



STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE



GOVERNOR'S OFFICE

for

EMERGENCY RELIEF AND RECOVERY

May 27, 2021

His Excellency, Governor Christopher T. Sununu
State House
Concord, NH 03301

REQUESTED ACTION UNDER RSA 21-P:43; RSA 4:45; RSA 4:47; AND EXECUTIVE ORDER 2020-04 AS EXTENDED BY EXECUTIVE ORDER 2020-05, 2020-08, 2020-09, 2020-10, 2020-14, 2020-15, 2020-16, 2020-17, 2020-18, 2020-20, 2020-21, 2020-23, 2020-24, 2020-25, 2021-01, 2021-02, 2021-04, 2021-05, 2021-06, AND 2021-08

Dear Governor Sununu:

- 1. The Governor's Office for Emergency Relief and Recovery (GOFERR) requests that the Governor, under his emergency authority and in support of Paragraph 3 of Executive Order 2020-06 creating the GOFERR, establish an additional full time nonclassified state employee position for a Legal Counsel in GOFERR to serve at the pleasure of the Director, effective upon the Governor's approval through June 30, 2022, This position will be 100% funded from the GOFERR administrative budget with Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act Funding and/or American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act.
2. Contingent upon approval of Action Item #1, authorize GOFERR to extend an offer of employment to a Legal Counsel - position candidate at a rate of pay of \$80,500. 100% Federal Funds.

Funds for salary and benefit costs for this position are available in 01-02-02-020210 - Governor's Office for Emergency Relief & Recovery, 19110000 - Office of the Director, as follows:

Table with 3 columns: Class, Account, and FY 2022. Rows include Expenditures (016-PERS SVCS NON CLASS, 060-BENEFITS) and Revenue (000-Federal Funds) with corresponding dollar amounts.

EXPLANATION

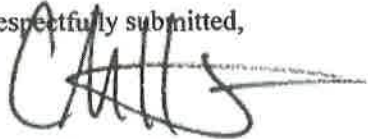
The Governor established GOFERR by Executive Order 2020-06, which included in paragraph 3 authority for the Director, with prior approval of the Governor, to appoint such additional staff as the Director deems necessary to carry out the operations of GOFERR. To the maximum extent feasible, the staff of GOFERR were to be made up of current State employees. Particularly as GOFERR moves into the compliance, monitoring and reporting phases, the Director has determined that a Legal Counsel is necessary to accomplish the work of GOFERR. The Treasury Office of the Inspector General has extended the reporting deadlines and given the extension of use of the CRF fund to 12/31/2021, reporting will continue into at least the first quarter of 2022. The federal government also enacted the American Rescue Plan (ARP) in 2021 and continues to issue guidance relative to the use of those funds. Moreover, there is continuing discussion in Washington of further federal funding to support recovery from COVID-19 for states, local government and business. Continuity and knowledge of the unique circumstances governing the use of the CARES Act CRF funds and other incoming funds will be critical throughout the closeout phase of CRF funds and GOFERR's continued involvement with future federal relief.

As a result, the Director has determined the need for a Legal Counsel to assist as necessary to accomplish the work of GOFERR. GOFERR has interviewed and considered multiple prospective candidates, and based on this candidate's experience and qualifications, GOFERR seeks authority to make an offer of employment to this current employee at a starting salary of \$80,500.

This position would be nonclassified and serve at the pleasure of the Director of GOFERR. This would mean that the position would end, at the latest, when there is no longer a need for GOFERR. While every effort would be made to assist the employee in transitioning to a vacant state position, if that is desired, it is understood that there is no guarantee of such a transition.

As all of the functions of GOFERR are directly related to the COVID-19 pandemic response, creation and filling of this position would be exempt from Executive Order 37 under paragraph 2.

Respectfully submitted,



Chase Hagaman,
Deputy Director, GOFERR

I hereby approve this request pursuant to RSA 4:45, RSA 21-P:43, and Section 3 of Executive Order 2020-06.

6.2.21
Date


Name: Governor Christopher T. Sununu