

Louisiana Senate Finance Committee



FY27 Executive Budget

**13 - Department of
Environmental Quality**

March 2026

*Senator Cameron Henry, President
Senator Glen Womack, Chairman*





FY27 Recommended Budget

Schedule 13 — Environmental Quality Agencies

Departmental mission — “The mission of the Department of Environmental Quality is to provide service to the people of Louisiana through comprehensive environmental protection in order to promote and protect health, safety and welfare while considering sound policies regarding employment and economic development.”



Courtney J. Burdette,
Secretary

13-856
Office of
Environmental Quality

Secretary

Environmental
Compliance

Environmental
Services

Management and
Finance

Environmental
Assessment



Environmental Quality

FY27 Program Descriptions by Agency



Office of the Secretary

- Audit Services
- Legal Affairs
- Executive Administration
- Business & Community Outreach
- Communications
- Criminal Investigations

Office of Environmental Compliance

- Surveillance
- Enforcement
- Emergency & Radiological Services

Office of Environmental Services

- Air Permits Division
- Water Permits Division
- Waste Permits Division
- Public Participation & Permits Support Division

Office of Management and Finance

- Financial Services
- Human Resources
- Waste Tires (OMF-Payments)
- OMF Support & Department Wide Costs
- Technology Service and Records Management

Office of Environmental Assessment

- Air Planning and Assessment
- Water Planning and Assessment
- Remediation
- Underground Storage Tanks





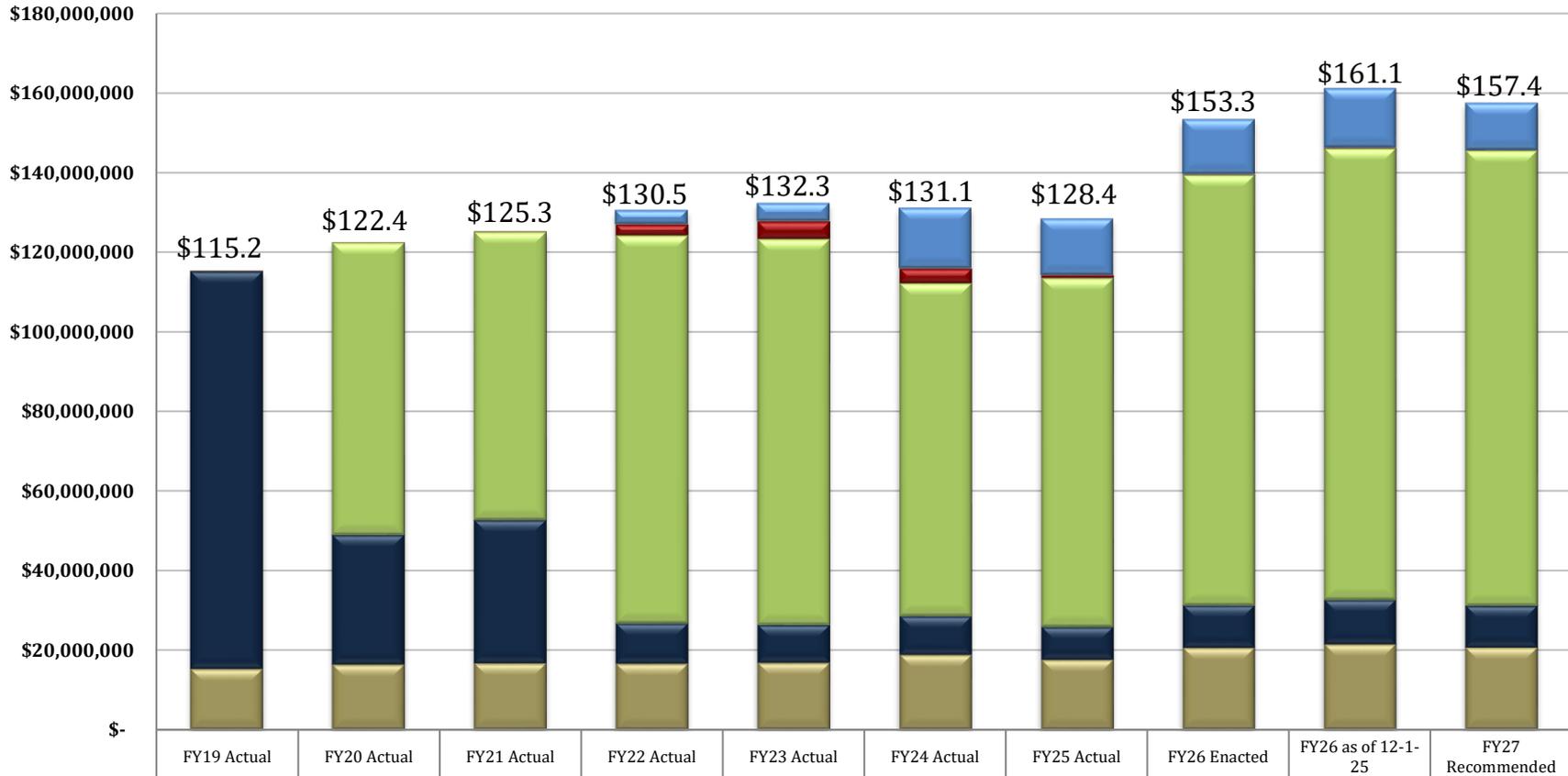
Environmental Quality

Changes in Funding since FY19

Total Budget by Fiscal Year and Means of Finance (in \$ millions)

Change from Actual to Recommended for FY19 to FY27 is +36.6%.

Change from Actual to Actual for FY19 to FY25 is +11.5%.



	FY19 Actual	FY20 Actual	FY21 Actual	FY22 Actual	FY23 Actual	FY24 Actual	FY25 Actual	FY26 Enacted	FY26 as of 12-1-25	FY27 Recommended
■ SGF	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$3,529,624	\$4,568,830	\$15,229,685	\$14,228,684	\$13,838,127	\$14,874,406	\$11,884,913
■ IAT	\$35,773	\$20,572	\$168,929	\$2,776,610	\$4,476,431	\$3,748,562	\$685,211	\$165,169	\$165,169	\$10,000
■ FSGR	\$20,080	\$73,386,764	\$72,393,734	\$97,498,464	\$96,949,300	\$83,573,068	\$87,679,535	\$108,015,641	\$113,305,271	\$114,300,637
■ STAT DED	\$99,953,114	\$32,648,120	\$36,117,844	\$10,194,079	\$9,649,921	\$9,897,939	\$8,405,038	\$10,873,471	\$11,342,403	\$10,660,783
■ FED	\$15,212,769	\$16,312,783	\$16,575,815	\$16,536,806	\$16,696,437	\$18,698,993	\$17,443,203	\$20,425,956	\$21,366,543	\$20,525,956



Environmental Quality

Significant Budget Adjustments Recommended for FY27

State General Fund (Direct)	Interagency Transfers	Fees and Self-generated Revenues	Statutory Dedications	Federal Funds	Total	T.O.	Adjustment
\$14,874,406	\$165,169	\$113,305,271	\$11,342,403	\$21,366,543	\$161,053,792	712	FY26 Existing Operating Budget as of 12-1-25
\$0	\$0	\$834,000	\$0	\$0	\$834,000	0	Acquisitions & Major Repairs
\$0	\$0	\$5,747	\$0	\$0	\$5,747	0	Administrative Law Judges
\$0	\$0	(\$2,471,907)	\$0	\$0	(\$2,471,907)	0	Attrition Adjustment
\$0	\$0	\$28,143	\$0	\$0	\$28,143	0	Capitol Park Security
\$0	\$0	\$4,686	\$0	\$0	\$4,686	0	Capitol Police
\$0	\$0	\$27,974	\$0	\$0	\$27,974	0	Civil Service Fees
\$0	\$0	\$144,432	\$0	\$0	\$144,432	0	Civil Service Training Series Adjustment
\$0	\$0	\$305,055	\$0	\$0	\$305,055	0	Group Insurance Rate Adjustment for Active Employees
\$0	\$0	\$231,004	\$0	\$0	\$231,004	0	Group Insurance Rate Adjustment for Retirees
\$0	\$0	\$2,966	\$0	\$0	\$2,966	0	Legislative Auditor Fees
\$0	\$0	\$6,131	\$0	\$0	\$6,131	0	Maintenance in State-owned Buildings
\$0	\$0	\$2,159,299	\$0	\$0	\$2,159,299	0	Market Rate Salary Adjustment – Classified
\$0	\$0	(\$1,109,800)	\$0	\$0	(\$1,109,800)	0	Non-recurring Acquisitions & Major Repairs
(\$1,036,279)	\$0	(\$5,289,630)	(\$468,932)	(\$940,587)	(\$7,735,428)	0	Non-recurring Carryforwards
\$0	\$0	\$9,311	\$0	\$0	\$9,311	0	Office of State Procurement
\$0	\$0	\$906,181	\$0	\$0	\$906,181	0	Office of Technology Services (OTS)
\$0	(\$5,229)	\$1,211,322	\$0	\$0	\$1,206,093	0	Related Benefits Base Adjustment
\$0	\$0	\$103,313	\$0	\$0	\$103,313	0	Rent in State-owned Buildings
\$0	\$0	(\$761,079)	\$0	\$0	(\$761,079)	0	Retirement Rate Adjustment
\$0	\$0	(\$45,499)	\$0	\$0	(\$45,499)	0	Risk Management
\$0	(\$5,579)	\$1,355,891	\$0	\$0	\$1,350,312	0	Salary Base Adjustment
(\$15,706)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	(\$15,706)	0	Topographic Mapping
\$0	\$0	(\$326)	\$0	\$0	(\$326)	0	State Treasury Fees
\$0	\$0	\$1,624	\$0	\$0	\$1,624	0	UPS Fees
(\$1,051,985)	(\$10,808)	(\$2,341,162)	(\$468,932)	(\$940,587)	(\$4,813,474)	0	Total Statewide Adjustments
(\$1,833,088)	(\$144,361)	\$1,877,449	\$0	\$100,000	\$0	0	Total Means of Financing Adjustments
(\$104,420)	\$0	\$1,459,079	(\$212,688)	\$0	\$1,141,971	9	Total Other Adjustments
\$11,884,913	\$10,000	\$114,300,637	\$10,660,783	\$20,525,956	\$157,382,289	721	Total FY27 Recommended Budget
(\$2,989,493)	(\$155,169)	\$995,366	(\$681,620)	(\$840,587)	(\$3,671,503)	9	Total Adjustments (Statewide and Agency-Specific)



Environmental Quality

Non-Statewide Budget Adjustments Recommended for FY27

Other Adjustments

State General Fund (Direct)	Interagency Transfers	Fees and Self-generated Revenues	Statutory Dedications	Federal Funds	Total	T.O.	Adjustment
\$0	\$0	\$0	(\$212,688)	\$0	(\$212,688)	0	Adjusts Statutory Dedications out of the Hazardous Waste Site Cleanup Fund based on the most recent Revenue Estimating Conference (REC) forecast.
\$0	\$0	\$803,226	\$0	\$0	\$803,226	8	Increases Fees and Self-generated Revenues out of the Environmental Trust Dedicated Fund Account for eight (8) authorized T.O. positions in the Office of Environmental Services.
\$0	\$0	\$127,275	\$0	\$0	\$127,275	1	Increases Fees and Self-generated Revenues out of the Environmental Trust Dedicated Fund Account for one (1) authorized T.O. position in the Financial Assurance section of the Office of Management and Finance.
\$0	\$0	\$2,775,000	\$0	\$0	\$2,775,000	0	Increases Fees and Self-generated Revenues out of the Environmental Trust Dedicated Fund Account to transition the department's Tools for Environmental Management and Protection Organizations (TEMPO) application to a vendor hosted cloud server arrangement.
\$0	\$0	(\$1,869,422)	\$0	\$0	(\$1,869,422)	0	Reduces Fees and Self-generated Revenues out of the Environmental Trust Dedicated Fund Account for the Volkswagen Settlement expenditures due to the projects nearing completion.
(\$104,420)	\$0	(\$377,000)	\$0	\$0	(\$481,420)	0	Reduces professional services expenditures. Funding includes Fees and Self-generated Revenues out of the Environmental Trust Dedicated Fund Account for contracts in the Office of the Secretary (\$100,000), Office of Environmental Compliance (\$200,000), and the Office of Management and Finance (\$181,420).
(\$104,420)	\$0	\$1,459,079	(\$212,688)	\$0	\$1,141,971	9	Total Other Adjustments



Environmental Quality

Non-Statewide Budget Adjustments Recommended for FY27

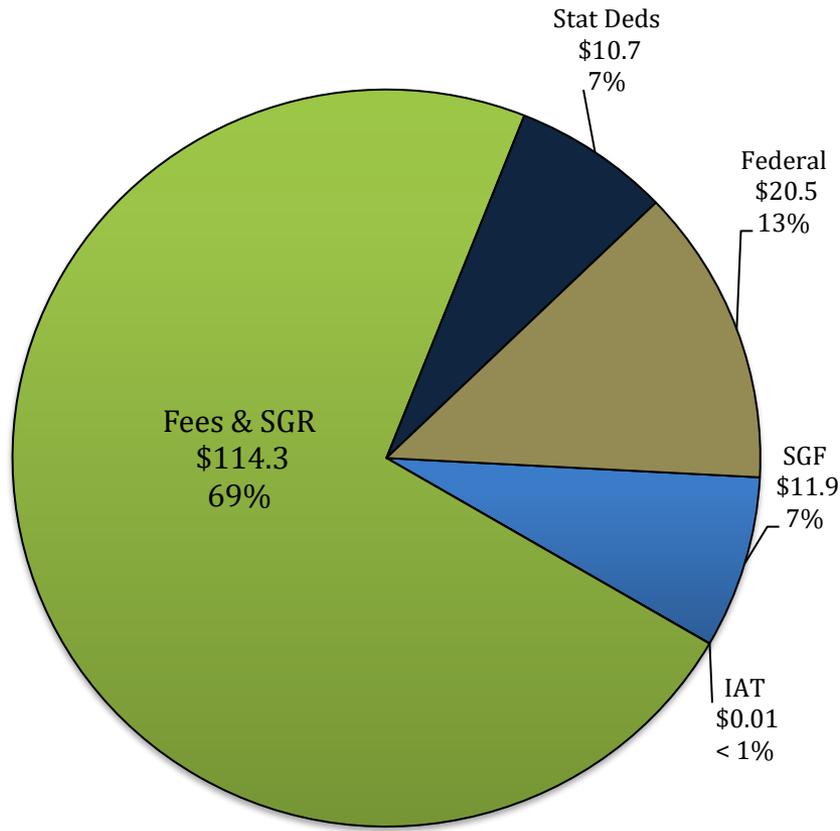
Means of Finance Substitution

State General Fund (Direct)	Interagency Transfers	Fees and Self-generated Revenues	Statutory Dedications	Federal Funds	Total	T.O.	Adjustment
\$0	\$0	(\$100,000)	\$0	\$100,000	\$0	0	Means of finance substitution increasing Federal Funds from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and decreasing Fees and Self-generated Revenues from the Environmental Trust Dedicated Fund Account for professional services related to Solid Waste Infrastructure for Recycling grants.
\$0	(\$144,361)	\$144,361	\$0	\$0	\$0	0	Means of finance substitution increasing Fees and Self-generated Revenues out of the Environmental Trust Dedicated Fund Account and decreasing Interagency Transfers from the Office of Community Development as the agency is no longer receiving funding for the Louisiana Watershed Initiative, and the position receiving this funding has been transferred into the Water Permits division.
(\$1,833,088)	\$0	\$1,833,088	\$0	\$0	\$0	0	Means of finance substitution increasing Fees and Self-generated Revenues out of the Environmental Trust Dedicated Fund Account and decreasing State General Fund (Direct) to utilize the current available balance in the fund account.
(\$1,833,088)	(\$144,361)	\$1,877,449	\$0	\$100,000	\$0	0	Total Means of Finance Substitution Adjustments



Environmental Quality FY27 Recommended Means of Finance

**FY27 Recommended
Total Means of Finance
(In Millions)**



Total \$157.4 m.

Non-SGF Sources of Funding:

Non-State General Fund sources of funding for the Department of Environmental Quality are derived from Interagency Transfers, Fees and Self-generated Revenues, Statutory Dedications, and Federal Funds.

The **Interagency Transfers** are from CPRA for BP Natural Resource Damage Assessment (NRDA) work. DEQ bills CPRA quarterly for these charges. IAT Transfers also include funds from the Office of Community Development (OCD) for the Louisiana Watershed Initiative (LWI).

Fees and Self-generated Revenues are derived from the sale of regulations, manifest forms, and photocopies. The Statutorily Dedicated Environmental Trust Fund was re-classified as Fees and Self-generated Revenues in accordance with Act 404 of the 2019 Regular Session. The Lead Hazard Reduction Fund, the Motor Fuels Underground Tank Fund, and the Waste Tire Management Fund were re-classified as Fees and Self-generated Revenues in accordance with Act 114 of the 2021 Regular Legislative Session.

Statutory Dedications, which make up seven percent of DEQ's total means of finance, are derived from the Oil Spill Contingency Fund, Hazardous Waste Site Cleanup Fund, and the Clean Water State Revolving Fund.

Federal Funds are derived from grants issued by the Environmental Protection Agency, U.S. Department of Energy, and the U.S. Department of Defense.



Environmental Quality Dedicated Funds FY25, FY26, and FY27 Recommended

Dedicated Funds	Source of Funding	FY25 Actual	FY26 EOB	FY27 Recommended
Clean Water State Revolving Fund	Federal grants	\$3,378,790	\$3,500,626	\$3,500,626
Brownfields Cleanup Revolving Loan Fund	Federal or state grants or state appropriation.	\$0	\$50,000	\$50,000
Hazardous Waste Site Cleanup Fund	Judgments, settlements, assessments of civil or criminal penalties, Hazardous Disposal Tax collected by the Department of Revenue.	\$4,868,150	\$7,564,803	\$6,883,183
Oil Spill Contingency Fund	Settlements and judgements.	\$158,098	\$226,974	\$226,974
TOTALS		\$8,405,038	\$11,342,403	\$10,660,783

The **Lead Hazard Reduction Fund**, the **Motor Fuels Underground Tank Fund**, and the **Waste Tire Management Fund** were re-classified as Fees and Self-generated Revenues in accordance with Act 114 of the 2021 Regular Legislative Session.



Categorical Expenditures

Examples of Categories

Departments expend funding in the five major categories listed below.

Personal Services

- Salaries – Regular, overtime, and termination pay for Classified and Unclassified personnel.
- Other Compensation – Wages, student labor, compensation for board members and/or board of trustees, evening instruction, university instructors, etc.
- Related Benefits – Retirement contributions, post-retirement contributions/benefits, FICA tax, Medicare tax, group insurance contributions, compensated absences, other related benefits, taxable fringe benefits, etc.

Total Operating Expenses

- Travel – In-state and Out-of-state, including meal reimbursement.
- Operating Services – Advertising, printing, insurance, maintenance, rentals, data processing, internet costs, dues and subscriptions, mail delivery, telephones, data lines, vehicle tracking and telematics, utilities, depreciation, amortization, banking services, credit card fees, etc.
- Supplies – office supplies and equipment, computers, clothing and uniforms, medical, pharmaceutical, food, automotive, repair and maintenance, software, etc.

Professional Services – Accounting, auditing, management consulting, engineering, architectural, legal, medical and dental, veterinary, information technology, etc.

Total Other Charges

- Other Charges – Aid to school boards, local government, etc.; public assistance; miscellaneous charges; judgments, fines, and penalties; interest on judgments; punitive/compensatory damages; OC personal services, operating expenses, professional services; contract attorney expenses; recoupments; furlough; contractual services; interest expense; claim payments; commercial group insurance; reinsurance; loans issued; disbursements; etc.
- Debt Service – Principal, interest, related charges, reserve requirement, amortization, and bond premiums.
- Interagency Transfer Line-Item Expenditure – Any expenses paid for with Interagency Transfers – from commodities and services to equipment.

Acquisitions and Major Repairs

- Acquisitions – Land; buildings; automobiles; aircraft; accessories; equipment; software; hardware; farm and heavy equipment; boats; capital outlay expenditures; construction; etc.
- Major Repairs – Land improvement; buildings; automotive; grounds; boats; aircraft; movable equipment; farm equipment; medical; office; library; education; recreation; communication; other equipment; pollution remediation; etc.



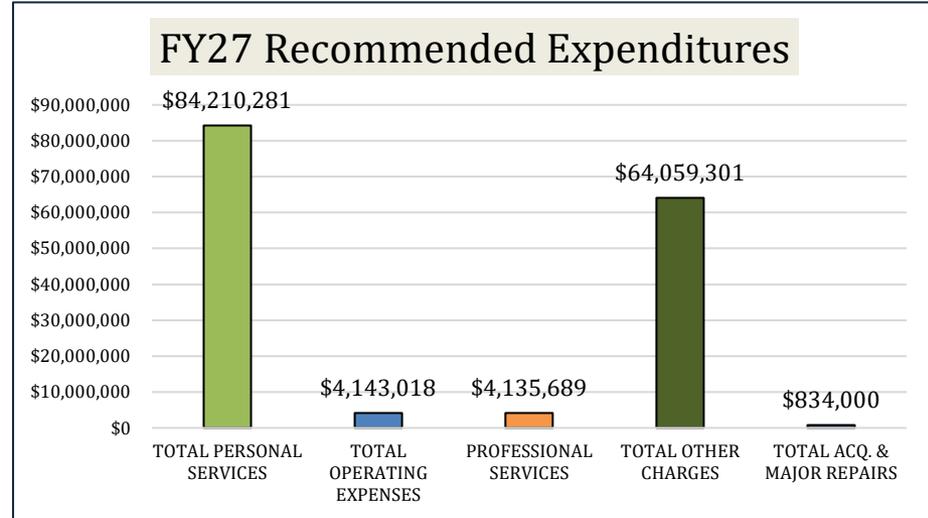
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Categorical Expenditures at FY27 Recommended

The largest expenditure category in DEQ for FY27 Recommended is Total Personal Services at 54 percent of the budget.

Within this category, Salaries make up 65 percent of expenditures, while Related Benefits contributes 34 percent.

Total Other Charges, which makes up 41 percent of Total Expenditures, includes funding for Motor Fuels Underground Storage Tank to reimburse Response Action Contractors of eligible tanks for cleanup of leaking underground storage tanks; Legal services; Waste Tire program for payments to permitted processors for proper disposal of collected waste tires; to provide services for investigation, testing, containment, control and cleanup of hazardous waste sites.



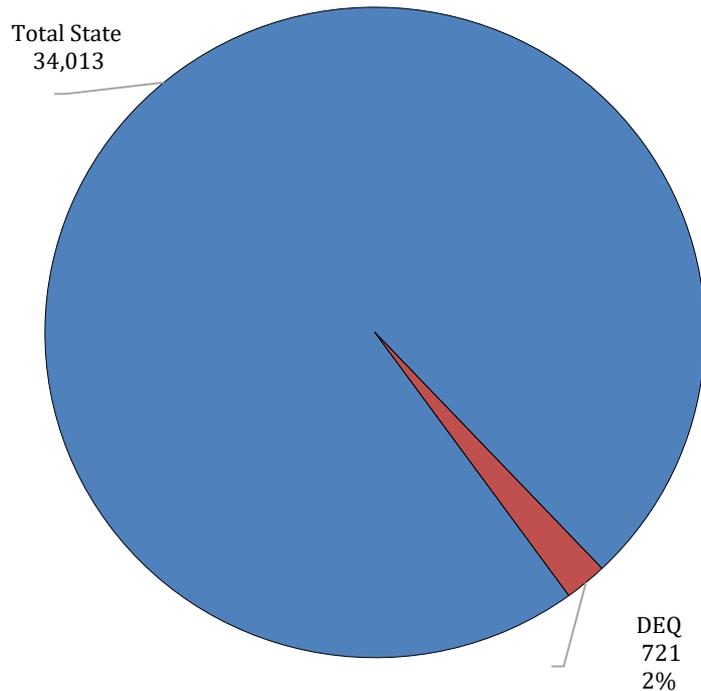
Categorical Expenditures	FY25 Actual	FY26 Enacted	FY26 EOB as of 12/01/25	FY27 Recommended	Difference FY26 EOB vs. FY27 REC
Salaries	\$48,418,381	\$52,974,336	\$52,974,336	\$54,985,206	\$2,010,870
Other Compensation	\$721,456	\$211,043	\$211,043	\$211,043	\$0
Related Benefits	\$26,199,889	\$27,931,192	\$27,931,192	\$29,014,032	\$1,082,840
TOTAL PERSONAL SERVICES	\$75,339,726	\$81,116,571	\$81,116,571	\$84,210,281	\$3,093,710
Travel	\$285,475	\$430,443	\$430,443	\$430,443	\$0
Operating Services	\$2,030,635	\$2,814,401	\$2,814,401	\$2,814,401	\$0
Supplies	\$749,047	\$898,174	\$912,811	\$898,174	(\$14,637)
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES	\$3,065,157	\$4,143,018	\$4,157,655	\$4,143,018	(\$14,637)
PROFESSIONAL SERVICES	\$4,581,756	\$4,617,109	\$4,835,129	\$4,135,689	(\$699,440)
Other Charges	\$31,760,412	\$45,514,698	\$48,684,667	\$44,802,010	(\$3,882,657)
Debt Service	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Interagency Transfers	\$12,471,173	\$16,817,168	\$20,275,632	\$19,257,291	(\$1,018,341)
TOTAL OTHER CHARGES	\$44,231,585	\$62,331,866	\$68,960,299	\$64,059,301	(\$4,900,998)
Acquisitions	\$1,223,446	\$1,109,800	\$1,984,138	\$834,000	(\$1,150,138)
Major Repairs	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
TOTAL ACQ. & MAJOR REPAIRS	\$1,223,446	\$1,109,800	\$1,984,138	\$834,000	(\$1,150,138)
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$128,441,671	\$153,318,364	\$161,053,792	\$157,382,289	(\$3,671,503)



Environmental Quality

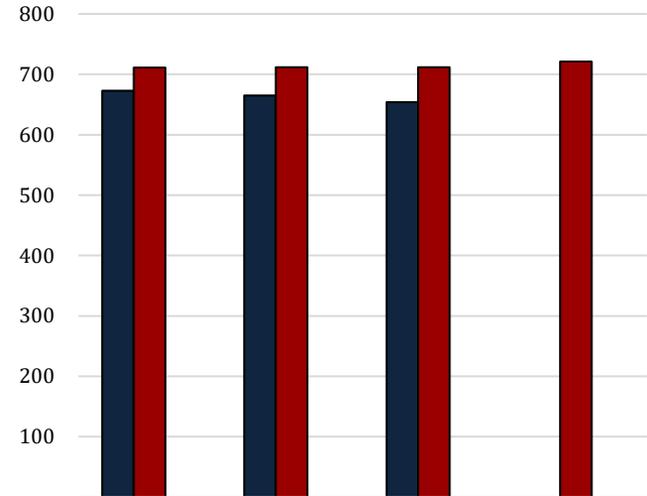
FTEs, Authorized T.O., and Other Charges Positions

**FY27 Recommended Department Positions
as a portion of
FY27 Recommended HB1 Authorized Positions**



FY26 number of funded, but not filled, positions as of January 2026 = 43

**Number
and
Types
of
Positions**



	2024	2025	2026	2027 Rec.
■ Total FTEs (1st July Report)	673	665	654	-
■ Authorized T.O. Positions	711	712	712	721
■ Other Charges Positions	-	-	-	-

The full-time equivalent or **FTE** definition refers to the number of hours considered full-time. For example, if an agency considers 40 hours full time, and there are two employees working 20 hours per week, those two employees would be 1.0 FTE.

Authorized Positions are those referred to in the Table of Organization (or T.O.) for each department. This count includes only those positions paid for from the Salaries expenditure category for the organization units and agencies included in each department's appropriation. This excludes positions paid for from other expenditure categories, such as wages or per diem.

Other Charges positions are authorized under R.S. 39:2(5)(b) ...

- (5)(b) "Authorized other charges positions" means the number of positions in an appropriation bill to be funded by the other charges continuing category of the accounting system for the state. The number may be adjusted during a fiscal year in accordance with law.
- [Act 377 of 2013 by Rep. Burrell]
 - Positions coded in the Other Charges expenditure category
 - These positions are usually associated with federal grants



Environmental Quality

Related Employment Information

Salaries and Related Benefits for the 721 Authorized Positions are listed below in Chart 1.
 In Chart 2, benefits are broken out to show the portion paid for active versus retired employees.
 This is where payments for the Unfunded Accrued Liability (UAL) can be found.

1.

Personal Services	2024 Actual	2025 Actual	2026 Enacted	2027 Recommended
Salaries	\$47,637,594	\$48,418,381	\$52,974,336	\$54,985,206
Other Compensation	\$690,422	\$721,456	\$211,043	\$211,043
Related Benefits	\$28,349,277	\$26,199,889	\$27,931,192	\$29,014,032
Total Personal Services	\$76,677,293	\$75,339,726	\$81,116,571	\$84,210,281

Average T.O. Salary = \$73,164

Examples of Other Compensation include pay for WAE employees, part-time employees, student workers, etc.

2.

Related Benefits FY27 Recommended	Total Funding	%
Total Related Benefits	\$29,014,032	
UAL payments	\$12,192,523	42%
Retiree Health Benefits	\$4,851,081	
Remaining Benefits*	\$11,970,428	
Means of Finance	General Fund = 2%	Other = 98%

Department Demographics	Total	%
Gender		
Female	396	56
Male	314	44
Race/Ethnicity		
White	507	71
Black	140	20
Other	63	9
Currently in DROP or Eligible to Retire	113	17

* Remaining Benefits include employer contribution to authorized positions' retirement, health, Medicare, FICA, Emoluments etc. The authorized positions include authorized T.O. positions and authorized other charges positions, both filled and vacant.

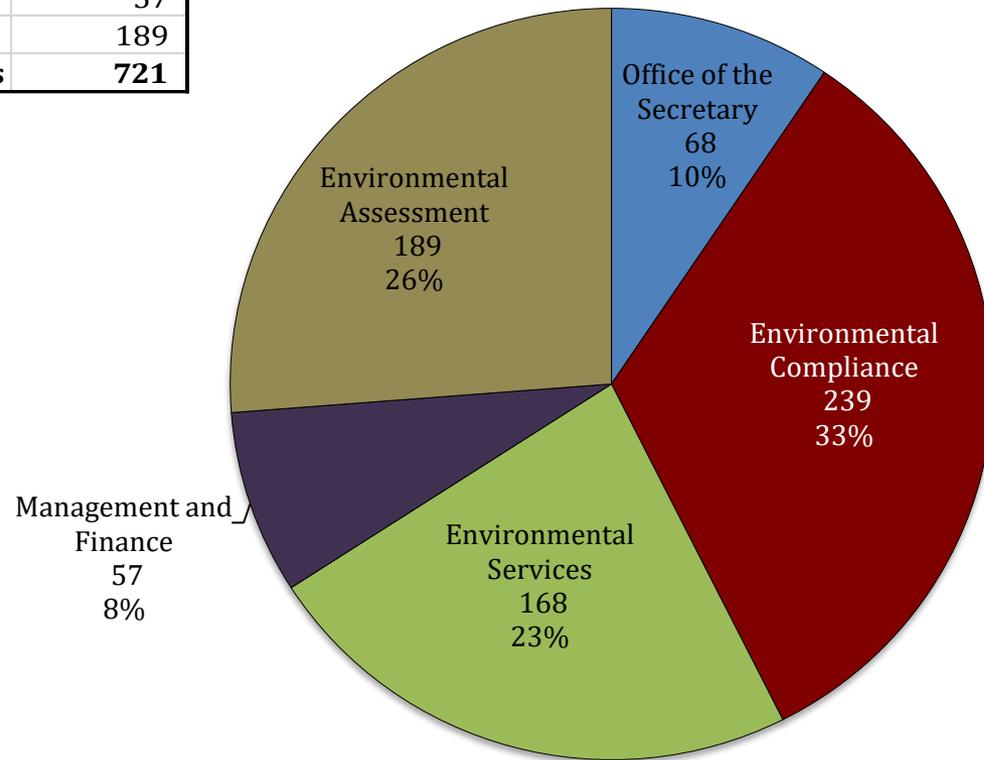
Other Charges Benefits
\$0



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FY27 Recommended Total Authorized Positions by Agency

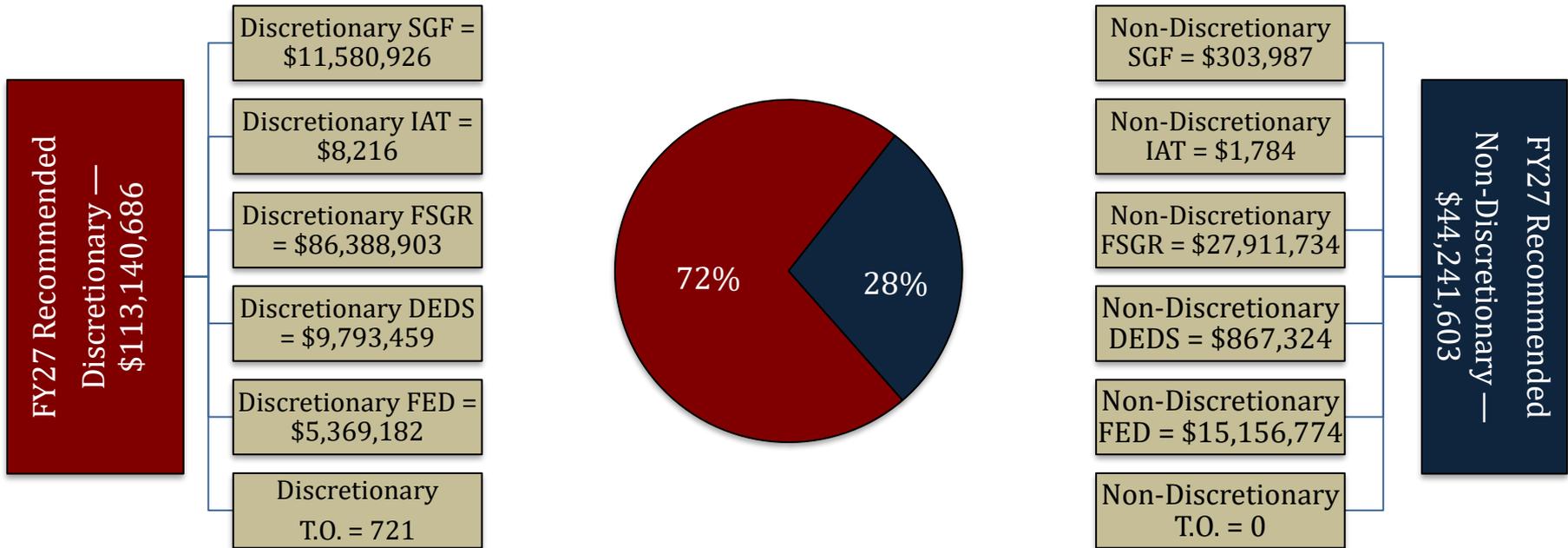
Office of Environmental Quality	
Office of the Secretary	68
Office of Environmental Compliance	239
Office of Environmental Services	168
Office of Management and Finance	57
Office of Environmental Assessment	189
Total Positions	721





Environmental Quality

FY27 Discretionary/Non-Discretionary Comparison



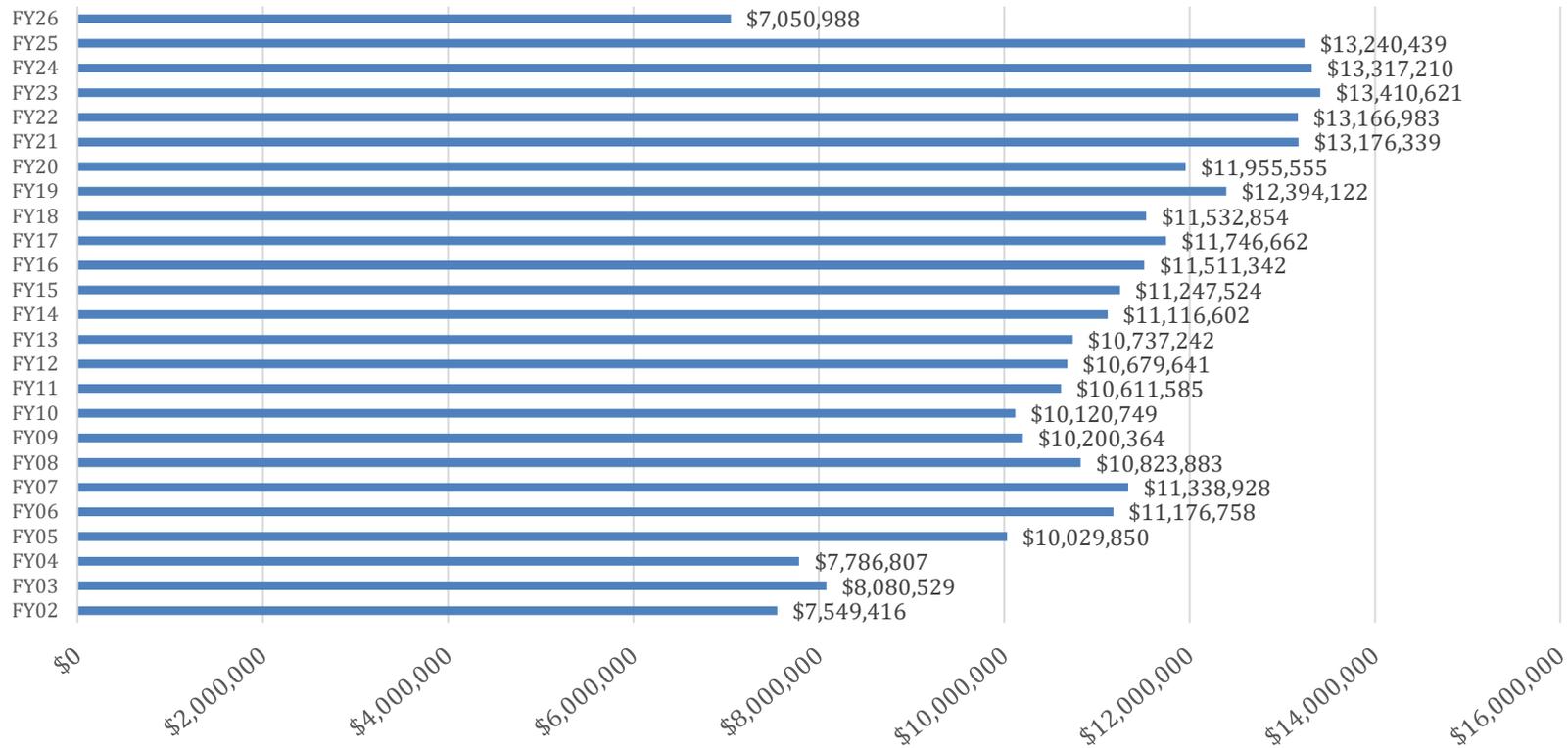
Total Discretionary Funding by Office		
Secretary	\$ 7,101,367	6%
Environmental Compliance	\$ 23,144,260	20%
Environmental Services	\$ 8,646,865	8%
Management and Finance	\$ 56,154,853	50%
Environmental Assessment	\$ 18,093,341	16%
Total Discretionary	\$ 113,140,686	100%

Total Non-Discretionary Funding by Type		
Required by the Constitution	\$ 12,192,523	28%
Needed for Debt Service	\$ 1,824,431	4%
Due to Federal Mandate	\$ 25,167,302	57%
Unavoidable Obligations	\$ 5,057,347	11%
Total Non-Discretionary	\$ 44,241,603	100%

Required by the Constitution = State Retirement Systems UAL
Unavoidable Obligations = Retirees Group Insurance;
Legislative Auditor Fees; Maintenance of State-owned Buildings.
Due to Federal Mandate = PPG Grant, Title V of the Clean Air Act,
Clean Water Revolving Loan.



Department of Environmental Quality Waste Tire Fee Collection History – FY02 to FY26



Note: Act 846 of the 2004 RLS changed the tires to which the fee was applicable and greatly increased annual tire fee revenues, as shown. See LRS 30:2418.

Note: As of 2/25/26 FY26 collections total \$7.1 million.

Present law provides for a \$5 fee per medium truck tire, and \$10 per off-road tire be collected for every tire sold. **Act No. 541** of the 2018 Regular Session by **Representative Lyons**, increased the fees on passenger/light truck tires from \$2 to \$2.25.