

7/23/97

STATEMENT OF COMMISSIONER THOMAS HILL MOORE
ON THE FISCAL YEAR 1999 BUDGET

I support the budget, as amended, and am particularly pleased that funding for the smoke detector project for low-income communities has been increased. I will be even more pleased when we actually have dollars in hand for that project.

Much of the proposed increase is to fund unavoidable expenses, either increases in salary, benefits and rent or critical information technology investments. Our agency has made great strides in the information technology area in the last few years and it is crucial that we build on those improvements. Our ability to collect and analyze the data on which so many of our decisions rest, depends on having the computer infrastructure to support it.

I think the budget appropriately mirrors our Results Act goals. The American public will be extremely well served by our work to meet those goals through the activities funded in this budget.