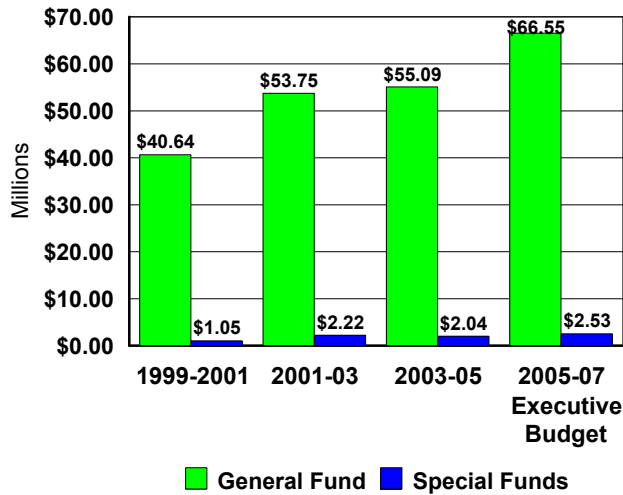


**Department 180 - Judicial Branch
 Senate Bill No. 2002**

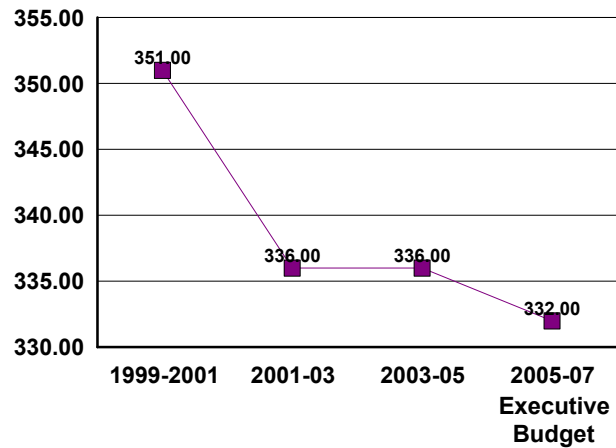
	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
2005-07 Executive Budget	332.00	\$66,546,349	\$2,526,808	\$69,073,157
2003-05 Legislative Appropriations	336.00	55,087,369	2,043,536	57,130,905 ¹
Increase (Decrease)	(4.00)	\$11,458,980	\$483,272	\$11,942,252

¹The 2003-05 appropriation amounts do not include \$752,500 of additional special funds authority resulting from the Supreme Court increasing the special funds appropriation during the 2003-05 biennium for continuing appropriations pursuant to North Dakota Century Code Sections 29-07-01.1 and 27-03-05.

Agency Funding



FTE Positions



First House Action

Attached is a summary of the first house changes.

**Executive Budget Highlights
 (With First House Changes Noted)**

	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
1. Provides for the following Supreme Court changes:			
a. Provides funding for a 5.78 percent salary increase for Supreme Court justices for the first year of the biennium and a 4 percent increase for the second year. The Senate reduced salary increases to 3 percent and 4 percent.	\$95,226		\$95,226
b. Provides funding to continue a new pay plan implemented in October 2004 to increase employee salaries to market levels	\$68,212		\$68,212
c. Provides funding to continue employee salary increases given during the 2003-05 biennium pursuant to the judicial branch salary schedule	\$146,288		\$146,288
d. Increases funding for operating expenses, primarily relating to an anticipated 10 percent increase in professional supplies and materials cost (\$176,420) and to provide funding for records management (\$60,000)	\$259,379		\$259,379
e. Provides funding for a new computer server	\$8,000		\$8,000
f. Increases funding for former judges' retirement	\$10,186		\$10,186

2. Provides for the following district court changes:			
a. Provides funding for a 5.78 percent salary increase for the district court judges for the first year of the biennium and a 4 percent increase for the second year. The Senate reduced salary increases to 3 percent and 4 percent.	\$731,021		\$731,021
b. Provides funding for the continuation of a new pay plan implemented October 2004 to increase employee salaries to market levels	\$468,350		\$468,350
c. Removes 4 FTE positions pursuant to Senate Bill No. 2423 (2003)--the state employee salary increase bill. The salary savings was used to provide a 1 percent salary increase for remaining judicial branch employees as of January 1, 2004.	(\$394,000)		(\$394,000)
d. Provides funding to continue employee salary increases given during the 2003-05 biennium pursuant to the judicial branch salary schedule	\$773,990	(\$102,876)	\$671,114
e. Increases funding for indigent defense. The Senate reduced this funding by \$1,155,930 from the general fund.	\$5,746,901	\$205,000	\$5,951,901
f. Increases funding for operating expenses, primarily relating to an anticipated 10 percent increase in professional supplies and materials cost (\$75,026), increase for travel and professional development (\$183,688), increase for court improvements (\$105,873), increase for juvenile services (\$123,100), increase costs for contract clerks in the counties (\$103,789), an increase for information technology costs (\$321,133), and ConnectND costs (\$95,593)	\$1,494,565	(\$419,764)	\$1,074,801
g. Increases funding for equipment over \$5,000 (increases funding for copy machines from \$74,500 to \$107,500, provides funding for sound systems (\$50,000), and provides funding for workstations (\$18,500)) and provides funding for information technology equipment over \$5,000 for computer servers for digital audio recording (\$19,500)	\$121,000		\$121,000
h. Decreases funding for former judges' retirement	(\$66,979)		(\$66,979)
3. Provides for the following Judicial Conduct Commission and Disciplinary Board changes:			
a. Provides funding for an increase in salaries (\$27,519) and an increase in operating expenses (\$10,431)	\$37,950		\$37,950

Other Sections in Bill

Section 6 of this bill provides the statutory changes increasing Supreme Court justices and district court judges salaries. Supreme Court justices annual salaries are increased from the current level of \$99,122 to \$102,096 effective July 1, 2005, and to \$106,180 effective July 1, 2006. The Chief Justice of the Supreme Court is entitled to receive an additional \$2,986 per annum effective July 1, 2005, and \$3,105 per annum effective July 1, 2006, an increase from the current additional amount for the Chief Justice of \$2,899 per annum. District court judges annual salaries are increased from the current level of \$90,671 to \$93,391 effective July 1, 2005, and to \$97,127 effective July 1, 2006. A presiding judge of a judicial district is entitled to receive an additional \$2,752 per annum effective July 1, 2005, and \$2,862 per annum effective July 1, 2006, an increase from the current additional amount for presiding judges of \$2,672.

Major Related Legislation

Senate Bill No. 2027 establishes a commission on legal counsel for indigents for the purpose of providing indigent defense services and provides for a transition of indigent defense services from the Supreme Court to the commission by December 31, 2005.

Senate Bill No. 2103 allows the Supreme Court to participate in the income tax refund debt setoff for purposes of court-ordered fines, fees, or costs due to the state.

Senate Bill No. 2105 repeals the section of law providing for a state juvenile services coordinator position.

ATTACH:1