

The amount requested is for the current expenses of the over-all state-wide water resources investigation, surveys and studies, preparation of plans, estimates and reports, provided for in Chapter 1541 of the Statutes of 1947. *This is part of a three-year program originally estimated to cost \$500,000.* The survey made in 1929 is to be brought up to date and supplemented, which will provide basic information for all matters connected with the conservation and use of water in the State.

The detail of the actual cost of salaries and wages, operating expenses, and equipment, for this state-wide investigation and minor investigations of the State Water Resources Board, is found on pages 701 and 702 of the Budget in the Division of Water Resources, under the heading "Work Performed for the Water Resources Board."

Recommendation

We recommend the amount requested be approved.

Analysis

The work of the state-wide investigation is being expanded as rapidly as possible, which accounts for the increase in this current expense item. *The original bill authorizing the state-wide investigation carried an appropriation to support the investigation through its entire three-year program. Before approving the bill the Governor reduced the appropriation to the amount required to carry the investigation through 1947-48.* The amount requested is the amount required to carry the investigation through 1948-49.

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WELFARE

For Support of the Department of Social Welfare from the General Fund

Item 337 of the Budget Bill and pages 713 to 723, inclusive, of the Budget. The amount requested is \$1,670,062 from the General Fund. This is an increase of \$263,659 or 18.7 percent over 1947-48. The amount requested from the General Fund is for the purpose of administering federal funds provided under the Social Security Act and for certain additional programs which are entirely State financed. In augmentation of the General Fund contribution for administration, the Federal Government will supply \$777,837 for this purpose. The total of federal grants under the provisions of the Social Security Act is budgeted at \$71,761,837, an increase of \$7,684,663.

The item of allotments for civilian war assistance amounting to \$4,670 in 1947-48 was eliminated completely in the 1948-49 Budget.

DIVISION OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING

The amount of \$95,463 is requested for the Division of Personnel and Training, an increase of \$8,866. This includes \$4,741 in salaries and wages providing for the reclassification of one junior personnel technician to assistant personnel technician and an added position of personnel aide. These positions are for the purpose of assisting counties

with merit system examinations and eligible lists. It is also, by this means, that the Department of Social Welfare is able to determine the extent to which such merit systems are complying with federal regulations governing the employment of personnel to administer federal funds. Under the Social Security Act, if the counties do not comply with federal regulations relating to merit systems, the Federal Government cuts off all funds allocated to the State of California. For this reason the Department of Social Welfare is forced to take all necessary steps to see that county merit systems abide by the federal regulations. Although it is within the power of the department to force compliance with federal regulations by shutting off allocation of federal funds to the counties, the proposed positions are considered to be necessary in order to discover violations. The existing number of personnel technicians is only three. For this reason we believe that the proposed position of personnel aide should be approved. There have been no recent additions to the staff and the amount of federal grants has increased approximately one-third since 1945-46.

BUREAU OF ADMINISTRATIVE ACCOUNTING

The amount budgeted for the Bureau of Administrative Accounting is \$108,295. This is an increase of \$11,974 or 12.4 percent over 1947-48. This provides for \$3,821 in additional office equipment, principally for the purchase of an additional accounting machine which is needed for increased workload and to be used to supply more detailed information on federal expenditures.

It is also proposed to reclassify one supervising account clerk, grade 2, and one bookkeeper, grade 1, at a cost of \$1,247. This will be dependent upon study and action by the Personnel Board.

BUREAU OF AUDITS

The Bureau of Audits is requesting \$286,031, an increase of \$31,249 or 12.2 percent over 1947-48. This increase is to be used largely for two new auditing positions and three clerical positions as well as reclassification of clerical and auditing positions. These positions are required on the basis of increased workload, and we recommend approval.

BUREAU OF OFFICE MANAGEMENT

The amount requested is \$335,523, an increase of \$44,072 or 15.1 percent over 1947-48. This is a reasonable increase based on workload, and we recommend approval.

BUREAU OF RESEARCH AND STATISTICS

The amount requested is \$70,805, an increase of \$10,719 or 17.8 percent over expenditures for 1947-48. This is in part due to a transfer of the manual unit activities from the executive unit to the Bureau of Research and Statistics.

We recommend approval of the amount requested.

DIVISION OF COUNTY AID TO THE INDIGENT SICK

The amount requested is \$6,000, a decrease of \$45 from the 1947-48 Budget. We recommend approval as requested.

DIVISION OF PUBLIC ASSISTANCE

Expenditures of this division are for administration of the division, administration of aid to needy children, needy aged, and the needy blind. The amount requested is \$21,032, or 5.7 percent over 1947-48. This is a nominal increase based on the increase in federal funds to be administered.

We recommend approval of this item in the amount requested.

DIVISION OF CHILD WELFARE

The amount requested is for administrative expenses for federal child welfare services and the Bureau of Adoptions, the Bureau of Boarding Homes and Institutions, and Transportation of Needy Children. The total requested by this division is \$601,738, an increase of \$136,244. Included in this increase, however, is an amount of \$137,625 requested for supervision and licensing of private schools as provided by Chapter 265, Statutes of 1947. This includes a request for 28 additional positions at a cost of \$81,672.

We recommend that the amount budgeted for inspection of private schools be eliminated or that only such amount as is required to make a study of the problem of licensing private schools and the cost thereof should be made by the department. The cost of carrying out this program is unquestionably excessive for the return secured. This is a good illustration of the importance of tying specific appropriations to all bills which imply appropriation. The cost of this program was not apparent at the time that this act was passed, and we therefore recommend, in view of the cost which will be required to carry out the provisions of the act, that it be repealed.

Summary Recommendation

We recommend that Item 337 be reduced by \$137,625 or from \$1,670,062 to \$1,532,437.

For Treatment or Operations to Prevent Blindness or Restore Vision to Applicants for, or Recipients of, Blind Aid

Item 338 of the Budget Bill and page 721 of the Budget. The amount requested is \$50,000 from the General Fund. This is the same amount as was requested in 1947-48.

The operations carried out under this program have for the most part been successful and have succeeded, not only in providing comfort to persons benefited, but have served to take them from the relief rolls. This constitutes a savings to the State by the amount of blind aid formerly paid to the individual operated upon.

Recommendation

We recommend Item 338 be approved as requested.

RECREATION COMMISSION

For Support of the Recreation Commission from the General Fund

Item 339, page 65 of the Budget Bill and page 724 of the Budget. The amount requested is \$76,397 for the 1948-49 Fiscal Year. This compares with \$61,600 estimated expenditures for the period September 19, 1947, to June 30, 1948, an increase of \$14,797. Expenditures shown in the current fiscal year represent initial organization expense and nine months operating expenses. *The increase proposed for 1948-49 is due principally to the fact that the Budget request represents a full years operation.* Chapter 1239, Statutes of 1947, created, effective September 19, 1947, the Recreation Commission consisting of seven members and a director appointed by and serving at the pleasure of the Governor.

The Director of Recreation shall receive a salary to be determined by the Recreation Commission with the approval of the Department of Finance. The Recreation Commission has the following functions:

(a) *To study and consider the entire problems of recreation of the people of the State of California as it affects and may affect the welfare of the people especially the children and youth and to form a compilation of the laws relating to recreation in California.*

(b) *To formulate and cooperate with other state agencies and interested organizations and citizens on a comprehensive recreational policy for the State.*

(c) *To aid and encourage but not conduct public recreation activities.*

Recommendation

We recommend that Item 339 be approved in the amount of \$76,397, as requested. Since the State is confronted with the large problem of juvenile delinquency and the lack of recreation facilities are obvious both to juveniles and adults it is accepted that an extensive recreational survey should be made with the view of stimulating more interest in local communities and rural areas in an effort to assist in decreasing juvenile delinquency. By a diligent and very active campaign conducted by this agency we believe that it should assist other state agencies confronted with recreational problems, such as Youth Authorities, Penal Institutions, Mental Institutions, etc.

It is further suggested that a survey be made of salaries paid personnel employed in recreational capacity, cost of recreation equipment and other facilities with the view of guiding and advising any organization or citizen within the State who is contemplating either expansion of their recreation facilities or starting a new recreational activity.

This is a new agency and its value to the State remains to be demonstrated.

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

For Support of the Department of Veterans Affairs from the General Fund

Item 340 of the Budget Bill, pages 725-727 of the Budget. The amount requested is \$271,159 for support from the General Fund. This represents a decrease of \$5,863 or 2.1 percent under the amount of \$277,022 estimated for expenditures for 1947-48.