

Division of Water Resources—Continued

RECOMMENDATIONS

Amount budgeted.....	\$28,994
Legislative Auditor's recommendation.....	28,994
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Reduction	None

ANALYSIS

The Watermaster Service is supported by equal contributions from the State and the benefitted areas. The moneys collected from the watermaster service areas are placed in the Watermaster Service Fund and appropriated therefrom. It will be noted that for the Fiscal Year 1954-55 the budget provides for an appropriation of \$32,801 from the General Fund for support of this activity, and for only \$28,994 from the Watermaster Service Fund. This is explained by the fact that the contributions to the State Employees' Retirement Fund are made entirely from the Watermaster Service Fund, and the one-half of the support cost assigned to the Watermaster Service Fund is reduced by a corresponding amount.

AERONAUTICS COMMISSION

ITEM 254 of the Budget Bill

Budget page 867
Budget line No. 7

For Support of Aeronautics Commission From the General Fund

Amount requested	\$101,101
Estimated to be expended in 1953-54 Fiscal Year.....	100,685
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Increase (0.4 percent).....	\$416

Summary of Increase

	Total increase	INCREASE DUE TO		Budget page	Line No.
		Work load or salary adjustments	New services		
Salaries and wages.....	\$3,356	\$3,356	---	867	52
Operating expense	-1,765	-1,765	---	867	72
Equipment	-1,175	-1,175	---	868	7
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Total increase	\$416	\$416	---	869	9

RECOMMENDATIONS

Amount budgeted.....	\$101,101
Legislative Auditor's recommendation.....	None
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Reduction	\$101,101

ANALYSIS

The functions of this agency are derived from the Aeronautics Commission Act, Chapter 1379, Statutes of 1947. The agency is empowered and directed to:

1. Encourage, foster, and assist in the development of aeronautics in the State.
2. Encourage the establishment of airports and air navigation facilities.
3. Cooperate with and assist the Federal Government, political subdivisions of the State and others in the development of aeronautics, and coordinate the aeronautical activities of these bodies.

Aeronautics Commission—Continued

This agency is requesting a continuation of the existing level of service with a resultant net budget increase of \$416 over estimated expenditures for 1953-54. This increase reflects normal salary adjustments and reduced operating and equipment costs.

During the current year, the Aeronautics Commission lost an airplane as a result of an accident and no provision has been made in the budget for replacement due to limited use of the planes in the past. This is largely a promotional function and in view of the need to eliminate all low priority, non-essential expenditures, we recommend elimination of the agency.

COLORADO RIVER BOARD

ITEM 255 of the Budget Bill

Budget page 869
Budget line No. 7

For Support of Colorado River Board From the General Fund

Amount requested	\$178,945
Estimated to be expended in 1953-54 Fiscal Year	162,408
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Increase (10.2 percent)	\$16,542

Summary of Increase

	Total increase	INCREASE DUE TO		Budget page	Line No.
		Work load or salary adjustments	New services		
Salaries and wages	\$8,417	\$8,417	---	869	59
Operating expense	12,104	---	\$12,104	870	20
Equipment	-3,979	-3,979	---	870	27
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Total increase	\$16,542	\$4,438	\$12,104	870	29

RECOMMENDATIONS

Amount budgeted	\$178,945
Legislative Auditor's recommendation	162,945
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Reduction	\$16,000

ANALYSIS

The long-threatened litigation with Arizona concerning the rights to water of the Colorado River became a reality with the filing of a suit by Arizona in August, 1952 (*Arizona v. California, et al.*), before the United States Supreme Court. In recognition of this fact the Legislature appropriated \$100,000 (Chapter 12, Statutes of 1953) for use in connection with the litigation. Half of this sum was allocated to the Attorney General, who provides legal services for the Colorado River Board, and half was allocated to the Colorado River Board. The board estimates that all of the \$50,000 allocated to it by this special appropriation will be expended during the current fiscal year and proposes that this higher expenditure level be maintained during the 1954-55 Fiscal Year. That the Legislature has shown an awareness of the importance of this dispute to the State of California is evident from the fact that expenditures for this agency have nearly doubled during the