

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

ITEM 237 of the Budget Bill

Budget page 794
Budget line No. 68

For Support of the Department of Public Health From the General Fund

Amount requested	\$3,848,623
Estimated to be expended in 1953-54 Fiscal Year	4,401,589
Decrease (12.5 percent)	\$552,966

Summary of Increase

	Total increase	INCREASE DUE TO		Budget page	Line No.
		Work load or salary adjustments	New services		
Salaries and wages	\$88,494	\$25,035	\$63,459	818	9
Operating expense	—637,745	—660,945	23,200	818	10
Equipment	—12,515	—14,576	2,061	818	11
Add:					
Decreased reimbursements	1,000	1,000	---	818	14
Decrease Federal Funds	7,800	7,800	---	794	29
Total increase	—\$552,966	—\$641,636	\$88,720		

RECOMMENDATIONS

Amount budgeted	\$3,848,623
Legislative Auditor's recommendation	3,797,637
Reduction	\$50,986

Summary of Reductions

Item of reduction	Amount	Budget page	Line No.
Bureau of Business Management			
1—Chief engineer I	\$2,256	796	71
4—Stationary engineers	8,184	796	72
1—Head janitor	1,770	796	73
15—Janitors	20,790	796	76
1—Women's restroom attendant	1,386	796	77
Building operations, 6 months	16,600	797	23
Total reduction	\$50,986		

These items are recommended for transfer to the Division of Buildings and Grounds.

ANALYSIS

The support budget of the Department of Public Health proposes a gross expenditure program of \$5,496,641 during the 1954-55 Fiscal Year. Reimbursements are estimated at \$255,891 for the budget year resulting in a net expenditure program of \$5,240,750. This net expenditure program, which is exclusive of contributions to the State Employees' Retirement Fund, represents a decrease of \$560,766 or 9.7 percent under estimated expenditures for the current year. The net support program by source of funds is as follows:

General fund	\$3,848,623
Federal funds	1,392,127
Total support	\$5,240,750

The budget for 1954-55 proposes to transfer the item for diagnostic services for crippled children from the support portion of the budget to

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the subvention item for crippled children services under local assistance. Estimated expenditures for this service during the current year in the support budget is estimated at \$450,000. Adjusting for this transfer the net support budget for the department represents a reduction of \$110,766 or 1.9 percent under expenditures for comparable activities during the current year.

Salaries and wages are scheduled to increase \$88,494 or 2.2 percent over the current year. There are 29 new positions requested at a cost of \$52,932 during the budget year. Normal salary adjustments are partially offset by an increase in estimated salary savings.

Operating expenses are scheduled to decrease \$637,745 or 32 percent under estimated expenditures for the current year. The major items of decrease are the \$450,000 scheduled for transfer to local assistance and a reduction of \$151,829 in the amount scheduled for public health training.

The amount of \$58,499 requested for equipment has been reviewed and seems in order.

Revenues to the General Fund from the proration of canner inspection and laboratory control costs, from fees, fines and miscellaneous sources, is estimated at \$408,300. This represents no change from estimated revenues for the current year.

Building Maintenance and Operation

The Department of Public Health is scheduled to move into a new State building in Berkeley in January, 1955. Included in the budget for the Bureau of Business Management are 26 positions which are directly related to the move to the new building. Included in the Bureau of Business Management are the following items directly related to building operation and maintenance:

<i>Positions</i>		<i>Budget page</i>	<i>Line No.</i>
1 Chief engineer (6 months)-----	\$2,256	796	71
4 Stationary engineer (6 months)-----	8,184	796	72
1 Head janitor (6 months)-----	1,770	796	73
15 Janitor (6 months)-----	20,790	796	76
1 Women's restroom attendant-----	1,386	796	77
Total Salaries and Wages-----	\$34,386		
Building operation (6 months)-----	\$16,600	797	23
Total building operations and maintenance-----	\$50,986		

We recommend that the \$50,986 requested for building operation and maintenance as listed above be deleted from the Department of Public Health's request and transferred to the budget of the Division of Buildings and Grounds.

The first recommendation in the report of the Subcommittee on Buildings and Grounds dated November 5, 1952, as prepared for the Advisory Committee of the Assembly Interim Committee on Governmental Reorganization states:

"1. That legislation be enacted to vest in one single agency of the State to have full control over, and prescribe policies and methods for, the acquisition, utilization, operation, maintenance, and repair and disposal of real property in order that the maximum of efficiency and economy may be attained."

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We endorse the principles set forth in this recommendation and believe such a policy is essential if maximum utilization of space, and economy and standardization of maintenance is to be effected. This principle should be put into full effect as soon as possible, and in no case do we believe there is justification to deviate from the principle in the case of new state buildings just being activated. The determination as to the extent to which direct control over the maintenance and operation functions should be delegated to the Department of Public Health should rest with the Division of Buildings and Grounds, but in any case we believe it sound that the appropriation for the service should be to the central agency in which is vested the responsibility for the maintenance and operation of state buildings.

We recommend, therefore, that the appropriation to the Department of Public Health be reduced by \$50,986, categorically as follows: salaries and wages, \$34,386, and operating expense, \$16,600. Categorical increases in like amounts to cover the cost of this function are being recommended for addition to the appropriation to the Department of Finance.

Automobile Management

This budget proposes the addition of three new positions related to the automotive management function, to become effective upon occupancy of the new building. We recommend approval of these positions as being necessary to the proper control and maintenance of the department's automobiles. We recommend, however, that a study be made as to the feasibility of establishing a pool of vehicles to serve the several state agencies in the San Francisco Bay area. We appreciate that such a pool could not be housed at a single location, but control of these automobiles by a single agency would permit greater flexibility. Attention should be called to the fact that in this budget there is provided \$91,330 to pay mileage to private cars in addition to \$96,400 provided for the operation of state-owned cars in the Department of Public Health pool. Every effort should be made to increase the utilization of state cars and to eliminate the use of private automobiles on a mileage basis in all cases where the use of state-owned cars is more economical.

Expanded Program in Vector Control

During the summer of 1952 there was an epidemic outbreak of encephalitis in the State. An allocation was made from the emergency fund in the amount of \$250,000 to assist the department in meeting this emergency. Of this allocation \$213,808 was actually expended with slightly over half of the amount subvended to and expended by mosquito abatement districts and the balance used by the department in connection with this program. No request was included in the 1953-54 budget to continue this emergency program. However, the Legislature appropriated an additional \$300,000 for the 1954-55 Fiscal Year to be subvended to mosquito abatement activities to extend for another year activities related to the control of encephalitis.

The department advises that one of the major difficulties in the planning for the control of encephalitis in California is the difficulty in predicting whether or not a particular year will have a high or low incidence of encephalitis. A pilot study was established during the

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summer of 1953 in Kern and Fresno County areas designed to determine if it was feasible to apply methods being tested on a larger scale in an attempt to determine the relationship of mosquito prevalence to incidence of human illness.

The department is convinced that the approach used in this pilot study is sound, so propose to establish four study zones in the central valley where the collection of mosquitoes during the encephalitis season should be carried out. These mosquitoes will be identified, frozen, and then tested in the virus laboratory on a current basis for the presence of virus. It is planned to correlate the findings with observations of hospital admissions of human cases of encephalitis and with measurements of prevalence of mosquitoes which will be carried out by the Bureau of Vector Control and the Mosquito Abatement Districts in these same areas.

The amount of \$31,824 is included in this budget for the purpose of this research of which \$23,163 is requested for salaries and wages, \$6,600 for increased operating expense and \$2,061 for additional equipment. This increase in service appears in the departmental budget as follows:

	<i>Amount</i>	<i>Budget page</i>	<i>Line No.</i>
Bureau of Vector Control			
Associate vector control specialist.....	\$5,496	814	70
Junior vector control specialist.....	4,092	814	71
Intermediate stenographer-clerk	2,916	814	72
Operating expense	6,600	815	18
Equipment	2,061	815	26
	<u>\$21,165</u>		
Division of Laboratories			
Temporary help, additional.....	\$7,659	811	23
Bureau of Acute Communicable Disease			
Temporary help	\$3,000	804	69
	<u>\$31,824</u>		
Total cost	\$31,824		

This project represents a proposed expansion of service during the budget year. We, however, recommend approval of the proposed program. In view of the large amounts of money previously expended in attempts to control encephalitis outbreaks, and the large recurring costs to both the State and districts for mosquito abatement activities, it seems most important that well-planned research be conducted to the extent necessary to evaluate effectiveness of previous expenditures and to insure that money be spent and used only in the more effective measures in the control of encephalitis. We believe this activity is properly a function of the State Department of Public Health. Consideration should be given to a policy whereby the state funds in this program should more and more be used for research activities and to develop better techniques and procedures, leaving the operational phases of mosquito abatement to be financed by the local districts.

**Department of Public Health
CARE OF RECALCITRANT TUBERCULOUS PATIENTS**

ITEM 238 of the Budget Bill

Budget page 818
Budget line No. 51

*For Care of Recalcitrant Tuberculous Patients, Department of Public Health,
From the General Fund*

Amount requested -----	\$43,800
Estimated to be expended in 1953-54 Fiscal Year -----	43,800
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Increase -----	None

RECOMMENDATIONS

Amount budgeted -----	\$43,800
Legislative Auditor's recommendation -----	43,800
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Reduction -----	None

ANALYSIS

The Department of Public Health is authorized to lease necessary facilities to care for persons afflicted with active contagious tuberculosis and who violate the quarantine or isolation orders of the health officer (Chapter 1091, Statutes of 1949). The amount requested will cover the annual cost of a contract with the Department of Corrections to care for an estimated 25 recalcitrants at the Terminal Island Medical Facility.

This program serves to reduce the spread of tuberculosis by recalcitrants, and is, we believe, a desirable enforcement program.

We recommend approval.

WATER POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD

ITEM 239 of the Budget Bill

Budget page 819
Budget line No. 32

*For Support of State and Regional Water Pollution Control Boards
From the General Fund*

Amount requested -----	\$375,567
Estimated to be expended in 1953-54 Fiscal Year -----	360,479
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Increase (4.2 percent) -----	\$15,088

Summary of Increase

	Total increase	INCREASE DUE TO		Budget page	Line No.
		Work load or salary adjustments	New services		
Salaries and wages -----	\$12,041	\$12,041	---	821	45
Operating expense -----	2,130	2,130	---	821	46
Equipment -----	917	917	---	821	47
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Total increase -----	\$15,088	\$15,088	---	821	49

RECOMMENDATIONS

Amount budgeted -----	\$375,567
Legislative Auditor's recommendation -----	375,567
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Reduction -----	None

GENERAL SUMMARY

The State Water Pollution Control Board formulates general state-wide policy for the control of water pollution; gathers, compiles, and