

**DHS - DIVISION OF SERVICES FOR THE BLIND (765)
FISCAL YEAR 2015**

I) AGENCY SUMMARY & REVENUE SOURCES

MISSION

The Division of Services for the Blind was established to provide services to blind and severely visually impaired persons through a network of counselors and private service providers throughout the State. The Division is regulated by a seven member Board. Board members are appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the Senate. The Division is functionally organized into three major sections: Support Services, Client Field Services, and Business and Technology Services.

TOTAL AUTHORIZED

The total budget for FY2015 is \$11,049,784.

FUNDING SOURCES

The Division's budget is federally funded (83%) with the remaining portion of the budget funded with General Revenues.

II) SIGNIFICANT CHANGES

- The **Division of State Services for the Blind Operations** appropriation, funded by General Revenue, Federal Revenue and Other Funds, provides a total Base Level appropriation of \$11,049,784 with no change level requests.

III) ADDITIONAL POSITIONS

Total Positions for FY2014: 76

Total Positions for FY2015: 76

Increase/(Decrease): (0)

IV) SPECIAL LANGUAGE

- **COMPREHENSIVE SYSTEM OF PERSONNEL DEVELOPMENT:** Authorizes a general waiver for the Division of State Services for the Blind to provide college level coursework for Rehabilitation Counselors selected by the Division. The waiver covers all formula and discretionary grants funded by the U.S. Department of Education Rehabilitation Services Administration. No state general revenue is allowed to be spent on the tuition waiver.