Workforce Safety and Insurance Budget 485 Senate Bill No. 2023

2003-05 legislative appropriation	FTE Positions 228.00	General Fund	Other Funds \$32,397,631	Total \$32,397,631
2001-03 legislative appropriation	228.00		31,641,340	31,641,340
2003-05 appropriation increase (decrease) to 2001-03 appropriation	0.00	\$0	\$756,291	\$756,291

Item Description

Fund surplus.

Transfer of state agency information technology full-time equivalent (FTE) positions - Section 10 of House Bill No. 1505 authorized the reduction and transfer of two FTE positions relating to information technology services, including electronic mail, file and print server administration, data base administration, storage, application server, and hosting services, from Workforce Safety and Insurance to the Information Technology Department by November 1, 2003. Workforce Safety and Insurance is to establish an information technology services accounting code consisting of funding related to the salaries and wages for the identified employee positions and related funding for equipment, training, office rent, travel, contracted services, or other related costs. Workforce Safety and Insurance is to use the funding contained in the information technology services account to purchase information technology services from the Information Technology Department. Workforce Safety and Insurance is entitled to receive from the Information Technology Department the equivalent in services that would have been performed by the employees in the transferred positions at a cost not to exceed the amounts transferred to the agency's information technology services account.

Fargo service center - The 2003 Legislative Assembly provided funding of \$324,000 to expand Workforce Safety and Insurance services in the Fargo area.

Status/Result

As of June 30, 2003, Workforce Safety and Insurance had assets of \$1,144,011,738 and liabilities of \$754,015,539 creating a fund surplus of \$389,996,199, of which \$300,000,000 was reserved. This compares to June 30, 2002, when Workforce Safety and Insurance had assets of \$1,048,608,164 and liabilities of \$662,635,070 creating a fund surplus of \$385,973,094, of which \$300,000,000 was reserved.

In accordance with the final recommendations report relating to the transfer of state agency information technology FTE positions and the required use of information technology services authorized in House Bill No. 1505, Workforce Safety and Insurance transferred one FTE position to the Information Technology Department by November 1, 2003. The remaining FTE position was exempted by the project executive committee because .5 of the position was primarily performing duties not related to the consolidation of services and .5 of the position was related to unique agency requirements. Workforce Safety and Insurance will migrate two of its 19 servers to the Information Technology Department and will purchase information technology services from the Information Technology Department.

Workforce Safety and Insurance opened a new service center at 2601 12th Avenue SW in Fargo in July 2003. Individuals can walk in and receive assistance with questions about premium billing statements, assessment bills, payroll reports, the claims filing process, obtaining a claim number, claim status, and the status of medical bill payments.