Agency Name:	Workers' Compensation Commission		
Agency Code:	R080	Section:	74

Fiscal Year FY 2027-2028

Agency Budget Plan

FORM A - BUDGET PLAN SUMMARY

	For FY 2027-2028, my agency is (mark "X"):	
OPERATING REQUESTS *(FORM B1)*		Requesting General Fund Appropriations.
		Requesting Federal/Other Authorization.
	X	Not requesting any changes.

	For FY 2027-2028, my agency is (mark "X"):	
NON-RECURRING REQUESTS *(FORM B2)*		Requesting Non-Recurring Appropriations.
		Requesting Non-Recurring Federal/Other Authorization.
	X	Not requesting any changes.

	For FY 2027-2028, my agency is (mark "X"):	
CAPITAL REQUESTS *(FORM C)*		Requesting funding for Capital Projects.
	X	Not requesting any changes.

	For FY 2027-2028, my agency is (mark "X"):	
PROVISOS *(FORM D)*		Requesting a new proviso and/or substantive changes to existing provisos.
		Only requesting technical proviso changes (such as date references).
	X	Not requesting any proviso changes.

Please identify your agency's preferred contacts for this year's budget process.

	Name	*Phone*	*Email*
PRIMARY CONTACT:	T. Scott Beck, Chairman	(803) 737-5698	sbeck@wcc.sc.gov
SECONDARY CONTACT:	Kristen S. McRee, Executive Director	(803) 737-5671	kmcree@wcc.sc.gov

I have reviewed and approved the enclosed FY 2027-2028 Agency Budget Plan, which is complete and accurate to the extent of my knowledge.

	Agency Director	*Board or Commission Chair*
SIGNATURE:		
TYPE/PRINT NAME:	Kristen S. McRee	T. Scott Beck

This form must be signed by the agency head – not a delegate.

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FORM E – AGENCY COST SAVINGS AND GENERAL FUND REDUCTION CONTINGENCY PLAN

TITLE	Agency Cost Savings and General Fund Reduction Contingency Plan
AMOUNT	$182,890 *What is the General Fund 3% reduction amount? This amount should correspond to the reduction spreadsheet prepared by EBO.*
ASSOCIATED FTE REDUCTIONS	The Commission would transfer the salaries for 2 staff attorneys from the General Fund (No. 1001) to the Earmarked Fund (No. 3844) (2 total FTEs). The total salary and associated fringe is: $208,215.10 *How many FTEs would be reduced in association with this General Fund reduction?*
PROGRAM / ACTIVITY IMPACT	This reduction would be taken from state funded program 0100.000000.000 (Administration), commitment item 501058 (classified positions). This reduction in funding would not impact the functioning of the Commission's Legal Department. There would be no programmatic or operational impact based upon the funding change. *What programs or activities are supported by the General Funds identified?*
SUMMARY	These 2 FTE positions provide legal counsel to the agency by reviewing legal issues, performing legal research, advising the Commissioners, writing appellate panel decisions, assisting outside counsel with litigation, preparing proposed amendments to regulations and statutes, reviewing contracts with outside parties, and performing other legal duties as necessary. The transfer of the expenditures from the General Fund to the Earmarked Fund would not impact this program as funding would be generated by revenues from the collection of filing fees and fines as opposed to an appropriation.

Please provide a detailed summary of service delivery impact caused by a reduction in General Fund Appropriations and provide the method of calculation for anticipated reductions. Agencies should prioritize reduction in expenditures that have the least significant impact on service delivery.

AGENCY COST SAVINGS PLANS

N/A

What measures does the agency plan to implement to reduce its costs and operating expenses by more than $50,000? Provide a summary of the measures taken and the estimated amount of savings. How does the agency plan to repurpose the savings?

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FORM F – REDUCING COST AND BURDEN TO BUSINESSES AND CITIZENS

TITLE	Reduction in Copy Costs and Claim Form Fines

Provide a brief, descriptive title for this request.

EXPECTED SAVINGS TO BUSINESSES AND CITIZENS	Agency updates to the information technology legacy system that permit our stakeholders, who are parties to a claim, to e-file, e-view, and e-print case documents have resulted in total estimated cost savings of approximately $71,000 since FY2022. Revenue collections for paper copies have remained consistent at about $15,500 over the past 2 fiscal years. This is an estimated 82% reduction from a prior 5-year collection high of approximately $87,000. Agency updates to the IT Legacy System that permit insurance carriers to electronically submit claims forms have resulted in total estimated cost savings of approximately $168,000 since FY2023. Stakeholder savings from the Commission's legacy modernization efforts have plateaued resulting in an estimated 27% savings to our stakeholders since FY2022. Associated claims department expenditures from the Earmarked Fund last year were $943.

What is the expected savings to South Carolina's businesses and citizens that is generated by this proposal? The savings could be related to time or money.

FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH THE REQUEST	**Mark "X" for all that apply:**	
		Repeal or revision of regulations.
	X	Reduction of agency fees or fines to businesses or citizens.
	X	Greater efficiency in agency services or reduction in compliance burden.
		Other

METHOD OF CALCULATION	Commission annual revenue data was reviewed. Prior year revenue values were subtracted from current and future year values to estimate total cost savings. The Commission measured the decrease in revenues for the fines and fees GL. Actual cost savings to individual stakeholders may be higher.

Describe the method of calculation for determining the expected cost or time savings to businesses or citizens.

REDUCTION OF FEES OR FINES	The IT Legacy Modernization Project is intended to reduce claim form filing penalties. All claim forms may be filed online. In FY26, the Commission collected $449,550 in claim form filing fees. These revenues are deposited into the Commission's Earmarked Fund. Associated Claims Department expenditures from the Earmarked Fund last year were $943. These penalties are assessed pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. § 42-19-30 and § 42-3-105.

Which fees or fines does the agency intend to reduce? What was the fine or fee revenue for the previous fiscal year? What was the associated program expenditure for the previous fiscal year? What is the enabling authority for the issuance of the fee or fine?

REDUCTION OF REGULATION	No regulations will be amended or deleted.

Which regulations does the agency intend to amend or delete? What is the enabling authority for the regulation?

	The agency has updated the Information Technology Legacy System, which is the backbone of the agency's business processes for service citizens and stakeholders. Changes have been implemented to eliminate the cost of producing paper copies of documents and streamline filing processes. This has resulted in an estimated combined total estimated cost savings of $239,000 since FY2022.