



STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
OFFICE OF STATE BUDGET AND MANAGEMENT

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Special Reserve for Lobbying Registration Reform

SB 198 Technical Corrections

SECTION 3B. S.L. 2006-66 is amended by adding a new section to read:

"**SECTION 6.20.** There is created in the Office of State Budget and Management a Special Reserve for Lobbying Registration Reform. Of the funds appropriated to the Office of the Secretary of State in S.L. 2005-276 for Lobbyist Registration Enhancement and the funds appropriated in S.L. 2006-66 to the Office of the Secretary of State for Lobbyist Registration Reform, the sum of one hundred thirty-five thousand eight hundred two dollars (\$135,802) in recurring funds and twenty-four thousand dollars (\$24,000) in nonrecurring funds shall be transferred to the Reserve.

After consultation with the Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations, the Director of the Budget may establish two positions and authorize the expenditure of these funds to implement the provisions of House Bill 1843 of the 2005 General Assembly, if enacted."

Recommendation:

The Office of State Budget and Management received justifications from both the Ethics Commission and the Secretary of State's Office supporting the need for the positions. Both agencies made compelling cases. After considering the written documents and the information provided through discussions with staff of the Legislative Fiscal Research Division and agency personnel, it is the recommendation of this office that each agency receive one position and that the available funds be allocated with recurring funds of \$66,901 for salary, \$1,000 for office supplies, and \$12,000 in non-recurring funds for office furniture, equipment, computers, etc. At the end of this fiscal year, the Office of State Budget and Management will conduct a staffing analysis of both the Ethics Commission and the Lobbyist Section of the Secretary of State's Office to determine the appropriate staffing requirements of each agency based on the workload volume data obtained during actual operation.