

Recreation Commission

Bureau of Research and Statistics

| | |
|---|----------------|
| Amount requested ----- | \$103,196 |
| Estimated to be expended in 1951-52 Fiscal Year ----- | 99,594 |
| Increase (3.6 percent) ----- | <u>\$3,602</u> |

Summary of Increase

| | Total increase | INCREASE DUE TO | | Budget page | Line No. |
|--------------------------|-------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------|----------------|-------------|
| | | Work load or salary adjustments | New services | | |
| Salaries and wages ----- | \$3,134 | \$3,134 | --- | 830 | 25 |
| Operating expense ----- | 650 | 650 | --- | 830 | 32 |
| Equipment ----- | -182 | -182 | --- | 830 | 38 |
| Total increase ----- | <u>\$3,602</u> | <u>\$3,602</u> | --- | | |

RECOMMENDATIONS

| | |
|--|-----------|
| Amount budgeted ----- | \$103,196 |
| Legislative Auditor's recommendation ----- | 103,196 |
| Reduction ----- | None |

ANALYSIS

The budget request provides for normal salary adjustments and for increased operating expenses attributable to higher prices. We recommend approval of the amount requested.

RECREATION COMMISSION

ITEM 273 of the Budget Bill

Budget page 831
Budget line No. 7

For Support of the Recreation Commission From the General Fund

| | |
|---|-----------------|
| Amount requested ----- | \$95,615 |
| Estimated to be expended in 1951-52 Fiscal Year ----- | 78,390 |
| Increase (22.0 percent) ----- | <u>\$17,225</u> |

Summary of Increase

| | Total increase | INCREASE DUE TO | | Budget page | Line No. |
|--------------------------|-------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------|----------------|-------------|
| | | Work load or salary adjustments | New services | | |
| Salaries and wages ----- | \$10,400 | \$628 | \$9,772 | 831 | 48 |
| Operating expense ----- | 5,257 | 2,061 | 3,196 | 831 | 65 |
| Equipment ----- | 1,568 | -32 | 1,600 | 831 | 71 |
| Total increase ----- | <u>\$17,225</u> | <u>\$2,657</u> | <u>\$14,568</u> | | |

RECOMMENDATIONS

| | |
|--|----------|
| Amount budgeted ----- | \$95,615 |
| Legislative Auditor's recommendation ----- | 81,547 |
| Reduction ----- | \$14,068 |

The specific items comprising the recommended reduction of \$14,068 are as follows:

| Salaries and wages | Reduction | Budget page | Line No. |
|---|-----------------|-------------|----------|
| Chief recreation specialist (reclassification of one recreation specialist) ----- | \$336 | 831 | 41 |
| Recreation specialist ----- | 5,496 | 831 | 44 |
| Intermediate-stenographer clerk ----- | 2,640 | 831 | 45 |
| Temporary help ----- | 800 | 831 | 37 |
| Reduction in salaries and wages ----- | \$9,272 | | |
| Operating expenses | | | |
| Office ----- | \$524 | 831 | 51 |
| Travel—commission ----- | 300 | 831 | 58 |
| Travel—staff ----- | 1,500 | 831 | 59 |
| Automobile—operation ----- | 200 | 831 | 60 |
| Rent ----- | 672 | 831 | 62 |
| Reduction in operating expenses ----- | \$3,196 | | |
| Equipment | | | |
| Automobile—additional ----- | \$1,600 | 831 | 68 |
| Total recommended reduction ----- | \$14,068 | | |

ANALYSIS

In past years we have recommended elimination of the entire amount budgeted for the Recreation Commission on the grounds that it is not an essential state service and is one that if performed at the state level in giving service to local governments should be fully self-supporting. In lieu of this recommended action, the 1951 Legislature reduced the Recreation Commission's proposed budget for 1951-52 from \$95,950 to \$76,093, or approximately 21 percent. Subsequently, that appropriation was augmented by \$2,297 from the Salary Increase Fund, bringing the commission's budget to a current level of service costing the State \$78,390.

In view of the 1951 Legislature's decision, we recommend that the Recreation Commission be budgeted at the existing level of service for 1952-53, leaving any policy questions regarding the agency to the next General Session.

The primary service rendered by the Recreation Commission consists of supplying a specialist staff to make surveys of recreation facilities in local areas. The direct beneficiaries of this service are the cities of the State and, in a few instances, county governments. Inasmuch as the service of providing staff for surveys and maintaining a clearinghouse of information is requested by the local units and of direct benefit to them, it would be appropriate for the Recreation Commission to be supported by the recipients of the service through reimbursements for actual costs in the same way that certain other central services are provided by the State on a self-supporting basis. Examples are the personnel services supplied at cost by the Personnel Board, and retirement system aid by the State Employees' Retirement System. There is no reason why the State should pay for consultants' services to cities and counties.

The Budget for 1952-53 proposes to increase the Recreation Commission's 1951-52 support expenditures by \$17,225, of which \$14,568 is for new services. We recommend deletion of the total amount proposed for these new services less \$500 which we believe justifiable for temporary help to relieve regular clerical employees during vacations and illness.

The proposed added service derives almost entirely from the agency's desire to classify upward one recreation specialist to chief recreation specialist. In effect, this creates a new job costing the State over \$7,000 yearly. The new job would then result in need for an intermediate stenographer-clerk (\$2,640), an automobile (\$1,600), and other amounts for office expense, automobile operation, rent, and travel.

In the 1951-52 Budget, the Legislature abolished the position of assistant to the director on the basis that the nature of work and the responsibilities of the director for a staff of only four or five technicians did not warrant an assistant. We see no significant difference in the duties then assigned the assistant and those proposed for the chief recreation specialist. We, therefore, recommend deletion of the proposed new services amounting to \$14,068.

GENERAL SUMMARY

The Recreation Commission was created by Chapter 1239, Statutes of 1947, to study the problems of recreation in California, to formulate a state recreation policy and to aid and encourage public recreation activities. The commission is comprised of seven nonsalaried members appointed by the Governor. The Director of Recreation is appointed by the Governor and is responsible for the execution of the duties authorized by the act under policies established by the commission.

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

ITEM 274 of the Budget Bill

Budget page 832
Budget line No. 40

For Support of Department of Veterans Affairs, From the General Fund

| | |
|---|----------------|
| Amount requested | \$299,214 |
| Estimated to be expended in 1951-52 Fiscal Year | 291,375 |
| Increase (2.7 percent) | \$7,839 |

Summary of Increase

| | Total increase | INCREASE DUE TO | | Budget page | Line No. |
|--------------------------------|-------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------|----------------|-------------|
| | | Work load or salary adjustments | New services | | |
| Salaries and wages | \$5,027 | \$5,027 | --- | 836 | 20 |
| Operating expense | 3,760 | 3,760 | --- | 836 | 21 |
| Equipment | -448 | -448 | --- | 836 | 22 |
| Less: | | | | | |
| Increased reimbursements | -500 | -500 | --- | 836 | 26 |
| Total increase | \$7,839 | \$7,839 | --- | | |

RECOMMENDATIONS

| | |
|--|-------------|
| Amount budgeted | \$299,214 |
| Legislative Auditor's recommendation | 299,214 |
| Reduction | None |

ANALYSIS

The Department of Veterans Affairs, in providing service under the Veterans' Farm and Home Purchase Act, financial assistance to veterans and dependents of veterans for educational purposes, coordination of state veterans' service programs, administration of the Veterans' Home