Support Services Division

- Provides support to the department in the following areas: human resources, safety trainings, information technology assistance, and records management
- Responsible for the Revolving Loan Financial processing and reporting



Office of Environmental Assessment

Air Planning and Assessment Division

- Evaluates the overall quality of the state's air resources
- Develops & maintains the state's implementation plan, describing control strategies to address federally mandated ambient air quality standards

Water Planning and Assessment Division

- Evaluates the overall quality of the state's water resources

Remediation Division

- Functions to protect the state's soil, groundwater, and surface water resources from unauthorized historical and future releases to the environment
- Investigates, evaluates, and cleans up contamination at both active facilities and abandoned sites

Underground Storage Tank Division

- Investigates, evaluates, monitors and cleans up contamination at active and closed Underground Storage Tank sites

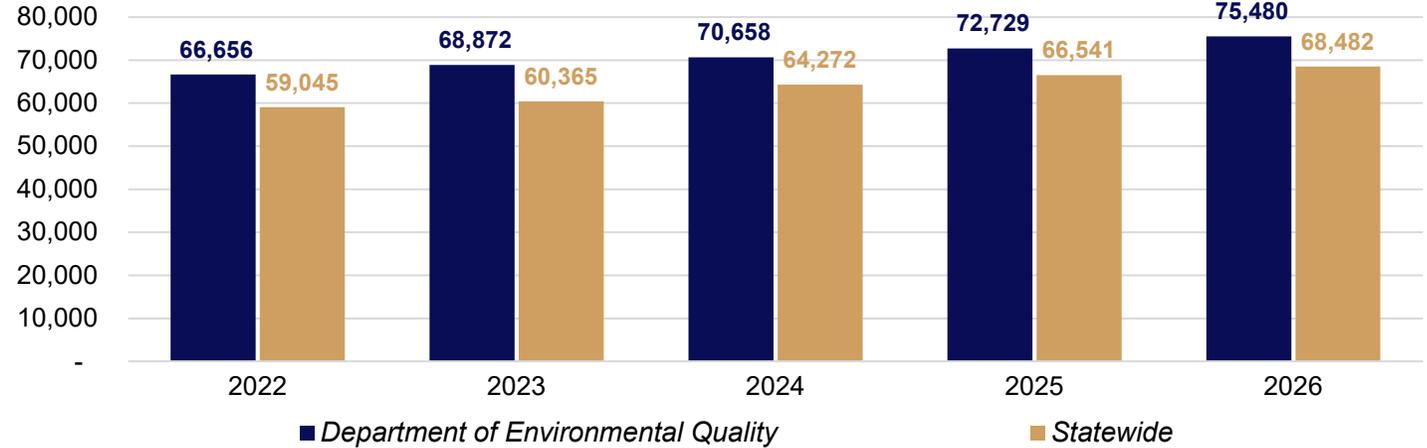


PERSONNEL INFORMATION

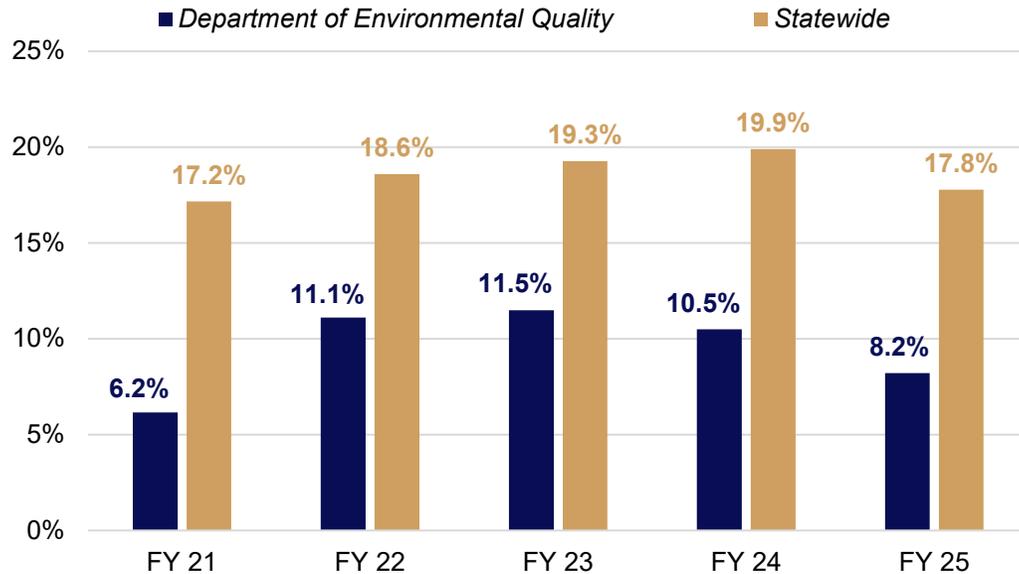
FY 2027 Recommended Positions

721	Total Authorized T.O. Positions (712 Classified, 9 Unclassified)
0	Authorized Other Charges Positions
0	Non-T.O. FTE Positions
43	Vacant Positions (December 3, 2025)

Historical Average Salary



Turnover History



Top Positions Vacated FY 2025

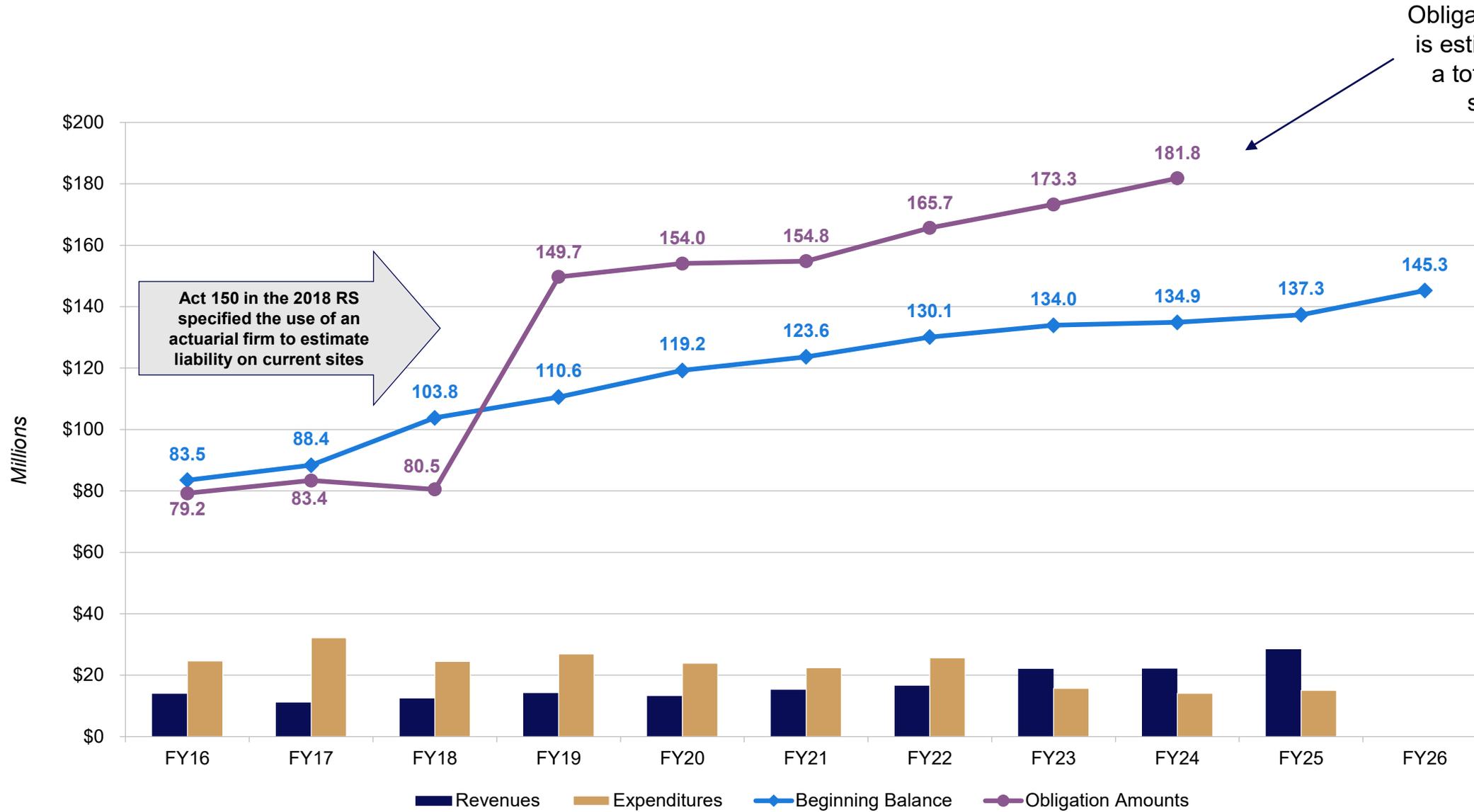
Position	Number of Employees	Separations	Turnover Rate
Environmental Scientist III	156	11	7.1%
Geologist III	21	4	19.0%
Environmental Scientist IV	45	4	8.9%
Senior Environmental Scientist DCL B	37	4	10.8%
Environmental Scientist Supervisor	48	4	8.3%

Source: Department of Civil Service

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General Budgetary Information

MOTOR FUELS UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANK TRUST FUND



Act 150 in the 2018 RS specified the use of an actuarial firm to estimate liability on current sites

Obligation amounts for FY 24 is estimated at \$181.8 M for a total of all underground storage tank sites.

Revenues of \$0.008/gallon are derived from the first sale or delivery of a motor fuel to registered tank owners.

The fund is a trust fund used to reimburse eligible participants for the remediation of leaking tank sites.

Source: Department of Treasury fund reports & Department of Environmental Quality

FY 26 EXISTING OPERATING BUDGET

The FY 2025-26 Existing Operating Budget (EOB) was frozen on December 1, 2025. This point-in-time reference is used in both the Executive Budget and the General Appropriations Bill.

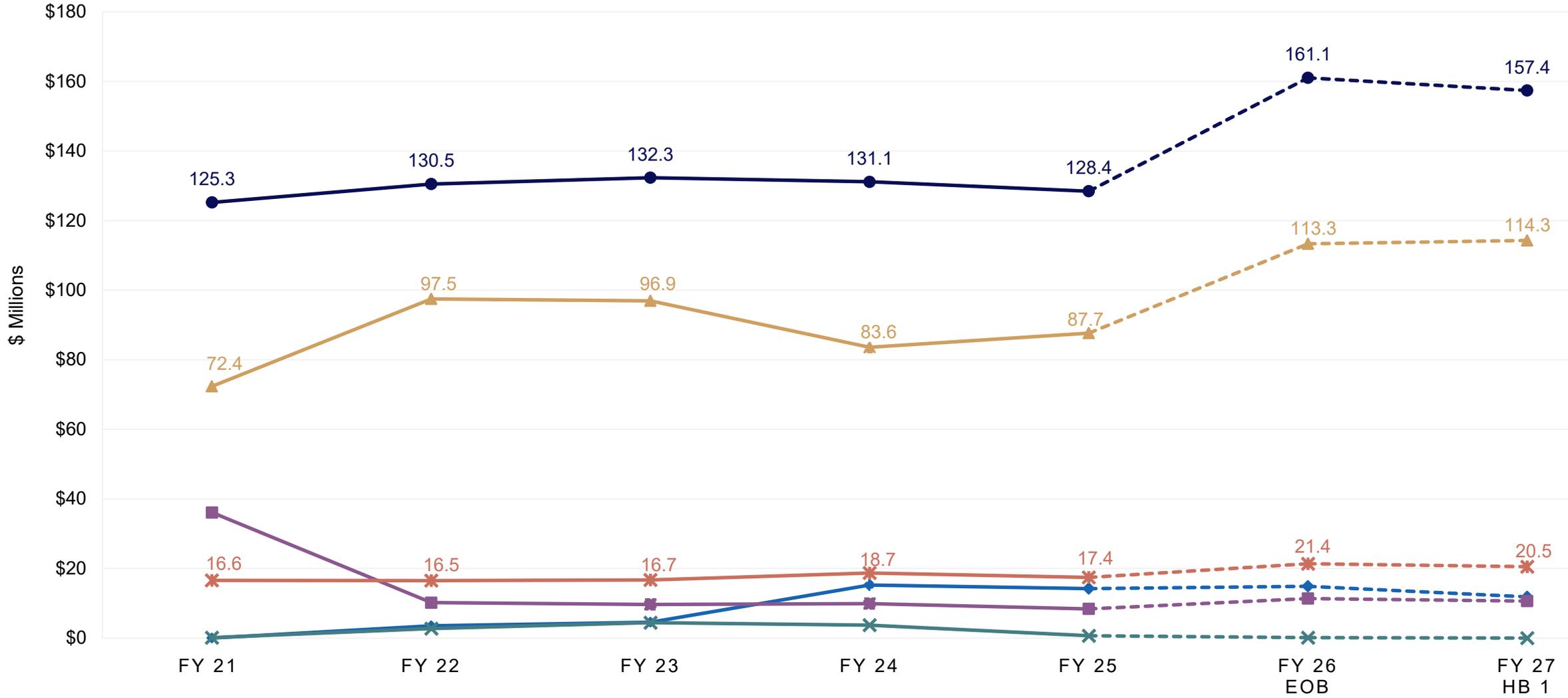
Means of Finance	Appropriation	Mid-Year Adjustments	Existing Operating Budget
General Fund	\$ 13,838,127	\$ 1,036,279	\$ 14,874,406
Interagency Transfers	165,169	0	165,169
Self-generated Revenue	108,015,641	5,289,630	113,305,271
Statutory Dedications	10,873,471	468,932	11,342,403
Federal	20,425,956	940,587	21,366,543
Total	\$ 153,318,364	\$ 7,735,428	\$ 161,053,792

Mid-year Adjustments Summary				
July	August	September	October	November
No change	\$7.7 M Various means of finance carried into FY 26 from the prior fiscal year for program expenses and contracts	No change	No change	No change

HISTORICAL SPENDING

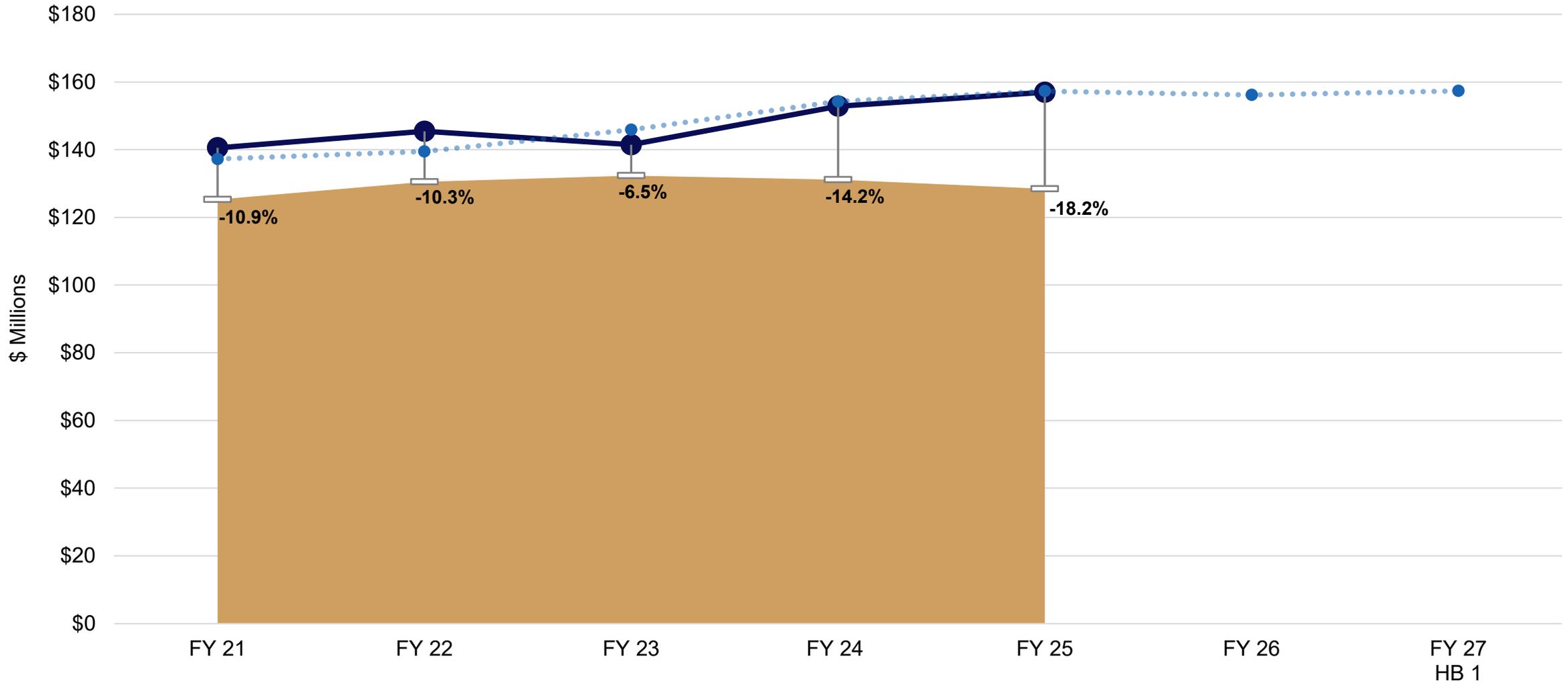
◆ State General Fund
✕ Interagency Transfers
▲ Fees & Self-generated
■ Statutory Dedications
✱ Federal Funds
● Total Budget

Annual Average Spending Change from FY 21 to 25:

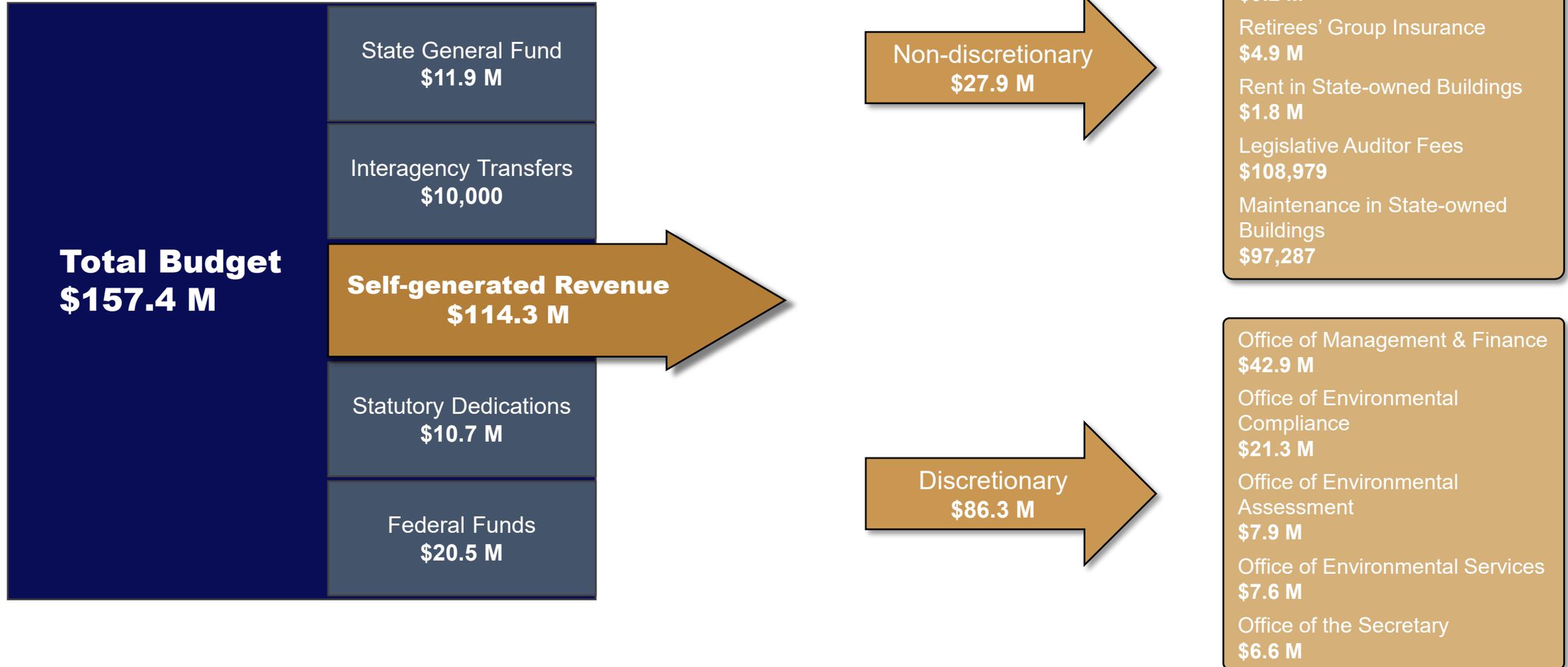


HISTORICAL BUDGET

Actual Spending Final Budget Beginning Budget



DISCRETIONARY EXPENSES



* Figures may not add precisely due to rounding *