

# Legislature

(Amounts In Thousands)

## Funding History

	<b>FY90</b>			<b>FY01</b>	<b>FY02</b>	<b>FY03</b>
GF/GP	\$85,915.9			\$118,162.4	\$122,359.2	\$122,842.8
All Funds	\$88,187.6			\$121,480.4	\$125,850.0	\$126,345.7
		% Change - GF/GP			3.6%	0.4%
		% Change - All Funds			3.6%	0.4%

## KEY ISSUES

	<b>GF/GP</b>	<b>All Funds</b>
Remove One-Time Funding	(\$200.0)	(\$200.0)
Adjustment To Reflect End of 1997 Early Retirement Payouts	(\$31.2)	(\$31.2)
Economic Adjustments	\$2,350.1	\$2,350.1
Staff Reductions Needed To Pay For Employee Economics (26.0 FTE's)	(\$1,635.3)	(\$1,635.3)
Other Adjustment	<u>\$0.0</u>	<u>\$12.1</u>
Subtotal	\$483.6	\$495.7
<b>FY 2003 Executive Recommendation</b>	<b>\$122,842.8</b>	<b>\$126,345.7</b>

# Legislature

The Michigan Constitution vests the state's lawmaking power in a two-house Legislature consisting of a 38-member Senate and a 110-member House of Representatives. Senators are elected for four-year terms and Representatives

are elected for two-year terms. The Legislature is a sovereign and independent branch of state government with the authority to enact laws by which the actions of the government and the people are regulated and protected.



The Legislative budget includes funding to support members and employees of the Michigan Senate and Michigan House of Representatives. Funding is also provided for the Senate Fiscal Agency, House Fiscal Agency, Legislative Council, and the Legislative Auditor General.

The fiscal year 2003 recommended budget for the state Legislature is \$126.3 million, of which \$122.8 million is general fund.

## **Achievements of the Last Decade**

In 1992, Michigan voters supported a ballot proposal to limit the number of terms legislators can hold political office. Representatives are now limited to three two-year terms and Senators are limited to two four-year terms.

The National Park Service declared the Michigan State Capitol a National Historic Landmark in 1992 following the authentic historical restoration that took place during the late 1980's and early 1990's. The authentic restoration process involved restoring the interior and exterior of the State Capitol building back to its original form. Many structural modifications that had been added over the years were removed, such as artificial partitions and sub-flooring. The Victorian style artwork that adorns the interior of the building was restored to its original appearance. This attention to detail allowed the Michigan State Capitol to be declared a National Historic Landmark, which is a distinction that Michigan shares with only fourteen other state capitols in the country.

## **Response to Revenue Decline**

During the past year, state agencies were forced to reduce spending in order to bring expenditure levels in line with available funding. The Legislature decreased general fund spending by \$5.1 million, including funding reductions for all component units.

## Summary of Fiscal Year 2003 Executive Budget

The fiscal year 2003 recommendation continues the funding cuts initiated in fiscal year 2002, with minor adjustments to reflect non-discretionary rent increases and the removal of one-time technology related funding. As with all other state agencies, the Governor recommends that staff positions be eliminated in order to fund employee economics.

*The budget for the Legislature funds elected officials and their staff*

