

Office of State Budget and Management
Establish New, Receipt-Supported Positions
(G.S. 143-34.1)

Agency: Agriculture

Division: Food & Drug Protection

Budget Code: 13700

Center Title: Food, Drug & Cosmetic Analysis

Center Number: 11003000

***** Position Information *****

Proposed Classification: Food Regulatory Specialist I **Proposed Salary Grade:** 66

Salary Range: \$28,888 - \$43,460 **Proposed Effective Date:** 03/01/06

Number of Positions: 1

	<u>Center Authorized Budget</u>	<u>Current Request</u>
Total Budget	\$3,793,053	\$36,922
Receipts	<u>536,063</u>	<u>\$36,922</u>
Appropriation	\$3,256,990	\$ -0-

Funding Source(s): U. S. Food & Drug Administration

Justification for Position (including description of duties and responsibilities):

The position requested will be a permanent full time position and it is budgeted at the minimum.

The safety of the U. S. food supply is an extremely high priority for all consumers. Food safety and security is one of the most important missions for government at all levels. Food production and processing is a key component of North Carolina's agriculture industry. Outbreaks of foodborne illness strike fear in the public can severely damage or destroy businesses and the livelihood of many workers. Consumers turn to state and local governments for immediate response to illness or injury associated with retailers into the state. The unsanitary conditions and practices used by people from less developed countries can result in contaminated and unsafe products offered to North Carolina consumers. Whether it's a threat of intentional terrorism, an outbreak of listeria in dairy products, E coli in fresh produce or any other risk to public health from our food supply, this request for an additional Food Regulatory Specialist I will enhance our ability to prepare, detect and respond to new and emerging food safety challenges.

Most food regulatory specialists have approximately 220 establishments to inspect for food safety. One specialist currently has over 330 establishments and the supervisor in the eastern part of the state has over one hundred establishments to inspect in addition to his supervisory responsibilities. With this workload, the specialist cannot adequately cover the expected territory in a timely manner. In addition, the supervisor cannot spend time needed to train and supervise his employees to assure protection of the food supply.

This year we have had an increase in the U. S. Food & Drug Administration's request for contract inspections. Therefore, we are seeking to use the increased revenue which we are receiving from the FDA for food sanitation inspection work to add an additional Food Regulatory Specialist I to cover the counties of Northampton, Hertford, Bertie, Martin, Washington, Pitt and Beaufort. This will allow us to handle this additional workload but it will also lighten the workload of the over-burdened specialist and allow the supervisor to spend more time doing the training and monitoring that is required in his job.

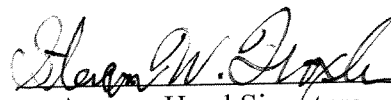
Statutory Reference for Request: G.S. 106-120


Clara E. Gay

Presentation to be made by

Budget Officer

Title


Agency Head Signature


State Budget Officer Signature

OK
DB
12/13/05